

# Folklore Papers Guide

## Discipline Specific

### What is folklore?

“Artistic communication in small groups”

Folklore includes myths, legends and folktales, as well as riddles, proverbs, graffiti, food, ghost stories, slang.

Folklore is studied using ethnographic (immersive, ground-up, consultant-based) research.

### FOLKLORE PAPERS

- Focus on what folklore means to its specific folk group and how this is useful/applicable to broader social and cultural concepts and/or issues.
- Written using the first person. Professors want students to consider their own positionality and ideas when studying folklore.
- Include a clear thesis statement.
- Often use ethnographic research materials (fieldnotes, personal interviews, etc.).
- Most often follow Turabian Author-Date citation style.

### Citing Ethnographic Materials

Interviews are cited by the last name of the interviewee, and denoted ‘Personal Communication’ in the references.

Fieldnotes are cited by the last name of the person who wrote them.

In-text: include last name and year collected. (*Knopp 2020*).

On reference page: include full name, date collected, type of material, and location collected.

*Knopp, Magdalyn. 2020. Fieldnotes. [Or: Personal Communication.] Jan 25, Feb 1. St. John’s, NL.*

### Turabian citation style

There are two types of Turabian citation styles:

1. *Author-Date*
2. *Notes-Bibliography*

Most professors accept either, but *Author-Date* is more common and practical for folklore papers.

Title pages and tables of contents are generally not necessary for folklore papers.

There are no running heads.

Page numbers are included in the bottom right-hand corner.

Headings are used as necessary.



## 1) Author-Date Style

In-text citations include the last name, year of publication and page number(s). Use n.d. to indicate no date.

Example: (Knopp 2020, 10)

Full citations are included at the end of the paper under the heading “References.” All citations begin with the author(s) and then the year of publication.

Footnotes are used as necessary to include extra-textual information such as definitions.

### Book example:

Jarvis, Dale. 2004. *Haunted Shores: True Ghost Stories of Newfoundland and Labrador*. St. John’s: Flanker Press Ltd.

### Article example:

Bascom, William R. 1954. “Four Functions of Folklore.” *Journal of American Folklore* 67, no 266: 333-349.

## 2) Notes-Bibliography Style

In-text citations are denoted by simply a superscript number, which corresponds to the citation in the footnote.

If you cite the same source twice in a row, you may use *ibid* in the footnote.

If you cite the same source multiple times in the paper, but not in a row, you may use a shortened footnote for the second and all further citations.

A shortened note can be author-only or author-title. Some professors accept all shortened footnotes, with full citations included in the bibliography at the end.

### Footnote (full):

1. Linda K. Fuller, *Chocolate Fads, Folklore & Fantasies: 1,000+ Chunks of Chocolate Information* (New York: Haworth Press, 1994), 54.

### Footnote (shortened, author-only):

2. Fuller, 54.

### Footnote (shortened, author-title):

3. Fuller, *Chocolate Fads, Folklore & Fantasies*, 54.

### Bibliography:

Fuller, Linda K. *Chocolate Fads, Folklore & Fantasies: 1,000+ Chunks of Chocolate Information* New York: Haworth Press, 1994.



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