# Editorial Style Guide



Prepared by University Relations

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# Introduction

These guidelines are intended to promote clarity and consistency in University publications and correspondence. The Chicago Manual of Style (14th edition), Words into Type, Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary (10th edition), and the Associated Press Stylebook are recommended as authorities for issues not covered here. For additional guidance, feel free to contact Marketing and Communications at 510.643.8658 or Public Affairs at 510.643.6163.

# Academic Terms and Usage

#### **Alumni and Emeriti**

```
alumnus (singular masculine)
alumni (plural masculine — use for collective body of men and
    women)
alumna (singular feminine)
alumnae (plural feminine — use when referring to women only)
alum/alums (for informal usage only)
emeritus (singular noun)
emeriti (plural noun)
professor emeritus (singular masculine adjective): Professor
    Emeritus of English John-Smith
professor emerita (singular feminine adjective): Professor
    Emerita of Mathematics Mary Jones
professors emeriti (plural adjective): The department's
    faculty includes six professors emeriti.
chancellor emeritus: A new center will be named in honor
    of Chancellor Emeritus John Smith. The chancellor
    emeritus was honored.
```

#### **Awards and Honors**

the Nobel Prize in physics/Nobel laureate/Nobel Prize winner the Pulitzer Prize for fiction the Guggenheim Fellowship/the fellowship/the Guggenheim fellow/the fellow the Berkeley Fellow/the fellow; Alumnus (or Alumna) of the Year Alumni Leadership Scholarship/Alumni Scholar/the scholar the John Jones Chair in Russian Literature/the Jones Chair/the endowed chair/the chair Vladimir Nabokov, the Jones Professor of Russian Literature/the chairholder the Mary Smith Distinguished Professorship in Anthropology/ the Smith Distinguished Professorship/the distinguished professorship/ the professorship

John Doe, the Smith Distinguished Professor of Anthropology/ the professorship holder

MacArthur Fellowship (not MacArthur genius award or genius grant)/MacArthur Fellow

#### Class Years

*Undergraduate degree*: Jane M. Doe '62; John N. Doe of the Class of 1955 *or* the Class of '55

Graduate degree: John N. Doe M.B.A. '60; John Smith Ph.D. '39

More than one Cal degree: John N. Doe '55, M.B.A. '60

To indicate major or college: John Smith, EECS '38

Name with suffix: John Doe Jr. '60

Cal grad with a non-Cal M.D.: Phillip M. Levin '60, M.D.

*Pairs*: John '56 and Jane '58 Harrison; John Harrison '56 and his wife, Jane '58; The Honorable John Smith '53 and Mrs. Smith; Bob and Ann '02 Mu

Classes of the '80s, '90s, and '00s will hold a reunion.

When writing about an alumnus who graduated prior to 1930 write out the full year to avoid confusion as to the century in which the degree was awarded.

Incorrect: Distinguished alumni include former Supreme

Court Chief Justice Earl Warren J.D. '14

Correct: Distinguished alumni include former Supreme Court Chief Justice Earl Warren, who earned his J.D. in 1914.

When an alumnus's name and class year stand alone (such as in a list or as a quote attribution) and

the year in question is prior to 1930 write the full name followed by

degree and degree year.

*Example:* "If it is a mistake of the head and not the heart don't worry about it, that's the way we learn." — Earl Warren B.A. 1912, J.D. 1914.

Note: Capitalize Class when referring to a specific class.

Class of 2008

#### Courses

In a sequence of courses with a single title and course description, the complete number of the sequence must be repeated: Chemistry 12A-12B-12C, not Chemistry 12A-B-C or Chemistry 12ABC.

Cap course titles but do not italicize or enclose in quotes.

# **Degrees and Affiliations**

When academic degrees are referred to in general terms such as doctorate, doctoral, bachelor's, or master's, they are not capped: He earned a bachelor's degree in English. Initialisms for degrees should be as follows; no letterspaces within:

A.B.	Ed.D.	M.C.P.	M.L.I.S.
B.A.	J.D.	M.D.	M.P.H.
B.S.	J.S.D.	M.Eng.	M.P.P.
C.Mult.	LL.M. M.A.	M.F.	M.S.
C.Sing.	M.A.T.	M.F.A.	M.S.W.
D.Eng.	M.Arch.	M.J.	O.D.
Dr.P.H.	M.B.A.	M.L.A.	Ph.D.

Note: Haas style is to exclude periods in "MBA" and other degrees.

Licenses and associations do not take periods: CPA, LCSW, AAAS, IEEE, ASLA.

Note: According to Chicago, the trend is away from using the periods in these abbreviations. Whichever style you choose to follow, be consistent within the document.

### **Departments and Disciplines**

Cap disciplines only when referring to specific courses or departments:

I'm studying biostatistics, although my favorite course is
Archaeology 100 in the Department of Anthropology.

In a first reference, use Department of Archaeology, but you may use archaeology department or archaeology in subsequent references.

Majors and minors are lowercase (but proper names as subjects are always capped): She majored in linguistics and minored in Asian studies.

# **People and Titles**

Cap the following titles only when immediately preceding personal names: governor, president, provost, vice chancellor, dean, chair, director, coordinator, professor: The governor agrees with President X, but Professor Y claims that most professors do not.

Exception: Cap chancellor in all references to the current chancellor, and president in all references to UC's president. Do not cap chancellor in references to former chancellors.

The Chancellor awarded \$1 million in discretionary funds to

student services.

As a former chancellor, Z was also on the committee.

Cap full titles before names (Vice Chancellor John Doe); however, try to place long titles after names as lowercased appositives: Jane Doe, professor of chemistry; John Doe, vice chancellor for university relations.

We honored Chancellor Emeritus Z.

Use an em-dash in display text or lists:

John Doe

Vice Chancellor — University Relations

Occupational titles preceding a name are not capped: Several people contributed to the report, including attorney James Smith and library director Jane Smith.

In formal usage, titles following a personal name may be capped: We are delighted to present this award to John Doe, Professor of Economics.

Do not use Dr. in academic titles, unless the professor prefers to use it in an honor roll or similar listing.

Professor of the Graduate School John Smith of mechanical engineering

In general, avoid using the abbreviation Prof.

### **Treatment of Campus Entities**

The capitalization guidelines below cover most campus uses.

University is capped whenever it refers to Berkeley but lowercase when used generically.

Cap the following words only when they are part of a title: campus, college, school, department, institute, center, program, office, committee. Subsequent references are always lowercase. Maintain consistency in your titles; do not refer to the Office of Financial Aid in one paragraph and the Financial Aid Office in another.

Cap full names of buildings, laboratories, libraries, and museums, but not subsequent references to them: the Berkeley Art Museum/the museum.

When referring to multiple buildings, Chicago now says it is correct to capitalize "hall" if it is part of each building's name:

Wheeler and Dwinelle Halls

Similarly, cap full names of fundraising campaigns or initiatives but not subsequent references.

The Campaign for Berkeley/the campaign

Sometimes it is preferable to capitalize a shortened version of an entity's proper name if the abbreviation is a generic descriptor: the Lawrence Hall of Science/the Hall

# More examples:

Botanical Garden/the garden Cal Athletics Cal Performances California Alumni Association/CAA/the alumni association/ the association

Center for (not of) Latin American Studies

C. V. Starr East Asian Library, Chang-Lin Tien Center for East Asian Studies

CITRIS Headquarters (Center of Information Technology

Research in the Interest of Society)

College of Chemistry/the college

College of Engineering/the college

College of Environmental Design/the college/CED

College of Letters & Science/the college/L&S

Arts and Humanities Division

Berkeley Center for New Media

**Biological Sciences Division** 

Undergraduate Division

College of Natural Resources/the college/CNR

Genetics and Plant Biology Building

Richard and Rhoda Goldman School of Public Policy/the

Goldman School/the school

Graduate School of Education/the school

Graduate School of Journalism/the school

Greek Theatre (not Theater)

Walter A. Haas School of Business/Haas School of Business/

Haas School/the business school/the school

Walter A. Haas, Jr. Pavilion/Haas Pavilion/the pavilion

(Note: comma before Jr. was requested by the donor)

Hearst Memorial Mining Building

Phoebe Apperson Hearst Museum of Anthropology/the

Hearst Museum/the museum (not Lowie Museum)

Institute of East Asian Studies

Institute of (not for) International Studies

Intercollegiate Athletics and Recreational Sports/the

athletics department/Cal Athletics

International and Area Studies/IAS

International House/I-House

Jean Gray Hargrove Music Library/Hargove Music Library

Koshland Hall

Lawrence Hall of Science/LHS/the Hall (note cap)

Library (for the main library)/the library (when referring to a

branch library)

Life Sciences Addition/LSA

Li Ka Shing Center for Biomedical and Health Sciences

McCone Hall (not Earth Sciences Building)

Morrison Library (not the Morrison Reading Room or

Morrison Room)

Physical Sciences Division

School of Optometry/Berkeley Optometry/the school

School of Public Health/the school

School of Social Welfare/the school

Social Sciences Division

Stanley Biosciences and Bioengineering Facility/Stanley Hall

Student-Athlete High Performance Center

Sutardja Dai Hall/CITRIS Headquarters

Tan Kah Kee Hall/Tan Hall/the chemical engineering and chemistry building

Tang Center (the building)/University Health Services/UHS (the unit)

Theater (not Theatre), Dance & Performance Study

The Bancroft Library/The Bancroft

Doreen B. Townsend Center for the Humanities/the

Townsend Center/the center

UC Berkeley Extension/Berkeley Extension/Extension

not University Extension or UC Extension

UC Berkeley School of Information/iSchool

UC Berkeley School of Law, Berkeley Law, the school

University of California, Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific

Film Archive/the Berkeley Art Museum/the Pacific Film

Archive/the museum/the archive also BAM/PFA

Helen Wills Neuroscience Institute

Valley Life Sciences Building (not Life Sciences Building)/

VLSB (not LSB)

For correct spelling of buildings, departments, institutes, etc. not listed here, go to berkeley.edu.

# Administrative Style and Usage

#### **Address Formats**

#### E-Mail

In text, electronic addresses are lowercase: john\_doe@berkeley.edu

Do not omit the period when an e-mail address falls at the end of a sentence.

#### Internet

It is no longer necessary to use http://. Some web addresses still require www, but many do not. If www is used when it is not needed, the address will not work. The best practice is to check any web address that will appear in a publication to ensure that it is correct and works. Do not omit the period when a web address falls at the end of a sentence.

#### Mail

Return addresses on all campus mail pieces must be formatted as follows:

Institution name University of

California, Berkeley

(Optional name and title) Gift Planning
(Optional subunit name) University

Relations

Delivery address # XXXX (mail code) 2080 Addison St.

#4200

City, state, zip+4 Berkeley, CA

94720-4200

The bottom three lines of the return address must always be: department name, delivery address, and city/state/zip, in that order. If additional information must be included in the return address, it can be inserted between the institution name and the department name. There should be a space between the # and the mail code.

For more information about mailing requirements, contact UC Berkeley Services at 643.MAIL or visit mailservices.berkeley.edu.

### Copyright and Trademark Information

All printed and electronic materials produced at the University are copyrighted by the UC Regents. While it is not required by copyright law to receive copyright protection, a copyright notice is always a good thing to include.

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The University seal with Berkeley on it and other campus symbols such as the script Cal and some images of Oski are trademarked.

For details on copyright and trademarks, contact the Office of Marketing & Business Outreach, ombo.berkeley.edu, 642.6344.

# **Fax and Telephone Numbers**

For fax and phone numbers, suggested formats are as follows: 510.642.1212 or (510)642-1212 or 510/642-1212. Whichever format you choose, handle both fax and phone numbers consistently throughout your document.

# **Fundraising Campaigns**

The full name of a campaign should be used in first references (The Campaign for Berkeley). Note: The "T" in "The" is

- capitalized when using the campaign's full name. When used alone, campaign is lowercase.
- Sample usage in text: The University has launched The Campaign for Berkeley. The campuswide campaign goal is \$3 billion.
- For campuswide school, college, and unit campaign naming architecture, go to the "Choose a Giving Opportunity" link at campaign.berkeley.edu.
- For guidance in developing campaign names, please contact the Editorial Director, Marketing and Communications, University Relations at 643.8658.

# Athletic Terms and Abbreviations

The official name for the athletic teams is the California Golden Bears, but it is commonly shortened to the Bears for subsequent references.

Go Bears! does not take a comma.

The campus mascot is Oski.

For complete information about Athletics, including a list of teams, names of facilities, and more, go to calbears.com.

Following are some frequently used terms:

Cal Athletics (referring to UC Berkeley intercollegiate athletics program)

Pacific-10 Conference, Pac-10 Conference, Pac-10

NCAA Division I

NCAA Division I-A (when referring to football)

Top 10 or Top 25 (no hyphens)

All-Pac-10 *and* All-American, *but* all-state and all-conference first team (*no hyphen between first and team*)

NCAA or Pac-10 championship (*Do not cap championship unless referring to the exact title, e.g.,* NCAA Men's Basketball Championship.)

NCAA or Pac-10 championship/championships (Use the plural

when more than one title is awarded — in swimming, tennis, and track, both team and individual titles are awarded. Use the singular championship when one title is awarded, as in basketball and volleyball.) NCAA Tournament

No. 1

# General Style Preferences

#### **Abbreviations and Acronyms**

Write out the full names of offices and institutions before using initialisms, adding initialisms in parentheses if you intend to use them alone in subsequent references: The Lawrence Hall of Science (LHS) is a national leader in mathematics and science literacy. Educational materials created at LHS are used by thousands of schoolchildren.

In general, omit periods from initialisms: DOE, NCAA, NEA, NIMH, SAT scores, UNESCO but U.S., U.N. Use U.S. as an adjective and United States as a noun.

All words should be spelled out: laboratory, mathematics, television, telephone, street, avenue, building, Tuesday, September, California. Chief executive officer can be abbreviated as CEO. Postal designations for states (CA, MD, IL) are acceptable in formats such as class notes; in journalistic formats, AP style (Calif.) is acceptable.

Do not use & for and (unless it is part of a corporate or unit name or in tabular material) or % for percent except in tabular material. Spell out pages (pages 36–37, not pp. 36–37).

#### **Capitalization**

Lowercase state when used as an adjective or common noun: a state map, the state economy, the people of the state of California.

Capitalize state when writing about the state government: The State of California provides about one-third of Cal's annual budget.

In titles and headings, cap all major words in hyphenated compounds unless they are preceded by a prefix or follow a musical key symbol: Long-Range Development Plan, Precollegiate Academy, E-flat Concerto. Of course, proper names are always capped: Non-Christian Religions.

Plurals of generic terms after proper names are capitalized: San Francisco and Alameda Counties, University and Shattuck Avenues, Departments of Chemistry and Physics (but physics and chemistry departments).

Campus style is to capitalize University when referring to Berkeley. Otherwise it is lowercase.

#### **Dates and Times**

Academic or fiscal year: 1994–95, 1999–2000, or 2000–01 with an en dash. Not 1994-1995, 1994/95, '98–'99, or 98–99. Also, not 1999–00, '99–'00, or 99–00.

Semester and year: fall semester 2000 or fall semester (no caps)

Month and year: September 2000 (no comma) Month, day, year: September 10, 2009,

Decades: Preferred styles: 1980s (no apostrophe), the nineties (not 90s or 90's). For informal usage and abbreviated text: '90s, '00s.

Seasons are not capped: the spring of 2000, spring 2000.

Use a.m. and p.m. or A.M. and P.M., not AM, pm, PM, or other variations. Do not precede noon or midnight with 12.

To indicate duration of time, use to between the hours in text, but an en dash in calendar or tabular entries: The picnic will run from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; class times are 11 a.m.-noon, 4–5 p.m., and 9:30 a.m.–3 p.m. Do not use 10:00. Leave space after the number, but not on either side of the en dash. Do not mix formats.

*Incorrect:* The lecture is from 10–11 a.m. *Correct:* The lecture is from 10 to 11 a.m.

#### Gender

Do not use he, she, his, or her unless gender is essential to meaning. Do not use s/he or his/her; avoid the use of he or she, or his or her if possible. A plural construction often solves problems: Donors may pay by credit card if they so choose. Be careful not to mix singular and plural. (Incorrect: Every student has their preference. Correct: All students have their preferences.)

*Use* chair *rather than* chairman, chairwoman, *or* chairperson.

# **Geographic Regions**

In general, cap compass points when referring to a place and lowercase when referring to a direction: Settlers from the East went west in search of new lives. Lowercase compass points when describing a section of a nation, state, or city (eastern Texas) unless denoting widely known sections: Southern California, Northern California. Other accepted uses: the Bay Area, the West Coast, Western capitalism, Eastern religion.

# **Hyphenation**

Compound adjectives that precede the noun they modify are hyphenated unless they are easily recognized as a single concept: lower division or upper division class, computer science field, private sector contributions, real estate markets.

Compounds that are hyphenated as adjectives (off-campus housing, part-time employment, decision-making skills) are not hyphenated as nouns (her housing is off campus; she works less than full time; findings that assist in decision making).

Compound adjectives with -ly are not hyphenated: privately funded, highly regarded.

Compound adjectives with numerals should be hyphenated: the \$40-million campaign.

Fundraising, not fund-raising nor fund raising

For additional guidance, see the Word List on page 15.

#### **Indefinite Articles**

Words starting with a pronounced h, long u or eu take the article a, not an: a hotel, a historic study, a euphonious word; but an honor, an heir

# **Letter Spacing**

Use two spaces after a period in correspondence. Use one space after a period in printed materials.

Use a space on either side of an em dash.

### **Names**

# Company

Spell out in full (including Company or Corporation) whenever possible, but drop Inc. or Ltd. After the first reference, a company

name can be shortened: Hewlett-Packard Company becomes Hewlett-Packard.

#### Personal

Except in letter salutations, avoid use of courtesy titles (Mr., Mrs., or Ms.) except to distinguish persons with the same last name. First (and last) names may be used in informal situations. Subsequent references should be consistent: either last names (preferred) or first names.

Enclose nicknames in quotes: John "Boomer" Smith.

Do not divide personal names at the end of a line. Break after the middle initial(s) if it's not possible to keep the whole name together.

J. R. R. / Tolkien

not J. R. R. Tol-/ kien

The AP Stylebook and Chicago Manual of Style now recommend that commas be dropped from names with suffixes: James Madison Jr., Walter A. Haas Sr., Arthur C. Oppenheimer II. (In some instances, exceptions are made to follow individual preference, e.g., Walter Haas, Jr. Pavilion.)

Compound names should be hyphenated or not, according to the preference of the individual.

Compound names should be alphabetized under the last surname, or according to the individual's established usage.

#### **Numbers**

Spell out zero through nine in ordinary text, and spell out any number that begins a sentence: seven, 17, 700, 7,000. Exceptions include

course numbers, grade-point averages, unit and monetary values, scores, percentages, compound numbers, and decimal fractions — all of which may be indicated with numerals.

Use commas with all numbers above 999: 1,000, \$13,500, 500,000.

For amounts of a million or more use figures when referring to monetary amounts, but follow the regular rule for other quantities: \$8 million but eight million people; \$16 million, 16 million people. (But: \$40-million campaign)

In a series, treat all numbers the same: Berkeley's faculty includes 4 Pulitzer-Prize winners, 136 members of the National Academy of Sciences, and 85 members of the National Academy of Engineering.

*Spell out ordinals through* ninth: first grade, 21st century, 25th anniversary.

Use numbers to represent ages, even those under 10.

Since the age of 5, Tiger Woods has played golf.

#### **Plurals**

If it can be done without confusion, single or multiple letters or numbers used as nouns form the plural by adding s alone (the three Rs, YMCAs, in twos and threes). Abbreviations having more than one period, such as M.D. and Ph.D., take 's: Berkeley awards more Ph.D's to women and minorities than Harvard.

Faculty is singular when referring to an academic body (Berkeley's faculty is one of the finest in the nation) but plural when referring to several individuals (The college's faculty are working with local schools). A single professor is a faculty member.

#### **Possessives**

Plural nouns ending in s take only an apostrophe: the horses' food, the VIPs' entrance, states' rights. Singular nouns ending in s take's to form the possessive: campus's, The Times's, James's, Haas's, except when two or more sibilants precede the apostrophe: Kansas', Moses'.

#### **Punctuation**

Use a comma before the last item in a series to make meaning clear: I'd like to thank my parents, Ayn Rand, and God. In AP style, which is used for press releases, the serial comma is omitted. (I love apples, oranges and pears.) Omit commas and periods at the ends of display lines in ads, certificates, invitations, etc.

Use an em dash to set off phrases. I will go — no matter what — tomorrow night. Use spaces on either side of em dash.

Use an en dash between numbers in times. Your appointment is 10–11 a.m.

#### Titles of Works

In general, follow The Chicago Manual of Style: Italicize titles of books, periodicals, poems, plays, films, works of art, and long musical compositions. Titles of dissertations and theses, exhibition titles, course names, lectures, manuscripts, articles, songs, and television and radio episodes are set in Roman type and enclosed in quotes.

In press releases, follow AP style and use quotes to enclose titles of books, plays, etc: The excerpt is from Professor Smith's latest book, "Toward a New Frontier."

# University References

### The Regents of the University of California

The incorporated name is The Regents of the University of California. Abbreviate the Board of Regents of the University of California as the UC Regents, the Regents, the Board of Regents, or the board.

### **UC Berkeley**

*In first references, use the official name of the campus:* University of California, Berkeley.

In subsequent references, use UC Berkeley (especially if Berkeley alone could be confused with the city of Berkeley), Berkeley, Cal, or the University.

#### Do not use:

University of California at Berkeley (except where a comma causes confusion)

U.C. Berkeley, U.C.-Berkeley

UCB, U.C.B.

Cal Berkeley

# Berkeley or Cal?

In general, use Berkeley in academic contexts and Cal in alumni, athletics, or informal contexts.

# University Seal and Signature

Guidelines for use of the University seal and graphic treatment of the signature (i.e., University of California, Berkeley) can be found in the design style guide at identity berkeley edu. Electronic copies of the seal, type style and PMS color guidelines, and other useful resources can also be found at this web site.

### University of California, Berkeley Foundation

Abbreviate the University of California, Berkeley Foundation as the UC Berkeley Foundation, UCBF, the Foundation, the Board of Trustees, the board, or the trustees. The names of Foundation committees are capitalized on first mention, but lower case in subsequent references (The Finance Committee/the committee). Lowercase trustee when used generically.

### **University of California**

Abbreviate as UC; if confusion with UC Berkeley is likely, refer to the 10-campus UC system. University of California Office of the President may be abbreviated as UCOP. Do not use Systemwide as a title for UCOP; it is acceptable as an adjective (The committee reviewed systemwide personnel policies).

For other UC campuses, follow guidelines on previous page in first references. Abbreviate as UC Davis, UC Irvine, UCLA, UC Merced, UC Riverside, UC San Diego, UCSF, UC Santa Barbara, and UC Santa Cruz.

# Appendices

#### **Word List**

Consult Merriam-Webster's Dictionary, The Chicago Manual of Style, the AP-Stylebook, or Words into Type for words not shown here.

acknowledgment coordinate

adviser but advisory course work (but fieldwork)

African American (adj.) cross-cultural archaeology cross-fertilize

Asian American (adj.) cut back (v.)

bioengineering cutting edge (n.), cutting-edge (adj.)

campuswide database

canceled  $\operatorname{decision} \operatorname{mak}(\operatorname{er}) (-\operatorname{ing}) (n.)$ 

catalog (-ed) (-ing) decisionmaking (adj.)

chairholder but professorship holder dialogue check-in (n., adj.), e-mail check in (v.) ex officio

checkout (n., adj.) fax

check out (v.) fieldwork
clean-up (n.) filmmaking
coauthor follow up (v.)

cochair (or co-chair) follow-up (n., adj.)
coworker full-time (adj.)
coeducation fundrais(er) (-ing)

cooperate grade-point average

groundbreaking

high-tech(nology) (adj.) high technology (n.)

home page

interdisciplinary

Internet

interrelationship

judgment

K–12 (en dash)

kickoff (n.), kick off (v.)

long-range

long-standing

long-term longtime

millennium

modeling

multicultural, multimedia,

multidisciplinary but multi-year

nationwide

nonprofit, nonresident, nonstudent

note-taking

on-campus (adj.), on campus off-campus (adj.), off campus

ongoing
online (adj.)
part-time (adj.)

percent phonathon

policy mak(er) (-ing) (n.)

postdoctoral

postgame, pregame

preeminent,

preprofessional, preregister, preschool

problem solv(er) (-ing)(n.)

P.S., P.P.S

reent(er), (-ry), reexamine

R.S.V.P.

schoolchildren

sociocultural, socioeconomic

startup

statewide

student athlete (n.)

tenfold

theater (except Greek Theatre)

trailblazer, trailblazing

travel(er) (-ing) underrepresented

underway (adj.), under way (adv.)

Universitywide

workflow workstation work-study worldwide

World Wide Web, the web

web site, webmaster, webcast

X-ray zip code

\$40-million campaign

# **Words Commonly Misused**

appraise, apprise: Appraise: set a value on; apprise: inform.

- **capital, capitol:** Capital: the city that is the seat of government; capitol: the building in which the legislative body sits. Also capital (adj.): relating to or being assets that add to the long-term net worth of an organization (e.g., capital improvements).
- comprise, compose, constitute: Comprise: to contain or embrace (The University comprises 14 schools and colleges); do not use is comprised of. Compose and constitute are used in the opposite manner, for the parts that make up the whole (The University is composed of 14 schools and colleges. Fourteen schools and colleges constitute the University).
- continual, continuous: Continual means over and over; continuous means without interruption (We come to work continually every day. She spoke continuously for an hour.)
- **dilemma:** A dilemma is a choice between undesirable alternatives. It is not a synonym for problem or quandary.
- **disinterested, uninterested:** A disinterested person is impartial; an uninterested person is indifferent.
- enervate, energize: Enervate: weaken; energize: instill with vigor.
- **farther, further:** Farther *refers to physical distance* (We can go no farther on this road); further *may be used in this sense but is most often used figuratively to refer to extent or degree* (We will proceed no further with these fruitless deliberations).

- **fewer, less:** Fewer is used of numbers; less, of quantity (Fewer men require less food).
- its, it's: Its is a possessive pronoun (Every dog will have its day.) It's is a contraction of it and is (It's time to go home.)
- lend, loan: The verb to lend means to give for temporary use on condition that the same or its equivalent will be returned; to give money for temporary use on condition of repayment with interest; or to give assistance. There's an interesting story behind the word loan as a verb. Check your dictionary! At any rate it is now acceptable as a verb, but it is used only in the literal sense, never figuratively. Correct: I will loan you the money, but I will not lend you a hand. I will lend you the money, and I will lend you a hand.
- lie, lay: The verb to lie (indicating a state of reclining) does not take a direct object (I lie down.) Its past tense is lay (I lay down); its past perfect tense is have lain (I have lain down all day); and its present participle is lying (I am lying down; I was lying down.) The verb to lay is an action word and takes a direct object (I lay the book down); its past tense is laid (I laid the book down); past perfect is have laid (I have laid the book down); and its present participle is laying (I am laying the book down). The verb to lie (as in to speak an untruth) takes the forms lied, have lied, and lying.

principal, principle: Principal (adj.): most important (His principal demand); principal (n.): a leading person or chief (She is the school principal. He is a principal with Watkins & Watkins); principle (n.): a basic belief or truth (Stick to your principles).

**quality:** Quality is a noun, so it can't be used to modify anything. Form a compound adjective by adding high- or top- (Berkeley offers a high-quality education).

that, which: That heads a restrictive clause; which heads a descriptive clause. Note the difference in meaning between these two sentences: The Navy is mothballing all of its ships that are rusty (the only ships being mothballed are the rusty ones); The shirt that you lent me is in my bag. The shirt, which is red is in my bag.

#### **Proofreader's Marks**

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- set in roman type (roman) nom) set in **lightface** type (lightface) set in boldface type (boldface) wrong font, set in correct type insert text insert period \( \lambda \) ∱ insert comma∧ insert semicolon insert colon insert apostrophe or single quote  $^{\text{N}}_{\Lambda}/^{\text{M}}$  insert quotation marks  $_{\Lambda}$ (set?) insert question mark  $\Lambda$ insert parentheses A = insert hyphen insert en dash insert em çash I move right move left I center Move up move down

query, verify: Petrograd

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### **Questions or Comments?**

Please feel free to contact Marketing and Communications at 510.643.8658 or Public Affairs at 510.643.6163.

#### Resources

UC Berkeley Identity Resources

identity.berkeley.edu

For More Information

Chicago Manual of Style, 14th ed.

Associated Press Stylebook and Libel Manual

Words into Type

Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, 10th ed.

The Careful Writer by Theodore Bernstein

# Self-Teaching Guides to Copyediting

Substance and Style: Instruction and Practice in Copyediting (Revised) by Mary Stoughton

Copyediting: A Practical Guide by Karen Judd

#### Classes

UC Berkeley Extension offers a copyediting workshops; for details, go to unex.berkeley.edu. Editcetera, an editing cooperative based in Berkeley, offers short courses in proofreading and copyediting. For details go to editcetera.com/workshops.