What is IEEE citation?
IEEE (which stands for the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers) is used for engineering, computer science, and information technology publications. You should use this style to attribute information or ideas taken from the works of other authors—i.e. any idea or data that is not your own should be cited appropriately. If you are writing information that is common knowledge (e.g. The sky is blue.) or something that is your own interpretation or analysis of your research materials, you do not need to use a citation. You should insert a citation when you are paraphrasing or quoting other authors, and the in-text citation (described below) should be inserted at the point in the text where you are incorporating this information.

What does IEEE look like in the text?
IEEE involves using in-text citations that are numbered in square brackets (e.g. [3] or [45]). The numbers refer to the full list of citations at the end of the paper. They may be placed at the end of a sentence, like so:

- “...end of the line for my research [13].”
- “The theory was first put forward in 1987 [1].”

You can insert a citation after stating an author’s surname (last name) when you are directly attributing a quote or idea to him/her/them:

- “Peterson [6] has argued that...”

You can use the phrase “et al.” when six or more authors have produced one source:

- “Sanchez et al. [13] studied the...”

Direct quotes should be kept to a minimum. If you are quoting directly, you should also include the page number, and the citation and punctuation will be outside the quotation mark:

- It is believed that this “will improve the quality of life for this population” [4, p.7].

Once you cite a source, you can use the same number for all subsequent references:

- “For example, see [10].”

You can also use the citation as a noun in your sentence:

- “As stated in [8], the goal of this type of process...”

You can also reference more than one number at a time. There is more than one way to do this:

- “Several recent studies [3, 4, 15, 16] have suggested that...”
• “It is clear from the research that this idea is not universally accepted [4], [5], [9].”
• “Some authors [7-10] have argued that…”

What should my reference list look like?
The reference list goes at the end of the paper and is organized numerically by the order in which they appear in the text. It should not be organized alphabetically. Some examples for referencing different types of sources can be found below.

Format for Various References

How to reference a book:
• [#] A. A. Author, Title: Subtitle All Uppercase, Edition (if not the first), City of publication: Publisher, Year.

How to reference a chapter in an edited book:
• [#] A. A. Author of Chapter, Title: Subtitle with only first letter capitalized, Edition (if not the first), E. E. Editor, Ed. City of publication: Publisher, Year, pp. page number(s) in book.

How to reference a journal article:
• [#] A. A. Author, "Title of article," Title of Journal, vol. #, no. #, pp. page number(s), Month and year.

How to reference a patent:
• [#] O. O. Owner, “Title of patent,” (Country) Patent (number), Date of award.

How to reference a standard:
• [#] Standard Title in Uppercase, Issuing Agency and Number, Publication year.