Footnote Style for PRS

[What follows are examples to cover the most common forms used and errors made by our authors. It is not meant to be exhaustive. If you are uncertain about proper footnote or do not find an appropriate form below, be sure first to consult The SBL Handbook of Style (Peabody, Mass.: Hendrickson, 1999; call # PN 147.S26 1999), supplemented by The Chicago Manual of Style: Fourteenth Edition, Revised and Expanded (1993).]

General Information

• For PRS submissions—the main text should be double-spaced. Margins should be at least 1 inches all around. Never fully justify your document; always leave text ragged right. Block quotations should use the same font and point size as the main text and should be indented .5 inches from the left and right margins and single spaced.

• The editors strongly prefer that contributions working in the biblical languages use the Greek (SPIonic) and Hebrew (SPTiberian) fonts made available free through the Society of Biblical Literature website (http://www.sbl-site.org or ftp://ftp.sbl-site2.org/fonts/windows/). If a different foreign language font is used, contributors should supply by e-mail attachment a copy of each such font. Further, Hebrew text should generally be unpointed, except which it is absolutely critical to one’s argument that the vocalization be indicated. Other Masoretic marks should also be avoided.

• “As a general rule the sequence of publishing information (that given inside parentheses in a note) is as follows: editor; translator; number of volumes; edition; series; city; publisher; date. Colons precede page numbers in journal articles, and colons separate volume and page numbers” (SBL Handbook, §7.1.1; p. 40).

• “Whenever possible, the author’s or editor’s first name (not just an initial) should be provided. A space should always be left between initials” (SBL Handbook, §7.1.2; p. 40).

• “Avoid using f. and ff. for ‘following’ pages; give actual page ranges” (SBL Handbook, §7.1.5; p. 46).

• Do not use “ibid.” but use a shortened form of the citation (author’s last name, title, page[s].).

• Some possessive rules:
  a. Add –’s to singular nouns that end in –s. (E.g., Henry James’s novels reward the patient reader.)
  b. But the possessive of the names Jesus and Moses is traditionally formed by adding an apostrophe alone. (E.g., Jesus’ disciples were sleepy; Moses’ calling was unique.)
  c. Add only an apostrophe to plural nouns ending in –s. (E.g., The Jameses’ talents are extraordinary; the Yankees’ victories are fixed.)
  d. Names of more than one syllable with an unaccented ending pronounced eez are exceptions based on euphony. (E.g., Aristophanes’ plays are funny.)

• “Books of the Bible cited without chapter or chapter and verse should be spelled out in the main text. Books of the Bible cited with chapter or chapter and verse should be abbreviated,
unless they come at the beginning of the sentence. All occurrences of biblical books in parentheses and footnotes should be abbreviated” (SBL Handbook §8.2; pp. 71-72). (E.g., “First Corinthians 5:6 is a crucial text” not “1 Corinthians 5:6 is a crucial text.”)

**One Author (book, magazine, and journal)**¹


**Editor, Translator, or Compiler as “Author”**


Kraft and Nickelsburg, *Early Judaism*, xii.²


**Editor, Translator, or Compiler with an Author**


**Article in an Edited Volume**


¹ For magazines and journals, only include the issue number with the volume number in a citation if the pagination is not consecutive from one issue to another (i.e., if the page numbering for each issue begins anew).

² Note the example of “short title” citation in a footnote.
Authors of Foreword and Introductions Not Written by the Author

Mark Harris, introduction to With the Procession, by Henry Fuller (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1965), iv-xii.

Harris, “Introduction,” iv-ix.

Edition: Subsequent Editions


Modern Editions of the Classics (Loeb Classical Library [Greek and Latin])

Josephus, Ant. 2.233-235.

Josephus, Ant. 2.233-235 (Thackeray, LCL).

Reprint Editions (in public domain and recent)


Multivolume Works: Citing the Work as a Whole (with author or editor)


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3 Further see SBL Handbook, §7.3.2; p. 57.
4 If the translation is being quoted, it is appropriate to cite the translator.
Multivolume Works: Citing a Particular Work


A Chapter within a Titled Volume in a Multivolume Edited Work


Series


An Unpublished Dissertation or Thesis

Lee E. Klosinski, “Meals in Mark” (Ph.D. diss., The Claremont Graduate School, 1988), 22-44.


An Internet Publication with a Print Counterpart


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Truehart, “Next Church,” 37.

**An Internet Publication without a Print Counterpart**