Spelling and Abbreviation Guide
(Revised: February 12, 2013)
References such as 8.110 refer to entry numbers in *The Chicago Manual of Style*.

A
Abba
Acts of the Apostles, the (8.102, 104) [no italics]
AD 68, but 68 BC or 621 BCE [full caps and no periods] (9.35)
ad hoc
ad hominem
Adoptionism, Adoptionists (8.96, 8.107)
Advent (the coming of Christ) (8.116)
Advocate (the Holy Spirit) (8.99)
a fortiori
aeon
aesthetic [avoid, use esthetic]
African-American (noun & adj.)
agape
Age of Reason, Enlightenment, etc. (8.79)
Annunciation, the
Antichrist (the great antagonist)
anti-Semitism, anti-Semitic
apocryphal (of doubtful authority)
Apocrypha (deuterocanon)
apologetic
Apologists (Justin Martyr, etc.)
apostasy
a posteriori
a priori
Apostle to the Gentiles (8.100)
Apostles, the [when referring to the Twelve] (8.100)
Apostles’ Creed (8.115)
Apostolic Fathers
Apostolic See (= Rome) (8.108)
apostolic age, community, letter, succession, synod, etc.
appendixes
archaeology [avoid, use archeology]
archeological [prefer this spelling]
Aristotelian
ark of the covenant (8.119)
article, in this [avoid expression “in this essay”]
Ascension, the (8.107)
Assumption, the (8.107)
atonement, the (8.107)

B
baptism, the sacrament of (8.109)
baptism of Jesus, the
68 BC (but AD 68), 68 BCE (full caps) (9.35)
Baptist, the; the Precursor (8.92)
Beatitudes, the (8.107)
Beloved Apostle (8.92)
Benedictus, the
bi (as prefix, typically no hyphen, 7.79)
Bible, the (8.102)
biblical (8.102)
Biblical Commission
bio (as prefix, typically no hyphen, 7.79)
bishop, Bishop Jones [see also the pope]
Body of Christ (8.107)
bread of life
bread-of-life discourse
Bultmannian
ca. [ca. 1850, not c.a] (7.53)
canon (the Jewish canon)
canon, a canon from the Code; e.g., in canon 526 (see below Code . . .)
Captivity Epistles 8.105; see also Pastoral Epistles
catalogue
cataphatic [avoid, use kataphatic]
Catholic Church
catholicism, early century, centuries (8.70, 9.33, 9.34) [see also numbers]
as adjectival, use this form: the late third-century Fathers; the fifth-century controversy; first-century idea; but the 20th-century book; also: during the 1890s, the 1990s, etc.
cf. [avoid, use see] chapters

“In chapter 1 of his book.” (chapter is lower case); in notes and parenthetical references, chapter(s) is abbreviated as chap. or chaps. In a footnote, e.g.: ( . . . Fortress, 1970) chap. 3.

charism (not charisma)
cherubim
chosen people
City of God
Christ event
Christian (but unchristian)
Christocentric
Christomonism
Christology, Christologies,
Christological
church (but capitalized when used as a proper noun, e.g., the Roman Catholic Church);
church, local church and state, church and throne; the universal church, the Third Church
church as adjectival, lower case, e.g., church politics, church-state relations (8.97)
city of David
Code of Canon Law [the 1983 Code vs. the 1917 Code]
Codex Iuris Canonici = CIC (canon 915, or c. 1012 of the 1917 Code; cc. 1110–11).
Code of Canons of the Eastern Churches [promulgated in 1990] (CCE = Codex Canonum Ecclesiarum Orientalium) = CCEO
coequal
Commandments, the Ten Commandments
common era = CE [full caps, no periods] (9.35)
Communion (sacramental Eucharist)
communion of saints
COMPOUND WORDS (see 7.85)
confirmation (sacrament) cooperation coordinate
council, councils, the council, but Second Vatican Council (8.101, 7.85)
Counter-Reformation, covenant, the; new covenant; covenant theology
coworker
Creation, the [as the event] (8.107)
Creator [when referring to God]
creedal, intercreedal [avoid credal] cross, the (but the Cross [as the event])
Cross, the [when = Redemption; this usage is rare]
Crucifixion, the Curia, the = Roman/Vatican Curia

E
Dark Ages (8.72)
data (plural)
Day of Atonement
Lord’s Day, the (Sunday)

D
Day of Judgment
de (as prefix, no hyphen: decontrol; but de-emphasize)
Dead Sea Scrolls, the scrolls, the Qumran scrolls
Decalogue
de facto
defense (n.) = American usage [avoid defence (n.) = British]
Deism
de iure
Demirugedomotic
demythologize,
demythologization
Deutero-Isaiah
Deuteronomic
Deuteropauline
devil
diakonia
Diaspora (in biblical sense only, 8.107)
Diatessaron
Didache
Dionysius (Dionysian)
Dionysus (Dionysiac), the Greek god
Divine Liturgy (Eastern Rites)
divine presence
divinity (but the Divinity, as a name for God)
Docetism, Docetic, Docetist
Doctor of the Church [see also, Father, Church]
Donatism
East-West dialogue
Easter Day
ecuminal
ecumenist
“ed.” When used in a
bibliographic reference
after a title = “edited by”
and so is used with one
or more editors.
When preceding a title,
“ed.” or “eds.” = editor,
editors.
e.g. [always followed by a
comma, 6.43. avoid
abbreviating such
expressions except in
footnotes and embedded
parenthetical notes]
elect, the
elect
encyclical (individual titles: Divino afflante Spiritu)
second, third words are
lower case unless
referring to God (as in
Dei Verbum).
Enlightenment, the
Enquiry [avoid, use inquiry]
epiclesis
Epiphany, the
episcopal
Epistles of the New
Testament (8.105)
Pauline Epistles
Pastoral Epistles, etc.
Epistle to the Hebrews
Letter to Philemon
Epistles of Paul (see
Gospels)
eschatology, eschaton
eyesay, in this [avoid; say “in
this article”]
et al. [no comma before,
6.20]
Eucharist (sacrament),
eucharistic
Evangelical Lutheran
Church
Evangelist, the (one of the
four, e.g., the Evangelist
Mark)
evangelist, an (a preacher of
the gospel)
Exile, the (as the event,
8.107)  
Exodus, the (8.107)
ex cathedra
excursus, excursuses
extrabiblical
extra-Christian
eyewitness

F
fall (season) (8.87)
Fall, the (the biblical event,
8.107)
fascicle
the Father (= God)
Fathers of the Church,
Church Fathers, the Council
Fathers, Alexandrian Fathers
Feast of Tabernacles
feast of the unleavened
bread
Festschrift (no italics)
ff. [as in 134ff.] [avoid f. and
ff.; if used, no space follows
the number]
final judgment
first-century [when used as
preceding adj., 7.85]; BUT:
“In the first century, the
curch. . . .”
first edition
firstfruits
First Person (of the Trinity)
Flood, the [unless context
makes capitalization
unnecessary]
florilegium, florilegia
focused, focuses, focusing
form criticism, form critic,
form-critical [when used
adjectivally]
formulas (plural)
Fourth Gospel, the
Fundamentalism (8.98) [caps
only when used as the name
of a specific religion or sect]

G
Galilean
Gentile (biblical sense)
Gethsemane
gnostic (adj.), gnostic(s)
noun,
gnosticism
gnosticizing
gnosis
God as creator
God-man
God’s people
gospel (the teaching of Jesus
and apostles)
Gospel (Mt, Mk, Lk, Jn)
Gospel harmony
grace
Greco-Roman

H
Hades (8.108)
haggadah, haggadic
Hagiographa
halakah, halakic, halkot
hand (of God)
hapax legomenon/legomena
health care (n.), health-care
institutions (adj.)
heaven (8.108)  
Hebraic  
hell  
Hellenic, Hellenize,  
Hellenization  
Hellenist  
Hellenistic-Jewish (adj.)  
high priest  
High Priest (= Christ)  
high holy days  
higher criticism  
history, historian: a history, a  
historian [NOT an historian]  
historical-critical (adj.)  
history-of-religions (adj.)  
Holocaust, the (the Shoah)  
Holy Bible  
Holy Land  
holy of holies  
holy orders  
Holy Sacrifice (Mass) (8.109)  
Holy See (8.99)  
Holy Spirit  
Holy Scripture  
holy souls  
Holy Week (8.88)  
Holy Writ  
house church  
Humanists (e.g., Erasmus,  
16th cent.)  
HYPHEN, use of, 7.77–85, 
5.91–92  
hypostatic union  

Ibid. [no comma after, when  
citing a page no.; no  
italics]; in a sentence  
“ibid.” is lower case:  
e.g.: See ibid. 3.  
inasmuch as [prefer because  
or since]  

incarnate Word  
Incarnation, the  
indexes  
Infancy Narratives, Infancy  
Gospel of Thomas  
inquiry  
in regard to [not in regards  
to]  
insofar, insofar as  
institution of the Eucharist  
inter-testamental  
Irenaeus of Lyons,  
Irenaeus’s view  
Israelite  
Isaiah Scroll  
iure, de  

J  
Jesus’ name (always omit  
final s after apostrophe—an  
exception to 7.20)  
Jesus event, the  
Jewish Christianity, a Jewish  
Christian, Jewish-Christian  
(adj.)  
Johannine  
1 John, 1 John 5, 1 John 5:3  
(but when in parentheses: 1  
Jn, 1 Jn 5, 1 Jn 5:3)  
Josephus’s  
Jr./ III/ Sr. etc. [no comma  
before, 6.47, 10.19]  
Judah  
Judaic  
Judaism, Judaize, Judaizer,  
Judaizing  
Judeo-Christian  
Judea, Judean, Judean Desert  
Judgment Day  

K  
kataphatic [use this form;  
avoid cataphatic]  
kenosis, kenotic  
kingdom of God/Christ  
Koran [avoid; use Qur’an]  

L  
Lamb of God  
last day  
Last Judgment  
Last Supper  
late Judaism, late Jewish  
Latinize  
Law, the (the Torah, Mosaic  
Law), Law of Christ  
Lent (8.88)  
Letter to the Corinthians [see  
Epistle]  
lifestyle  
locus, loci  
logion, logia  
Logos (= Christ; otherwise  
lower case)  
Lord’s Prayer, the  
Lord’s Supper, the (8.107,  
8.109)  
lordship  
love feast  
Lukan [avoid Lucan]  

M  
Magi, the  
magisterium  
Magnificat, the  
Manichean, Manicheism  
manna  
Markan [avoid Marcan]  
Marian  
Mariology, Mariological  
Mass (as in “attending  
Mass”), but a mass, three  
masses (8.109)  
Matthean  
Melchizedek
Messiah ( = Christ; otherwise lower case)
messiahship, messianic, messianism
messianic secret
mid-20th century philosophy
Middle Ages
Middle Platonism
midrash, midrashic
midrashim
milieu
millenarianism, millenary
millennium, millennia
minuscule
Mishnah
Modernism, Modernists, the
Modernist controversy/crisis
modernity
moral law
Mosaic Law, the Law of
Moses
Mother of God
ms. and mss.
Muhammad
multi (as prefix, no hyphen, 7.85)
Muslims [avoid “Moslems”]
mystery religions
mythos

N
n. = note [e.g., “as cited above in n. 32”]
naïve, naïveté
nativity of Christ (Nativity if referring to December 25)
natural law; but as adj.: natural-law concepts
Near Eastern
neoorthodoxy of Barth
Neoplatonic
neo-Scholasticism, neo-Scholastics, neo-Scholastic
New Covenant, the
new hermeneutic
Nicaea, Council of (8.101)
Nicene Creed
no. (= number, e.g., no. 12
[as in Lumen gentium no. 12] [n. = note; see above])
Noah
non (as prefix, no hyphen, 7.85; but non-Christians)
numbers, inclusive 9.60, 6.78 [refers to pagination] less than 100: use digits, e.g., 3–10 100 or multiple: 100–104, 600–613 101 thru 109 or multiples: 107–8, 505–17 110 thru 199 or multiples: 321–25, 415–532. [NB: use the en-dash, not the hyphen, between inclusive numbers.] Numbers in a sentence (including cardinals) are spelled out from 1 through 12 inclusive. Over 12 use digits: 13, 13th, 18, 18th, 35, 35th Nunc Dimittis (as title of a prayer, 8.106)

O
only-begotten Son
open-minded
ORDINALS (125th, eighth) (9.6, 9.46–50)
Orient, Oriental
original sin (8.107)
our Lady (8.92)
our Lord (8.91)
Our Father, the
outdated
overall
over (as prefix, no hyphen, 7.79, 7.85)
overemphasis, overgenerous, oversimplification

P
paleo-Christian
paleography, paleographic
papacy, papal
Parable of the Good
Samaritan
Parable of the Unjust
Steward
Paraclete
paradise
parenthesis
parousia, parousiac return
par., parr. = parallel, parallels [to indicate a parallel Gospel verse]
par excellence
Pasch, Christ’s Pasch, but paschal
Paschal Lamb
Passion, the
Passion Week
Passion Narratives
Passover
Pastoral Letters, the; the Epistles
patriarch of Constantinople, the patriarchal, patriarchs (8.92)
patristic
Pauline, Pauline corpus
pax Romana [no italics.]
Familiar words/phrases from
foreign languages are not italicized, 7.49.

penance (sacrament) (8.109)
Pentateuch, Pentateuchal Pentecost
Pentecostal [upper case only for the modern movement] people of God Person(s) (of the Trinity) the person of Christ Petrine, Petrine confession, Petrine ministry pharaohs Pietism Pharisaic, Pharisees pleroma Pneumatology, Pneumatological [when referring to the Holy Spirit] pope, the; but Pope John XXIII post (as prefix, no hyphen, 7.85) postapostolic, postexilic, postconciliar, but post-Bultmannian, post-Mosaic, post-Pauline précis Precursor, the; see Baptist, the (8.92) presence of God prediluvian, pre (as prefix, no hyphen, 7.85) preeminent, preexilic, preexistence priesthood of Christ prima facie prologue of John prophecy (noun) prophesy (verb) prophets Prophets, the (part of OT): the Law, the Prophets, the Writings Protestant (adj. and noun) psalm, a Psalms (OT book), the Psalmist, the Psalter Pseudepigrapha pseudo (as prefix, no hyphen, 7.85) pseudograph Pseudo-Dionysius, or Pseudo-Denis purgatory Q Q, the source Q, the Q-hypothesis quid pro quo (no italics) Qumran Qur’an [avoid Koran]; Qur’anic R rabbi, rabbinic rapprochement re (as prefix, typically without hyphen, 7.85): reread, but re-creation real presence (8.107) redaction criticism, redaction-critical (adj.) Redeemer, the Redemption, the (8.107) Reformation, the Reformed tradition reign of God remnant, the Renaissance, the; renaissance (adj.) Resurrection, the (of Jesus) resurrection of the dead revelation Roman empire Romantic theology Revised Standard Version, the (8.103)

S Sabbath sabbatical (year, etc.) sacrament(s) Sacred Scripture Sadducees, Sadducean saints, Saint John salvation history Sanhedrin sapiential books (Proverbs, etc.) Satan, satanic Savior (= Christ) sayings source Sayings of the desert monks sceptical [avoid, use skeptical] Scholastic philosophy; see also neo-Scholastic, neo-Scholasticism, Scholasticism Scholastics, the (8.96) Scribe, the Scribes [by analogy with Pharisees] scriptural, nonscriptural Scripture(s) scrolls (in general) Sea of Galilee Second Adam, Second Moses, etc. Second Coming Second Temple Second Vatican Council (or Vatican II) self- (as prefix, always hyphenated) self-consciousness, self-communication Semitic
Septuagint
seraphim
Sermon on the Mount,
Sermon on the Plain
Servant literature
Servant Songs, Suffering
Servant (8.92)
Sheol
Shiite, Shiism
signs source
sin offering
Sitz im Leben
skeptical, skeptic, skepticism
[nottropical]
skillful
socio (as prefix, no hyphen,
7.85) socioeconomic
Son of David (8.92, 8.107)
Son of Man
Son of Man sayings
Son of God (Jesus)
sons of light, sons of
darkness
Sophia
soteriology
speech event
Spirit, the (8.91)
spring (8.87)
starting point
Stoic philosophy
subapostolic (7.85)
Suffering Servant
Synoptic Gospels, the
Synoptics,
Synoptic problem

T
Talmud, talmudic (8.102)
Temple, the (see Second
Temple)
temptation of Christ
Ten Commandments, the
thank offering

that (as restrictive, not
which)
theophany
theologoumenon, -na (no
italics)
Thessalonica (ancient city),
Saloniki (modern city)
Third World nations [avoid
this expression; prefer
Global South nations]
Thomas Aquinas [in
subsequent references use
Aquinas]
Thomistic
toward [not towards] etc.
tradition; Scripture and
tradition
trans. [not tr. In
bibliographical references,
followed by full name: trans.
John Jones]
trans [as prefix, no hyphen,
7.85] transatlantic, transship
Transfiguration, the (8.107)
Tridentine
Trinity, Trinitarian
triune God, the
Tübingen school, the
turning point
Twelve, the; the Twelve
Apostles

U
Ultramontanes;
Ultramontanism, but
ultramontane
un (as prefix, no hyphen,
7.85) unchurched, unfunded
but: un-Christlike
universal church, the
Upper Galilee
United Kingdom (as
substantive, spell out; as
adjective: UK, no periods)
United States (as
substantive, spell out; as
adjective: US, no periods)

V
Vatican II, or Second Vatican
Council
verse, v., vv.
verse-by-verse (adj.)
verse by verse (adv.)
vice versa
the virgin birth
vis-à-vis
the Visitation
viz.
Vulgate

W
well-attested, but in
predicate position no
hyphen: “It is well attested
that. . . .”
Western (cultural); western
(directional)
Western text
which (as nonrestrictive,
not that) E.g.:
The Hudson River,
which is blue, is
polluted.
When nonrestrictive,
use that: The Hudson
River that Irving
described is gloomy.
NB: many whichs in
manuscripts need to be
changed to that.
Wisdom Literature (section
of the Bible),
wisdom literature (in general)  word of God (Scripture)  Y  Yahweh
Wisdom (only if personified), Book of Wisdom  worldview  Z  Zion
Word of God (Logos)  worshiper, worshiping (not worshipping)

COMPARISON OF AMERICAN AND BRITISH USAGE

<table>
<thead>
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<th>American Usage</th>
<th>British Usage</th>
<th>USE</th>
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<td>s-</td>
<td>c-</td>
<td>defense</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

But note these correct American spellings: comprise, surmise, surprise

VARIOUS FORMATS, ESPECIALLY FOR FOOTNOTES


Tractatus 2, 2nd rev. ed. (Malines: Jones, 1930).

OR (Paris: Desclée de Brouwer, 1980; orig. ed. 1900) 145.ALSO (Buffalo: Prometheus, 1985; German original 1901).


Derrida, “Des Tours de Babel” 98.

“Lehre vom Geist” 110.

See God and Creatures 399–417.

See n. 9 above.

See Jones, Body Theology (n. 10 above).

Lumen gentium no. 5; Lumen gentium nos. 24–28.

Ibid. 148.

See ibid. 227 n. 2. [no comma before “n.”]

For proof, see Schubert Ogden, The Point of Life (London: SCM, 1982) [no comma after “see”; avoid “cf.”]


The film *Rosemary’s Baby* treats this theme.


**PATRISTIC/MEDEIVAL TEXTS**

**Series**: MG 15.144 ff.; SC etc. [No italics for series, except *Ante-Nicene Fathers* and parr.].


Migne, PG 44.137d–140c; PL 23.931a; GCS 6.156.18–26.

Sources chrétiennes (hereafter SC);
Corpus Scriptorum Christianorum Orientalium (hereafter CSCO)

*Hymns on the Church* 36.6 (CSCO 199.88).

*Demonstrations* 6.17 (SC 349.405).

Corpus Christianorum, Series Latina (hereafter CCSL)

Corpus Christianorum, Series Graeca (hereafter CCSG)

Corpus Christianorum, Continuatio Mediaevalis (hereafter CCCM)

Thomas Aquinas, *Summa theologiae* (hereafter *ST*) 1, q. 104, a. 1.

*ST* 3, q. 110, a. 2

*ST* 1, qq. 111–23

*ST* 2–2, q. 185, a. 1 c

Thomas Aquinas, *Summa contra gentiles* (hereafter *SCG*) 3, chap. 66.7, or chaps. 63–77.

Thomas Aquinas, *In II. Sent.* d. 2, q. 1, a. 3, ad 1.

Thomas Aquinas, *De potentia* q. 4, a. 1 c.


Augustine, *De doctrina christiana* 2.41.62.

Augustine, Confessions 1.26.


Later references: *Strom.* IV 24.154.5 (GCS 15.316.30 ff.).


John of Damascene, *De fide* 3, chaps. 3–9 (PG 94.987b–1017b).

**ENUMERATING SERIES**

(1), (2), and (3)

Or

(a), (b), and (c).

**ACRONYMS**

For organizations, e.g., UNESCO, WCC, etc. see 15.25–26.

PREFIXES: Most prefixes are not hyphenated. Webster gives long lists of examples.