The following is an example of a Chicago Style paper in the **Author-Date format**

**UNICORNUCOPIA: THE RISE OF THE UNICORN EMPIRE**

Squatty McCupcakes
Art 3200: Modern Unicorns
April 13, 2015

ALL Chicago papers should be formatted to have:

- A legible font in 11-12 point size
- Double-spaced text
- 1” margins on all sides

The title of the paper is centered and in all capital letters, then placed on the page about 1/3 from the top.

Down another 1/3 of the page lists the following and should be single-spaced and centered:

Name
Course #: Course title
Date
Our world has seen many wondrous and fantastical creatures, but perhaps most popular is the unicorn. History involves some great moments as it recounts many notable unicorns: *The Last Unicorn* who freed the world’s unicorns from imprisonment in the sea, *Unico* who was gifted in sharing happiness, and Twilight Sparkle of *My Little Pony: Friendship is Magic* who learns that friendship is truly a powerful and magical force ([Bass and Rankin 1982; Morano 1983; Faust 2010](Smith 2015)). Unicorns have phenomenal mystic powers and have influenced culture with their sparkle and supreme greatness. This paper shall trace the course of the unicorn through human history, from its inception to its decline, and its ascension into popular culture.

The myth of the unicorn was first documented in ancient Indian text and marks the beginning of the unicorn empire that is destined to last through eternity, adding more and more unicorns to its annals. The diversity in the unicorn empire came because of the number of admirers unicorns were able to incorporate into their minions and influence to create visual representations of their likeness and magic. Development in the areas of art, literature, and philosophy took place in the unicorn empire, as it continuously borrowed from various civilizations and cultures. Unicorns left such a mark on many world cultures that artists and writers were able to spread unicorn sparkle all over the world.

Unicorns are intelligent creatures that avoided human discovery for some millennia. Hunt claims that unicorns were first documented by natural historians and were located in India ([Hunt 1996, 78](Hunt 1996, 78)). Unicorns cleverly disguised themselves as other horned animals to avoid discovery, which kept unicorns hidden from the human world for hundreds of years ([Hunt 1996, 87](Hunt 1996, 87)). As myths of the unicorns travelled across cultures and time, it spurred humankind to seek unicorns for the benefit of their mystical powers.
During the renaissance, royalty were keen to hunt and trap unicorns in order to steal their horns (Giblin and McDermott 1991, 20-23). Research and history is unclear as to the development of strategies which were believed to attract unicorns and allow capture; however, it was believed that virgin maidens could attract the unicorn (Hunt 1996, 78). The desire to acquire unicorn horns and prevalent belief that their horns were imbued with phenomenal healing properties causes unicorns to be hunted relentlessly and pushed them into hiding (Hunt 1996, 78). The belief in the potential for human benefit from unicorns and demand from royalty likely influenced the influx of artistic representations, such as the Hunt of the Unicorn tapestries (Williamson 1986, 90-95). Although efforts to discover and capture unicorns rose greatly during the renaissance, unicorns remained clever enough to avoid humans, resulting in an influx of fake unicorn horns from narwhals.

Unicorns continued to fascinate humans and became more and more prevalent in visual cultures. Representations of unicorns grew in tapestries, paintings, European family crests, sculptures, Asian scrolls; which further supported various cultures preceding religious texts which mention the unicorn. Although unicorns remained inconspicuous, human fascination with unicorns gave rise to visual representations (Caillois and Walker 1982, 17). Through visual culture, unicorns became firmly rooted in human history. For a time, unicorns quietly retreated from human eyes to remain safe from those who would hunt them for their precious horns (Williamson 1986, 48). Although the unicorns fled, the idea of the unicorn continued to enchant human hearts.

As visual representations continued to spread throughout the world, unicorns began to bleed heavily into popular culture through comics and film, thus ensnaring humans under their
sparkly spell. While there are many examples of unicorns in popular culture, *The Last Unicorn* and *My Little Pony* have regained a firm foothold in current popular culture. Both titles have benefitted from their fan base to further promote unicorns. *The Last Unicorn* is currently touring with the author Peter S. Beagle, the author of the book which the movie is based upon, and is revisiting theaters and unicorn fans for the first time since 1982 (“The Last Unicorn Screening Tour,” 2013). *My Little Pony*, which was originally launched in 1983, has gone through four re-releases (Giblin and McDermott 1991, 13). Arguably, the 2010 release of *My Little Pony: Friendship is Magic*, has been the most successful relaunch of the series and enraptured not only female fans but also males, whom are often referred to as “bronies” (Hunt 1996). As unicorns continue to saturate popular culture, the magic and sparkle grows in the hearts of humans.

Though unicorns remain mysterious and elusive, their presence in the hearts of those who love them remains strong and sparkly. Though the existence of unicorns began before the introduction of humans, the myth of the unicorn was constructed by them. The power unicorns possessed was enough to drive humans to try and acquire such power and to fascinate humans enough that visual representations of unicorns mirrored their importance to human culture. However, since the ascension of the unicorn empire, Twilight Sparkle of *My Little Pony*, reminds humans of the great power in friendship.
References


Spacing between bibliographic entries are double-spaced

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