

FINDING ABBREVIATIONS & ACRONYMS

These questions are commonly asked about the use of abbreviations: A) what are the standard abbreviations for a specific journal or other resource? B) Where can I find a list of abbreviations used in biblical or ancient studies? C) What are the rules for using abbreviations in a research paper?

The following points help answer these questions. Contact your Library Research Assistance desk for further help....by email or phone or chat.

1. In the Reference section of Miller Library:
 - a. For journal abbreviations related to Bible & theology, and for abbreviations related to the Bible or other ancient literature: see the *SBL Handbook of Style* (PN147.S26 2014) Also see the *SBL Abbreviations summary* attached as PDF to this document.
 - b. Most Bible commentary sets list abbreviations for journals and other works cited in their commentary (e.g. Word Biblical Commentary; New International Commentary on the Old (or New) Testament;
 - c. For all other acronyms & abbreviations, see the (4-vol) *Acronyms, Initialisms, & Abbreviations Dictionary*—(Ref) P365.A28 2008.
 - d. For abbreviations related to Greek or Roman antiquities, see *Thesaurus Cultus Et Rituum Antiquorum*—(the Abbreviations Index only): Ref BL727.T48 2004 Abbrev.
 - e. For APA instructions on the use of abbreviations, see the [APA Publication Manual](#), 6th ed. BF76.7 .P83 2010, especially pages 106-111.
2. For online help with abbreviations:
 - a. see the following eBooks in our online catalog: [American Heritage Abbreviations Dictionary](#), [Jablonski's Dictionary of Medical Acronyms and Abbreviations](#), [Dictionary of Foreign Phrases and Abbreviations](#), etc.
 - b. the [Purdue Online Writing Lab](#) ("OWL") provides a concise summary of APA abbreviation usage.