Hi I’m Kimberly Wirth; a librarian at the Porter Henderson Library. In this video I’ll discuss two very important aspects of citation: deciding what citation style you should use for your assignment and learning where to find the information you need to make sure you are properly citing your sources.
There are a lot of different citation styles out there, so let’s get started with deciding which style you should use.

Your number one choice should always be...

The style assigned by your professor for the project. So, read your assignment instructions thoroughly.

However, some professors will leave it up to you to choose a style, so what do you do next? Well, there are two options to consider when making this decision.
First, if professionals in your future career field use a particular style, then it might be a good idea to select that style and begin learning it since it is something you will use in the future.

Second, if you are already familiar with a particular style, then it might be a good idea to stick with what you know.

Once you have decided on a citation style, then it is time to find the resources you need so you can include citation information in your notes, to create annotated bibliographies, to format your paper, and begin writing.
The library has a lot of resources available to help you with citation. First, the most authoritative source you can use is the official style manual. If you check RamCat you will see that the library keeps the most current editions on the corner of the Research Assistance Desk and in the Reference Collection located next to the Research Assistance Desk.
If we have extra copies, they will be found in the stacks on the Second Floor. These copies are available for checkout.

Here’s an important point: When a new edition comes out for a style manual, we may have two editions available for your use. Please make sure you use one edition or the other, but not both as there will be some differences.
In addition to the citation manuals, the library has other resources available to help you. First is the Citations and Citing Sources tab in the Basic Library Research & Writing Guide. Here you will find some helpful information and videos.

Other Research Guides have a Citation Styles tab and when you click on it
You will open a library website with a list of recommended web resources for each of the major citation styles. Whenever using one of these websites somewhere on its homepage, you should be able to find information on what edition of the style manual the creators of the website used.
Citation requires a lot of attention to detail, so give yourself plenty of time for this part of your assignment. Remember to choose which style you need to use and make sure you are referring to the correct edition of the official style manual. Look in Library research guides for additional citation resources including librarian recommended websites. Have questions about citation? Ask your professor, the ASU Writing Center, or a librarian.

This concludes the video on Getting Started with Citation.