Oscola (Oxford Standard for the Citation of Legal Authorities) style is used if you are writing for a qualifying Law degree or for the School of Law.

- Oscola uses **footnotes**, which should include the pinpoint reference to a page or paragraph number.
- Oscola does **not** require the use of full stops in abbreviations e.g. All ER not All E.R.

**Referencing Primary Sources**

**Cases**

Give the party names, followed by the neutral citation, followed by the Law Reports citation (e.g. AC, Ch, QB). If there is no neutral citation, give the Law Reports citation followed by the court in brackets. If the case is not reported in the Law Reports, cite the All ER or the WLR report, or failing that a specialist report.


When pinpointing, give paragraph numbers in square brackets at the end of the citation. If the judgment has no paragraph numbers, give the page number pinpoint after the court.

*Callery v Gray* [2001] EWCA Civ 1117, [2001] 1 WLR 2112 [42], [45].

*Bunt v Tilley* [2006] EWHC 407 (QB), [2006] 3 All ER 336 [1]–[37].


If citing a particular judge:


**NB** Case titles are italicized in text and in footnotes but are not italicized in the formal list of cases in your Reference List where they are listed in alphabetical order, but may divided into sections by jurisdiction.

Examples taken from OSCOLA Quick Reference Guide written by the Oxford Law Faculty, in consultation with the OSCOLA Editorial Advisory Board.

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Statutes and Statutory Instruments
Give the title and date followed by SI reference (if applicable and) section no (if appropriate). Please note all significant words are capitalized.

Act of Supremacy 1558.


EU legislation
Give the legislation type e.g. Council Decision, Council Directive or Council Regulation (EC) number title including amendments if necessary, the year, OJ L issue number/first page number, and pinpoint page or article if required.


EU cases
Give the case number (cases since 1989 designated as C if European Court of Justice or T if Court of First Instance), the case name, the year, the law report series abbreviation, the first page, and the pinpoint paragraph (para) or paragraphs (paras) if required.


European Court of Human Rights
Give the title, the application no (if applicable) and the report details.


Simpson v UK (1989) 64 DR 188.

NB Case titles are italicized in text and in footnotes but are not italicized in the formal list of cases in your Reference List where they are listed in alphabetical order, but may divided into sections by jurisdiction.

Useful sources of help
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