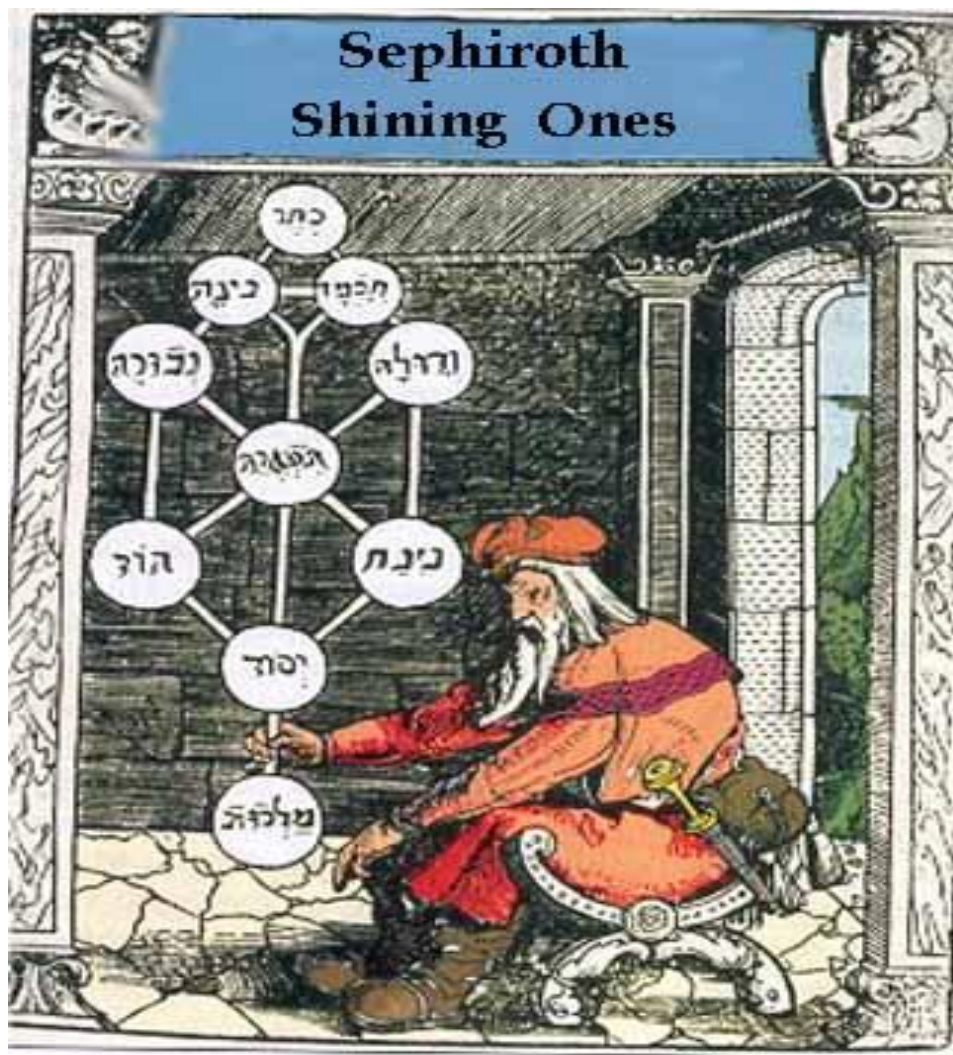


RELI 427
ADVANCED STUDIES IN RELIGIOUS
TEXTS

PART II

RELI 427



RELIGIOUS STUDIES
School of Art History, Classics and Religious Studies
VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON

RELI 427

Advanced Studies in Religious Texts

Part II

Course co-ordinators

Part I, Trimester one

Dr Art Buehler, HU 117, tel: 463 7409
art.buehler@vuw.ac.nz

Part II, Trimester two

Professor Paul Morris, HU 316 tel: 463 5037
paul.morris@vuw.ac.nz

Time

Tuesday 2:00 – 4:00

Location

HU 320

Course Dates:

Commencement, Part I: March 2nd 2009
Mid trimester break: April 13th – 26th 2009
End of teaching, Part I: June 5th 2009

Submission of essays for trimester one

Submission of essay 1: 27th April 2009
Submission of essay 2: 2nd June 2009

University Examination Period: June 8th–July 1st 2009
Mid year break: July 2nd – 12th 2009

Commencement, Part 2: 13th July 2009
Mid trimester break: August 24th–September 6th 2009
End of teaching, Part 2: October 2nd

Submission of essays for trimester two:

Essay outline and bibliography 21st August 2009
Essay 9th October 2009

Final submission date for Honours work: 4:00pm 23rd October 2009

Additional information

Religious Studies is in the Hunter Building. The programme administrator, Aliko Kalliabetos, is in room 318 (ext 5299). Notices regarding the course or any information on changes will be posted on the Department Notice Board adjacent to her office.

Office Hours

The main office is open Monday – Friday, 9.30 am – 12:00 noon, and 2:30 - 3.30 pm. You can arrange to meet with the class co-ordinators during office hours or by appointment.

Reli 427

Advanced Studies in Religious texts

Part II Trimester two

The course learning objectives

The aim of this half of the course is to examine a number of primary texts focusing on the ideas of 'mystical experience' and knowledge of the 'spiritual realms' in the Jewish mystical traditions, generally known as Kabbalah. These traditions will be traced from their biblical origins to the mystical textual traditions. On the basis of critical issues such as dating and authorship, the seminars will explore the mystics and the reports of their experiences on the 'spiritual path'. We will also read widely in the relevant scholarly literature.

Course content

This course (Mystical texts with Paul Morris), is delivered by means of two-hour weekly seminars. This part of the course will be assessed on **one essay of 5,000 words**. Like all Honours work, this essay is finally due on **Friday 23rd October, 2009**. Each student must also give an oral presentation in class on their proposed research. There will be a deadline for submitting work for assessment for this part of the course on Friday **9th October 2009**.

Please note also that at Honours level, your research work is guided, and our intention is that you will take advantage of the detailed feedback we provide on draft essays when first submitted, to substantially rework and improve them where possible. It is therefore required that you discuss with the lecturer a research topic and provide a draft bibliography in **week 6**, (by **Friday, 21st August 2009**). This process will include an oral presentation of the proposed research essay. We also require that you hand in your best attempt at a finished version of the essay, for possible reworking where it is thought it admits further improvement thereafter, by week 10 (**Friday, 2nd October 2009**).

The deadline structure is thus:

Friday **21st August 2009** research topic and draft bibliography
Friday **2nd October 2009** draft for review
Friday **9th October 2009** submission of essay
Friday **23rd October 2009** final deadline for all Honours work, Programme-wide.

Failure to meet any of these deadlines will be reported to the Honours Coordinator

Course Facts

This course is delivered through regular seminars
Meeting each Tuesday, 2:00 – 4:00pm in HU 320

Assessment in Part two

The Course will be assessed on one essay of 5,000 words.

Required text

There is no set textbook. Readings shall be distributed by the religious Studies Programme.

Attendance

Attendance at all Honours seminars is essential and expected; missing class impacts adversely on the quality of the course for all attending. Students must notify the lecturer if they are unable to attend a particular class session.

If a student's work is late in a course, the course coordinator will plan to meet with that student one week after a missed deadline in order to discuss a work plan; the lecturer will also notify the Honours Coordinator at that time. If work is two weeks late or more, students are referred directly to the Honours Coordinator (Anna Gade) for a meeting to determine the future work plan.

Work-load (Recommendation of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences)

For 400-level 30 points two trimester course, 12 hours per week are recommended. An average student should spend 10 hours per week for preparation, reading and writing in addition to attendance at seminars.

400 – level 2 trimester 30 points 12 hours per week

Mandatory course requirements

To gain a pass in this course each student must:

Give an oral presentation of their proposed research

Submit one 5,000 word essay,

Attend 80% of class seminars

General University Policies and Statutes

Students should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied; see the *Victoria University Calendar* or go to the Academic Policy and Student Policy sections on:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy>

The AVC (Academic) website also provides information for students in a number of areas including Academic Grievances, Student and Staff conduct, Meeting the needs of students with impairments, and student support/VUWSA student advocates. This website can be accessed at:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/avcacademic/Publications.aspx>

Student Services

In addition, the Student Services Group (email: student-services@vuw.ac.nz) is available to provide a variety of support and services. Find out more at: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/ VUWSA employs Education Coordinators who deal with academic problems and provide support, advice and advocacy services, as well as organising class representatives and faculty delegates. The Education Office (tel. 463-6983 or 463-6984, email at education@vuwsa.org.nz) is located on the ground floor, Student Union Building.

Student Support

Staff at Victoria want students to have positive learning experiences at the University. Each faculty has a designated staff member who can either help you directly if your academic progress

is causing you concern, or quickly put you in contact with someone who can. Staff in the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences (Murphy 411) are available to offer assistance. Assistance for specific groups is also available from the Kaiwawao Māori, Manaaki Pihipihinga or Victoria International.

Manaaki Pihipihinga Programme

This Programme offers academic mentoring for all Māori & Pacific students at all levels of undergraduate study for the faculties of Commerce & Administration and Humanities & Social Sciences. Contact Manaaki-Pihipihinga-Programme@vuw.ac.nz or phone 463 6015 to register for Humanities & Social Science mentoring and 463 8977 to register for mentoring for Commerce and Administration courses

Postgraduate support network for the above faculties, which links students into all of the post grad activities and workshops on campus and networking opportunities

Pacific Support Coordinator who can assist Pacific students with transitional issues, disseminate useful information and provide any assistance needed to help students achieve. Contact; Pacific-Support-Coord@vuw.ac.nz or phone 463 5842.

Manaaki Pihipihinga is located at: 14 Kelburn Parade, back court yard, Room 109 D (for Humanities mentoring & some first year Commerce mentoring) or Room 210 level 2 west wing railway station Pipitea (commerce mentoring space). Māori Studies mentoring is done at the marae.

Class representatives

Class representatives are elected in the first week or two of the term. They are supported by the VUW Students' Association, and have a variety of roles, including assistance with grievances and student feedback to staff and VUWSA. Contact details for your class rep will be listed on the Religious Studies notice board.

Aegrotat regulations

Apply to internally assessed courses. An Aegrotat pass will normally be approved only when a candidate has completed at least 30 % of the course assessment. Students who are ill, or who have difficult personal circumstances may be having problems completing assessment.

The aegrotat provisions apply to all courses and apply to assessment which falls within the last three weeks of teaching or the final examination period, including preparation time for final tests and examinations.

Aegrotat provisions are detailed in section 4.5 of the Assessment Statute (*2009 Calendar*, p. 100) and also on section p. 23 of the *2009 Assessment Handbook*. Students can refer to the University's website for further information: <http://www.vuw.ac.nz/timetables/aegrotat.aspx>.

Application forms and information pamphlets should be obtained from the Faculty Student and Academic Services Office (MY 411) or the Manager, Student & Academic Services (MY 410).

Student Learning Support Services

A range of workshops, drop-ins and other assistance is provided by SLSS, covering such things as study techniques, essay writing, exam preparation and note taking skills. They are at Level 0 Kirk, wing facing Hunter Courtyard tel: 463 5999. http://www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/s1ss/index.aspx

Evaluation

This course will be evaluated by UTDC.

SEMINAR SCHEDULE

TRIMESTER TWO

WEEK 1 (Week of Jul. 13).

Introduction

Biblical readings

WEEK 2 (Week of Jul. 20).

Sefer Bahir

Hekhalot Literature

WEEK 3 (Week of Jul. 27).

Sefer Yetzirah

WEEK 4 (Week of Aug. 3).

Sefer Ha-Zohar I

WEEK 5 (Week of Aug. 10).

Sefer Ha-Zohar I

WEEK 6 (Week of Aug. 17).

St Teresa's *Interior Castle*

Friday 21st August Research topic and draft bibliography due

MID-TRIMESTER BREAK (Weeks of August 24 and Aug. 31)

WEEK 7 (Week of Sept. 7).

Luria's Etz Hayim

Student Presentations

WEEK 8 (Week of Sept. 14).

Moshe Cordovero's *Palm Tree of Deborah*

Student Presentations

WEEK 9 (Week of Sept. 21).

Baal Shem Tov

Student Presentations

WEEK 10 (Week of Sept. 28).

Schnoer Zalman

WEEK 11 (Week of Oct. 5)

Kabbalah

Friday 9th October 2009 Essay due

WEEK 12 (Week of Oct. 13).

No class

**Friday 23rd October 2009 final deadline for all Honours work,
Programme-wide.**

Essays

Each student is required to submit one 5,000 word essay.

FINAL DUE DATE for all work is Friday, Oct. 23, 4PM, Hunter 318.

Please submit to Aliko two copies of your **essay**. No work will be accepted after this date.

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website: <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

Turnitin

(For reference see s.3.1 of the 2009 Assessment Handbook.)

Student work provided for assessment in this course will be checked for academic integrity by the electronic search engine <<http://www.turnitin.com>>. Turnitin is an online plagiarism prevention tool which compares submitted work with a very large database of existing material. It identifies material that may have been copied from other sources including the Internet, books, journals, periodicals or the work of other students. Turnitin is used to assist academic staff in detecting misreferencing, misquotation, and the inclusion of unattributed material, which may be forms of cheating or plagiarism.

At the discretion of the Head of School, handwritten work may be copy typed by the School and subject to checking by Turnitin. You are strongly advised to check with your tutor or the course coordinator if you are uncertain about how to use and cite material from other sources. Turnitin will retain a copy of submitted materials on behalf of the University for detection of future plagiarism, but access to the full text of submissions will not be made available to any other party.

How to cite books, articles and internet resources for essays in Religious Studies

What and when to cite

In order to avoid plagiarism (which is serious even when inadvertent), you **MUST** cite your sources in ALL cases. This means you should basically do two things:

- (1) In all cases where you use the exact words of a source, however few (including short phrases, rather than whole sentences), you must use **quote marks** around all words that are not yours; and
- (2) You should **footnote** your source for all **direct quotes** (see (1)), **facts, ideas, ways of approaching your problem, sources of inspiration**, etc. – in other words, you should **acknowledge your source in absolutely ALL cases** where your source is anything other than your own mind. Err on the side of fastidiousness. Where necessary, you can use the footnote to explain more exactly what you owe to the source in question ("My approach to this question is modelled on that found in . . . "; "The order of treatment in the following is derived from . . ." etc.).

In addition, it is good practice to **phrase your writing** in the body of your essay so that your **debts to your sources are clear**, where possible. Use phrases such as, "According to Smith," "Following Scrimgeour, we might say that . . ." "Worple informs us that . . ." "Lockhart contends that . . ." "Bagshot remarks insightfully that . . ." "Binns has shown that . . ." etc.

How to cite

It is mandatory to use a correct citation style in academic writing. The Programme standard in Religious Studies at VUW is the version of Chicago Style for the Humanities. The only exceptions to this Programme standard will be the correct and consistent use of an alternative, standard style **when expressly permitted by your course coordinator**.

Chicago Humanities style is defined in *The Chicago Manual of Style 15th ed. rev.* (University of Chicago Press, 2003). The full guide (a hefty volume) is available in the VUW library at Call No. Z253 C532 15ed (ask at the Reference desk). However, the following information should be sufficient for most of your basic needs.

Note that the **citation style differs for a footnote and for the bibliography** at the end of your essay. For each type of source, we have listed each example in both forms. Each example footnote contains a sample page number so you can be sure how to include the number of the page cited in your footnote.

Note also that as with all academic citation style conventions, every detail of the formatting for Chicago style is fixed. You must thus ensure you **follow the examples below in every detail**: order, punctuation, formatting (especially italics), spacing and so on.

Some of the details used in these examples have been modified, and some sources therefore do not really exist in the form given below.

Book – single author

Footnote:

T. N. Madan, *Non-Renunciation: Themes and Interpretations of Hindu Culture* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1987), 38.

Bibliography:

Madan, T. N. *Non-Renunciation: Themes and Interpretations of Hindu Culture*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1987.

Book – two or more authors

Footnote:

Richard H. Robinson and Willard L. Johnson, *The Buddhist Religion: An Historical Introduction* (Belmont, California: Wadsworth, 1997), 113.

Bibliography:

Robinson, Richard H., and Willard L. Johnson. *The Buddhist Religion: An Historical Introduction*. Belmont, California: Wadsworth, 1997.

Chapter or article in edited multi-author volume

Footnote:

James P. McDermott, "Karma and Rebirth in Early Buddhism," in *Karma and Rebirth in Indian Classical Traditions*, ed. Wendy Doniger O'Flaherty (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1980), 171.

Bibliography:

McDermott, James P. "Karma and Rebirth in Early Buddhism." In *Karma and Rebirth in Indian Classical Traditions*, ed. Wendy Doniger O'Flaherty, 165-192. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1980.

Translated book

Footnote

Sigmund Freud, *The Future of an Illusion*, trans. by W. D. Robson-Scott (New York: H. Liveright, 1928), 28.

Bibliography

Freud, Sigmund. *The Future of an Illusion*. Translated by W. D. Robson-Scott. New York: H. Liveright, 1928.

Journal article – single author

Footnote:

Richard King, "Is 'Buddha-Nature' Buddhist? Doctrinal Tensions in the *Śrīmālā Sūtra* – An Early Tathāgatagarbha Text," *Numen* 42 (1995): 12.

Bibliography:

King, Richard. "Is 'Buddha-Nature' Buddhist? Doctrinal Tensions in the *Śrīmālā Sūtra* – An Early Tathāgatagarbha Text." *Numen* 42 (1995): 1-20.

Journal article – two or three authors

Footnote:

Helen Hardacre and Abe Yoshiya, "Some Observations on the Sociology of Religion in Japan: Trends and Methods," *Japanese Journal of Religious Studies* 5, no. 1 (1978): 18.

Bibliography:

Hardacre, Helen, and Abe Yoshiya. "Some Observations on the Sociology of Religion in Japan: Trends and Methods." *Japanese Journal of Religious Studies* 5, no. 1 (1978): 5-27.

Web site

Footnote:

Paul Kingsbury, "Inducing a Chronology of the Pali Canon," <http://www.ling.upenn.edu/~kingsbur/inducing.pdf> (accessed March 28, 2008).

Bibliography:

Kingsbury, Paul. "Inducing a Chronology of the Pali Canon." <http://www.ling.upenn.edu/~kingsbur/inducing.pdf> (accessed March 28, 2008).

Reference work (e.g. encyclopaedia or dictionary)

Footnote:

Encyclopaedia Britannica, 15th ed., s.v. "Sufism."

Footnote:

Oxford English Dictionary, 2nd ed., s.v. "Apophatic."

The abbreviation "s.v." is for the Latin *sub verbo* ("under the word").

Reference works are usually not included in the bibliography.

Sacred texts

Standard citation convention is set for the sacred texts of each major tradition. You must be sure to cite sacred texts in the correct format. Unless your lecturer for a specific course states otherwise (e.g. if conformity to a more complex standard is required for courses specialising in a particular tradition), the following conventions will apply.

The Bible

In quoting the Bible, you should use in-text citation (i.e. give your source in brackets in the body of your text, rather than using a footnote). NOTE that the Bible and the Qur'an are the only exceptions to the general rule AGAINST in-text citation in this Chicago Humanities style. (You should otherwise ALWAYS use footnotes, not in-text citation.)

The Bible is cited by book, chapter and verse. For example:

. . . as it says in the Bible (1 Kgs 2:7).

Note that books of the Bible are abbreviated according to standard abbreviations. A list of abbreviations should usually be available in the edition of the Bible you are using.

Note also that the punctuation mark comes *after* the close of the parentheses. This is also the case for the full stop in a direct quote:

" . . . Absalom thy brother" (1 Kgs 2:7).

When citing multiple passages, list the abbreviated title of each *new* biblical book followed by the chapter number and colon, with all verses in that chapter separated by a comma and space. A semicolon should separate references to subsequent chapters or books. Do not include the conjunction "and" or an ampersand ("&") before the last citation. List passages in canonical and numerical order. For example:

. . . as it says in the Bible (Matt 2:3; 3:4–6; 4:3, 7; Luke 3:6, 8; 12:2, 5).

It is preferable, unless you are discussing differences of translation and interpretation, to use a single version of the Bible throughout a piece of work. In this case, you can indicate that fact by a note with your first citation, and thereafter omit mention of the version:

Footnote:

Matt. 20:4-9. In this essay, all biblical quotations are from the *New Revised Standard Version* (London: HarperCollins Publishers, 1989).

Where you have to refer to more than one version of the Bible, you can indicate the different versions in footnotes, or by a set of abbreviations that you establish in a footnote early in the essay.

List the versions of the Bible you use in your bibliography. They should appear alphabetically according to title. For example:

The New Oxford Annotated Bible: The Holy Bible. Edited by Herbert G. May and Bruce M. Metzger. New York: Oxford University Press, 1973.

This item would be listed alphabetically under "New".

The Qur'an

The name of the text is best written, "Qur'an."

In quoting the Qur'an, you should use in-text citation (i.e. give your source in brackets in the body of your text, rather than using a footnote). NOTE that the Qur'an and the Bible are the only exceptions to the general rule AGAINST in-text citation in this Chicago Humanities style. (You should otherwise ALWAYS use footnotes, not in-text citation.)

When quoting the Qur'an, give the abbreviation "Q.", then cite the number of the *sura* (chapter), then the number(s) of the *ayat* (verse). For example:

"Allah is the Light of the heavens and the earth...." (Q. 24:35).

"Praise be to Allah, Lord of the Worlds; The Compassionate, the Merciful; Master of the Day of Judgment" (Q. 1:2-4).

State in the first footnote what "translation" edition is being used for the entire document. For example:

Footnote:

In this essay, all citations from the Qur'an will be taken from *An Interpretation of the Qur'an: English Translations of the Meaning (Bilingual Edition)*, trans. Majid Fakhry (New York: New York University Press, 2000).

If you use more than one source for Qur'anic text in your essay, then you need to provide a separate, footnoted reference to each citation, specifying which version that citation is from.

In your bibliography, list each "translation" edition of the Qur'an you use alphabetically under its title. For example:

Bibliography:

An Interpretation of the Qur'an: English Translations of the Meaning (Bilingual Edition). Translated by Majid Fakhry. New York: New York University Press, 2000.

This item would be listed alphabetically under "Interpretation".

Buddhist and Indian texts

For undergraduate purposes, simply cite the English translation you are using as if it is an ordinary translated book. However, note that many Indian or Buddhist texts you will cite are compilations of multiple texts into a single volume. In such cases, you must also include the name of the text in your footnote citation. The name given to the text in English by the translator will suffice; but include the name in the original language also if it is easily accessible. For example:

Footnote:

"The Buddha's Last Days" (*Mahāparinibbāna Sutta*), in *The Long Discourses of the Buddha: A Translation of the Dīgha Nikāya*, trans. Maurice Walshe (Boston: Wisdom Publications, 1995), 232.

In your bibliography, list only the whole translated works to which you refer in your essay, according to the usual format. In other words, if you cite more than one *sutta* etc. from a single volume, you need not list every individual text, but just the volume. For example:

Bibliography:

Walshe, Maurice, trans. *The Long Discourses of the Buddha: A Translation of the Dīgha Nikāya*. Boston: Wisdom Publications, 1995.

How to cite in the body of your essay

When you refer to one of your sources in the course of your argument, you should always give your source in a footnote, which is indicated by a superscript number attached to the appropriate part of the sentence.

Note that some other stylistic conventions use what is called "in-text citation", where references are given in parentheses at the end of the sentence; you will see this method of citation often as you read. **HOWEVER, IN-TEXT CITATION IS NOT PART OF THE CHICAGO STYLE INTRODUCED HERE** (with the sole exceptions of passages from the Bible or the Qur'an), and you should consistently use footnotes indicated by superscript numbers ONLY.

Footnote style has been given above. Note that footnote numbers should always come *after* any punctuation mark at the end of the word they attach to; thus, it is correct to write a footnote like this,¹ but wrong to write it like this². One of the advantages of superscript numbered footnoting is that it allows you to make tangential comments, as in this example.³

When you refer to the same source several times in a row, you can use "Ibid." and the page number for all subsequent notes after the first.⁴ If you are referring to the same page number in several successive notes, then "Ibid." alone is sufficient.⁵

If you cite source A, then cite one or more other sources,⁶ and then return to source A,⁷ it is best to repeat only the author's name,⁸ a shortened title, and the page number cited,⁹ rather than to repeat the full citation. See the footnotes attached to this paragraph (notes 6-9) for examples.

In other words, only use abbreviated citations where you are citing the same source more than one time. Avoid old abbreviations like *loc. cit.*, *op. cit.* and so on, which can require the reader to keep track of sources over a number of references and pages, and are thus confusing.

¹ Random correct placed footnote.

² Random incorrectly placed footnote.

³ Constance Prevarication, *The Book of Tangential Comments* (Dargaville: Primrose Path Publications, 2004), 27. It is interesting to note that in this recent work, Prevarication reverses her previous hard-line stance on the literary sidetrack, and not only countenances it in principle, but herself indulges in it extensively in practice.

⁴ *Ibid.*, 36. [This means the reference is to the same source, but with a different page number.]

⁵ *Ibid.* [This means page 36, exactly like the preceding footnote.]

⁶ T. N. Madan, *Non-Renunciation: Themes and Interpretations of Hindu Culture* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1987), 38.

⁷ Richard H. Robinson and Willard L. Johnson, *The Buddhist Religion: An Historical Introduction* (Belmont, California: Wadsworth, 1997), 113.

⁸ Madan, *Non-Renunciation*, 38-40.

⁹ Robinson and Johnson, *The Buddhist Religion*, 115.

