

Developing Support for Critical Citation Requirements for Civil and Environmental Engineering Graduate Research

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Also known as Equitable Citation Practice or Citation Justice, Critical Citation is based in Critical Race Theory and aims to correct institutional inequalities by acknowledging the intersection between identity, power, and citation.

Engaging Graduates in Critical Citation Practice

The proposed requirements for graduate student research in CEE (Civil and Environmental Engineering) are designed to be just as much about the practice (if not more so) than the product. It is an iterative process, that ideally will transfer to the student's lifelong research journey and help to balance the current inequities in citation practices.

Why do we Cite?

- Citing the work of others is intended to give credit to the body of scholarship and research on which a new practice is built as well as make a case for legitimacy for new work.
- Impact metrics are usually required for tenure & promotion.
- Highly cited works are generally considered more impactful than those with less citations.
- Citation counts influence who: conducts research, gets promoted, stays in academia



Excerpts from an interactive workshop on Critical Citation aimed at faculty and graduate students



Critical Citation assignment process

Citation Inequity

- Studies across disciplines show undercitation[1] of women and BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color)
- In some fields, white men are cited more than anyone else[2]

References

- [1] P. Zurn, E. G. Teich, S. C. Simon, J. Z. Kim, and D. S. Bassett, "Supporting academic equity in physics through citation diversity," *Commun Phys*, vol. 5, no. 1, Art. no. 1, Sep. 2022, doi: 10.1038/s42005-022-00999-9.
- [2] J. D. Dworkin, K. A. Linn, E. G. Teich, P. Zurn, R. T. Shinohara, and D. S. Bassett, "The extent and drivers of gender imbalance in neuroscience reference lists," *Nat Neurosci*, vol. 23, no. 8, Art. no. 8, Aug. 2020, doi: 10.1038/s41593-020-0658-y.

Learn more:

