There are many different styles of referencing research sources. Writers generally follow an accepted style which predominates in the type of writing in their respective field. This is the case with scientific writing. A widely accepted version of referencing material for writing in the sciences follows the steps outlined below. There are variations on this particular theme but the basic concept is the same.

**Citing Within Text**

When referring to specifics while paraphrasing, you should always cite the source with parenthetical referencing. This should immediately follow the most recent sentence in which you used the specifics in question. If you use multiple specifics from a single work throughout an entire paragraph, then cite at the end of the paragraph. This referencing should include the author’s last name and date of the work. If there are two authors then separate their names with “and”; if three or more then write “et al” (notice et al is italicized) after the first. If you use more than one source for specifics in a sentence (ie: two or more sources say the same thing), then separate each with a comma.

Examples:

1. The name Thysanoptera comes from the Latin thysan- for fringe and -ptera for wing (Cranshaw 2004). These insects range in size from .5mm to 15mm and exist throughout the world. Unusual among insects, thrips have a life history intermediate between hemi- and holometabolous, a haplodiploid sex control method, and intricate behavior patterns (Mound 2003).

2. Thrips are particularly distinctive for their asymmetrical piercing and sucking mouthparts comprising an atrophied right mandible, a single left mandible and two maxillae which combined produce three stylets (Gullan and Cranston 2005).

3. It has been proposed by some thrips workers that a form of eusociality exists among approximately six Australian Thysanoptera species. These species are known to form galls or glue together phyllodes on their host plants (typically Acacia) within which a foundress produces a first generation of a wingless or reduced-winged form which can be termed soldiers. These soldiers have larger than usual forelegs and it is believed that they remain in the gall in order to defend the subsequent generations from interspecific invaders. In at least one of these eusocial species interbreeding among the soldier caste is known to take place. All successive generations produced by the foundress disperse from the gall to form new domiciles (Chapman et al 2000, Mound 2004).

I rarely quote a writer directly in term papers. Paraphrasing is a better way to let the instructor know you read and fully understand the material used. If you choose to quote an author directly, you can either include the author in your writing (…according to Gullan and Cranston (2005) “…an atrophied right mandible, a single left mandible…”…) or cite with parenthetical reference at the end of the quotation.

**Always put the period ending the sentence outside quotations or parenthesis**
The customary style for reference lists is as follows:

1. Title the top of the page as reference list, references, or works cited. I like to use larger type and sometimes bold face but whatever looks best to you is fine.
2. All sources sorted alphabetically according to the last name of the first author on each source.
3. Leave one blank line between each source, so reader can identify individual sources.
4. No headings or separations (aside from the customary one line between each source) between different source types. No need to classify or group sources as book, journal, or website. The type of source will be obvious due to the style of referencing used.
5. For book sources: Last name, first and middle initial of each author; date book published in parenthesis; title of book (italicized); period; edition number; comma; publisher and publisher’s address (city, state, country).
6. For journal sources (primary literature): Last name, first and middle initial of each author; date journal published in parenthesis; title of article; period; title of journal (italicized); volume number of journal (boldfaced); semicolon; page numbers in journal.
7. For websites: Last name, first and middle initial of each site author/manager/updater (if none, then host name as in your “within text” citing); most recent update to site in parenthesis; host full name; period; title of home page; period; title of specific page; period; web address; date you viewed the site.

Many instructors prefer to see only the first two authors in the reference list. However, Dr. Gepts would like to see each author’s name in your reference list as is done in most journals. This is something I was not aware of when I wrote my paper last year. Do not write “et al” after the first author’s name as I did in the example paper posted on the class website or in the following examples.

Books:


Journal Articles:


Websites:
Viewed April 8, 2005.

http://www.epa.gov/lead/  
Viewed January 25, 2006