1 Introduction

biblatex-sbl provides support to biblatex and LaTeX for citations, bibliography, and a list of abbreviations in the style recommended by the Society of Biblical Literature (SBL). The style conforms to the second edition of the SBLHS and includes updates from the SBL Handbook of Style blog.¹

The style supports all examples given in the handbook and any relevant updates given on the Blog (see biblatex-sbl-examples.pdf). Shorthand citations and a list of abbreviations containing journals, series, and shorthands are handled automatically. Repeated authors in the bibliography are replaced by a horizontal line. Ibidem, idem and indexing of names are supported, but not enabled by default. Only note style citations, not Author-Date citations, are supported. Primary sources can be cited in parentheses. biblatex-sbl is compatible with biblatex’s support for hyperref.

For anything not covered in this manual, please see the biblatex documentation. Bugs and feature requests can be submitted at https://github.com/dcpurton/biblatex-sbl/.

Note: This package should be considered as beta software and its output carefully checked when you use it.

2 Requirements

biblatex-sbl requires at least version 3.11 of biblatex and the xparse package. biber must be used. bibtex is not supported. For localization babel (not polyglossia) and csquotes are recommended.

3 Usage

The following minimal example will set up biblatex-sbl to conform to the defaults of the SBLHS.

```latex
\documentclass{article}
\usepackage[style=sbl]{biblatex}
\addbibresource{<bibfile.bib>}
\begin{document}
\printbiblist{abbreviations}
\printbibliography
\end{document}
```

3.1 Localization

By default biblatex-sbl uses American style punctuation and quotation marks. You can choose a different style by including the babel and csquotes packages in your document preamble. polyglossia is not well supported by biblatex and its use is discouraged.

```latex
\usepackage[ngerman]{babel}
\usepackage{csquotes}
\usepackage[style=sbl]{biblatex}
\usepackage[import=en-US,main]{american}
\usepackage[import=he]{hebrew}
\usepackage[import=el]{polutonikogreek}
```

Currently english (including variants such as british, australian, etc.), spanish, and german are supported.

For Greek and especially Hebrew, the set up is more complicated and you should use xelatex or lualatex. See sbl-paper.pdf for example Greek and Hebrew usage with babel.
3.2 Commands

The standard commands for biblatex-sbl generally follow those defined by biblatex. Included below are the most typical commands. For more commands and options, reference the biblatex manual.

\autocite{⟨prenote⟩}{⟨postnote⟩}{⟨key⟩}
\autocite*{⟨prenote⟩}{⟨postnote⟩}{⟨key⟩}

`\autocite` inserts a citation as a footnote. If used in a footnote, the citation is placed in parentheses. The starred variant suppresses the author, editor, or translator (provided the entry options are set to use them). It works as in the standard biblatex styles, except that that postnote argument can be divided into two using parentheses. This creates an `altpostnote` field which is used in some of the examples from §6.4 of the SBLHS. e.g.,

\autocite[See]{{(1.3)8:223}}{clementinehomilies}
1. See The Clementine Homilies 1.3 (ANF 8:223).

To use only `altpostnote` surround the whole argument in parentheses. e.g.,

\autocite[III. 1-164]{{PGM:betz}}
1. PGM III. 1–164 (Betz).

\cite{⟨prenote⟩}{⟨postnote⟩}{⟨key⟩}
\cite*{⟨prenote⟩}{⟨postnote⟩}{⟨key⟩}

`\cite` works in the same way as `\autocite` except that the citation is placed directly into the text instead of in a footnote. The starred variant suppresses the author, editor, or translator (provided the entry options are set to use them).

\parencite{⟨prenote⟩}{⟨postnote⟩}{⟨key⟩}
\parencite*{⟨prenote⟩}{⟨postnote⟩}{⟨key⟩}

`\parencite` works in the same way as `\autocite` except that the citation is placed inside parentheses instead of in a footnote. The starred variant suppresses the author, editor, or translator (provided the entry options are set to use them). This is most useful for citing primary sources. e.g.,
These commands print the full names of the authors. Strictly speaking, it prints the labelname list in the format of a first citation, which may be the author, the editor, or the translator. \Citefullauthor is similar to \citefullauthor but capitalizes the name prefix of the first name in the citation if the useprefix option is enabled, provided that there is a name prefix. The starred variants effectively force maxcitenames to 1 for just this command on so only print the first name in the labelname list (potentially followed by the "et al" string if there are more names). This allows more natural textual flow when referring to a paper in the singular when otherwise \citefullauthor would generate a (naturally plural) list of names.

\citejournal{}, \citeseries{}, and \citeshorthand{} inserts the respective abbreviation into the text and also adds it to the list of abbreviations. The abbreviation is hyperlinked to the list of abbreviations if the hyperref package is loaded.

These commands do not take a prenote or postnote field, and can safely be used nested within a citation.

\printbiblist

This command prints a bibliography list. In \biblatex-sbl all abbreviations (journals, series, and shorthands) can be printed using the following command:

\printbiblist[...]{abbreviations}

See the \biblatex manual for an explanation of available optional arguments.

\printbibliography

Inserts the bibliography. See the \biblatex manual for an explanation of available optional arguments.
3.3 Package Options

\texttt{biblatex-sbl} defaults to the recommendations of the SBL, but it also supports many of the standard options from \texttt{biblatex} as well as a few custom ones outlined below.

\texttt{accessdate=true, false} \hspace{1cm} \texttt{default: false}

The \textit{SBLHS} discourages the use of access dates.\footnote{See \textit{SBLHS} §6.1.6, 84.} If they are required this option can be passed to \texttt{biblatex}.

\texttt{citepages=sbl, permit, omit, separate} \hspace{1cm} \texttt{default: sbl}

Use this option to fine-tune the formatting of the \texttt{pages} field the first time an entry is cited.

\textit{sbl} \hspace{1cm} The postnote field is not printed for first citations. e.g.,

\begin{quote}
\texttt{\autocite[159]{leyerle:1993}}

\end{quote}

If postnote is not a page range, then it is printed in parentheses after \texttt{pages}. e.g.,

\begin{quote}
\texttt{\autocite[a note]{irvine:2014}}

\end{quote}

The one exception to this is the \texttt{@incommentary} entry type which always sets \texttt{citepages} to \texttt{omit} (see below) when \texttt{volume} is defined.\footnote{See Student Supplement for the SBL Handbook of Style, Second Edition, compiled by Melanie Greer Nogalski et al., ed. Joel M. LeMon and Brennan W. Breed (Atlanta, GA: SBL Press, February 2015), §1.3.3.2, \url{https://www.sbl-site.org/assets/pdfs/pubs/SBLHSsupp2015-02.pdf}.}

\textit{permit} \hspace{1cm} The postnote is printed in parentheses after the \texttt{pages} field. e.g.,

\begin{quote}
\texttt{\autocite[245]{wildberger:1965}}

\end{quote}

\textit{omit} \hspace{1cm} The \texttt{pages} field is not printed unless postnote is empty or not a page range (in which case behaviour matches \texttt{citepages=sbl}). e.g.,

\begin{quote}
\texttt{\autocite[5]{freedman:1977}}

\end{quote}

\textit{separate} \hspace{1cm} The postnote is printed in parentheses after the \texttt{pages} field preceeded by the bibliography string \texttt{thiscite}. e.g.,

If postnote is not a page range, then firstcite is not used and the behaviour matches citepages=sbl.

**dashed**=true, false

By default, this style replaces recurrent authors/editors in the bibliography by a dash so that items by the same author or editor are visually grouped. This feature is controlled by the package option dashed. Setting dashed=false in the preamble will disable this feature.

**eprintdate**=year, short, long, terse, comp, iso8601

Similar to the date option (for details see the biblatex manual) but controls the format of the eprintdate.

**fullbibrefs**=true, false

The *Student Supplement for the SBLHS* permits two styles for the bibliography entry for Bible dictionaries, encyclopaedias, and multivolume commentaries for the entire Bible by multiple authors.⁴

This option applies to @inreference and @incommentary entry types.

**true**

The bibliography entry is printed in long form. e.g.,


**false**

The bibliography entry is printed in a short form. e.g.,


**ibidtracker**=true, false, context, strict, constrict

This option controls the ibidem tracker. The possible choices are:

**true**

Enable the tracker in global mode. not tracked separately between text body and footnotes.

**false**

Disable the tracker: *ibid*. will not be used.

**context**

Enable the tracker in context-sensitive mode. In this mode, citations in footnotes and in the body text are tracked separately.

---

strict

Enable the tracker in strict mode. In this mode, potentially ambiguous references are suppressed. A reference is considered ambiguous if either the current citation (the one including the \textit{ibidem}) or the previous citation (the one the \textit{ibidem} refers to) consists of a list of references.

\texttt{constrict}

This mode combines the features of context and strict. It also keeps track of footnote numbers and detects potentially ambiguous references in footnotes in a stricter way than the strict option. In addition to the conditions imposed by the strict option, a reference in a footnote will only be considered as unambiguous if the current citation and the previous citation are given in the same footnote or in immediately consecutive footnotes.

\texttt{ibidpage=true, false}

default: true

The scholarly abbreviation \textit{ibidem} is sometimes taken to mean both ‘same author + same title’ and ‘same author + same title + same page’ in traditional citation schemes. In line with SBL recommendations, this style uses the latter. If you prefer the narrower interpretation of \textit{ibidem}, set the package option \texttt{ibidpage=false} in the preamble. The default setting is \texttt{ibidpage=true}.

\texttt{idemtracker=true, false, context, strict, constrict, citation, sbl}

default: sbl

This option controls the \textit{idem} tracker. The possible choices are:

\texttt{true}

Enable the tracker in global mode.

\texttt{false}

Disable the tracker: \textit{idem} will not be used.

\texttt{context}

Enable the tracker in context-sensitive mode. In this mode, citations in footnotes and in the body text are tracked separately.

\texttt{strict}

This is an alias for \texttt{true}, provided only for consistency with the other trackers. Since \textit{idem} replacements do not get ambiguous in the same way as \textit{ibidem}, the strict tracking mode does not apply to them.

\texttt{constrict}

This mode is similar to context with one additional condition: a reference in a footnote will only be considered as unambiguous if the current citation and the previous citation are given in the same footnote or in immediately consecutive footnotes.

\texttt{citation}

This option only allows \textit{idem} within a citation or footnote. This is the preferred option if you intend to use \textit{idem}.

\texttt{sbl}

This option is similar to citation, but does not actually use \textit{idem}. Rather, it uses the author family name in subsequent citations. This is the default option to comply with SBL style.

\footnote{See \url{https://sblhs2.com/2017/01/05/subsequent-bibliographic-references/}.}
**pagetracker=true, false**  
default: true

This option controls whether *ibidem* and *idem* are used across page breaks or not.

- **true**: Enable the tracker in automatic mode. This is like *spread* if LaTeX is in twoside mode, and like *page* otherwise.
- **false**: Disable the tracker.
- **page**: Enable the tracker in page mode. In this mode, tracking works on a per-page basis.
- **spread**: Enable the tracker in spread mode. In this mode, tracking works on a per-spread (double page) basis.

**sblfootnotes=true, false**  
default: true

This option controls the style of footnotes. This option is compatible with the *footmisc* package provided *footmisc* is loaded before *biblatex*.

- **true**: Footnotes are printed with a normal number followed by a period and the first line indented:
  

- **false**: Footnotes are printed with a superscript (or whatever other default has been set up by your style):


**shorthand=true, false, short, intro**  
default: true

This option controls when and whether the shorthand field is used as a citation. This can also be used as a type option or entry option. @ancienttext and @classictext entry types ignore this option.

- **true**: Always use the shorthand when citing the entry.
- **false**: Never use the shorthand when citing the entry.
- **short**: Print the full citation the first time the entry is cited. Use the shorthand on subsequent citations.
- **intro**: Print the full citation the first time the entry is cited followed by (henceforth cited as shorthand). Use the shorthand on subsequent citations.
4 Database Guide

4.1 Entry Types

All standard entry types of \texttt{biblatex} are supported by \texttt{biblatex-sbl}. This section gives an overview of entry types that are most relevant, unique to, or treated in a custom way by \texttt{biblatex-sbl}.

\texttt{ancienttext} This is a custom type for \texttt{biblatex-sbl}. It is used for the special examples in \textit{SBLHS} §6.4.1, §6.4.3 and §6.4.8. Unless \texttt{options = \{skipbib=false\}} is set explicitly, an \texttt{@ancienttext} entry will not appear in the bibliography. (Although, see \texttt{ANRW entrysubtype} below for an exception.) The related field is used to refer to the entry which should appear in the bibliography instead of the \texttt{@ancienttext} entry. Options can be set on the related entry using the \texttt{relatedoptions} field.

The entry pointed to by \texttt{related} along with the postnote is printed in parentheses after the \texttt{altpostnote}, \texttt{editor}, and \texttt{translator} fields if they are present. \texttt{translator} and \texttt{editor} fields are omitted for subsequent citations. e.g.,

\begin{verbatim}
\autocite{319}{suppiluliumas}
  2. “Suppiluliumas and the Egyptian Queen” (ANET, 319).
\end{verbatim}

\texttt{printbibliography}


If the entry contains \texttt{options = \{skipbib=false\}}, then the bibliography entry will be like \texttt{@book}. Any shorthand is also printed in the same way as a \texttt{@book} shorthand.

The following values for the \texttt{entry subtype} field are supported:

\texttt{ANRW} The \texttt{ANRW entry subtype} is particularly for citing \texttt{ANRW} as outlined in §6.4.8 of the \textit{SBLHS}. In this case, the entry \textit{will} appear in the bibliography. See \texttt{biblatex-sbl-examples.pdf} for full details of the required database entry.

\texttt{chronicle} Formats the title using an upright shape font without quotation marks. e.g.,

\begin{verbatim}
\autocite{lines 3--4}{esarhaddonchronicle}

\end{verbatim}
COS

Suppresses parentheses around \textit{COS} and the postnote for subsequent citations. e.g.,

\autocite[44]{greathymnaten}

2. “Great Hymn to the Aten,” \textit{COS} 1.26:44.

inscription

Similarly to \texttt{entrysubtype = \{chronicle\}}, this formats the title using an upright shape font without quotation marks.

article

An article in a journal or magazine. Also use this type for review articles (\textit{SBLHS} §6.3.4) and electronic journal articles (\textit{SBLHS} §6.3.10).

book

A single-volume book with one or more authors where the authors share credit for the work as a whole.

inbook

A part of a book which forms a self-contained unit with its own title.

bookinbook

This type is similar to \texttt{@inbook} but intended for works originally published as a stand-alone book. The main difference is that the title is printed in italics instead of in quotation marks.

mvbook

A multivolume \texttt{@book}.

There is one \texttt{entrysubtype} supported:

\texttt{RIMA}

The citation for \textit{RIMA} (\textit{SBLHS}, 97) is treated like a series with a number when cited in full, but as a shorthand with a volume when cited in short form. See \texttt{biblatex-sbl-examples.pdf} for full details.

suppbook

Supplemental material in a \texttt{@book}. Use this for an introduction, preface or foreword written by someone other than the author (\textit{SBLHS} §6.2.14). The \texttt{type} field is used to specify the type of supplementary material. See §6.2.14 of \texttt{biblatex-sbl-examples.pdf}. If no \texttt{type} is given, then this behaves like an \texttt{@inbook}.

booklet

A book-like work without a formal publisher or sponsoring institution.

classictext

This type is a custom type for \texttt{biblatex-sbl}. It is used for the special examples in \textit{SBLHS} §6.4.2 and §§6.4.4–6.

Unless \texttt{options = \{skipbib=false\}} is set explicitly, a \texttt{@classictext} entry will not appear in the bibliography. The \texttt{xref} field is used to refer to the entry which should appear in the bibliography instead of the \texttt{@classictext} entry.

If present, the \texttt{translator} and \texttt{series} are printed in parentheses following the postnote. e.g.,


The series can be suppressed by setting `options = {useseries=false}`.

If the entry contains `options = {skipbib=false}`, then the bibliography entry will be like @incollection except that the title is set in italics instead of within quotation marks.

The following values for the `entrysubtype` field are supported:

- **churchfather** Entries using the `churchfather` `entrysubtype` print the entry pointed to by related within parentheses following the `altpostnote`. The `postnote` field applies to the entry in `related`. `relatedoptions` can be used to control some aspects of the formatting for the related entry. `altpostnote` is always separated from the title by a space.

- **collection** A single-volume collection with multiple, self-contained contributions by distinct authors which have their own title. The work as a whole has no overall author but it will usually have an editor.

- **mvcollection** A multi-volume `collection`.

- **incollection** A contribution to a collection which forms a self-contained unit with a distinct author and title.

- **commentary** A single-volume commentary on a book (or part of a book) of the Bible by one or more authors. This entry type is similar to `@book`, except that any `volume` and `maintitle` is only printed in the bibliography, not the citation.

- **mvcommentary** A multi-volume commentary on a single book of the Bible by one or more authors or a multi-volume commentary on the whole Bible by multiple authors. Unlike `@commentary`, this behaves exactly the same as a `@mvbook`. 

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A contribution to a commentary which forms a self-contained unit with a distinct author and title. This is typically a commentary on a book of the Bible appearing in a single or multi-volume commentary on the entire Bible.

If an entry contains an \texttt{xref} field, then the bibliography entry is printed in either short or long form as described above under \texttt{fullbibrefs}.

An unpublished paper presented at a professional society. Use the \texttt{eventtitle}, \texttt{venue}, and \texttt{date} fields to specify detail for the conference. See §6.3.8 of \texttt{biblatex-sbl-examples.pdf} for and example.

A single-volume lexicon or theological dictionary. This is similar to a \texttt{@book}.

A multi-volume lexicon or theological dictionary. This is similar to a \texttt{@mvbook}.

An article in a lexicon or theological dictionary. This is a custom type for \texttt{biblatex-sbl}. The required \texttt{xref} field must contain the entry name of a \texttt{@lexicon} or \texttt{@mvlexicon}. The \texttt{@inlexicon} entry does not appear in the bibliography. Instead the lexicon pointed to by \texttt{xref} appears in the bibliography.

Subsequent citations do not include the \texttt{title}, only the name of the lexicon (specified by the \texttt{xref} entry). e.g.,

\begin{verbatim}
\autocite[511]{dahn+liefeld:see+vision+eye}
\autocite[511]{dahn+liefeld:see+vision+eye}
\end{verbatim}

\begin{verbatim}
\printbibliography
\end{verbatim}

A fallback type for entries which do not fit into any other category. Use the \texttt{howpublished} field to supply publishing information in free format, if applicable.

An online resource without a print counterpart. This is similar to an \texttt{@article}.

A complete issue of a periodical, such as a special issue of a journal. The title of the periodical is given in the \texttt{title} field. If the issue has its own title in addition to the main title of the periodical, it goes in the \texttt{issuetitle} field.

This type could also be used to insert a journal into the list of abbreviations. In this case, just use \texttt{title}, \texttt{shorttitle}, and set \texttt{options = \{skipbib\}}.

A single-volume encyclopaedia or dictionary. This is similar to a \texttt{@book}.
mvreference A multi-volume @reference. This is similar to a @mvbook.
inreference An article in an encyclopaedia or dictionary. The required xref field must contain the entry name of a @reference or @mvreference.

The bibliography entry is printed in either short or long form as described above under fullbibrefs.

review A book review in a journal. This is similar to an @article. Use the revdauthor/revdeditor and revdttitle fields to specify the author/editor and title of the book being reviewed.

Note that review articles are treated like articles and should use the @article entry type.

seminarpaper An SBL seminar paper. This is similar to an @incollection except that in is suppressed before the booktitle/maintitle. See §6.4.11 of biblatex-sbl-examples.pdf for an example.

series A multi-volume series. This is similar to a @mvbook except that an upright shaped font is used for the title field and the option field is set to {useauthor=false, useditor=false} by default.

This type could also be used to place a series in the list of abbreviations. In this case, just use series, shortseries, and set options = {skipbib}.

4.2 Entry Fields

biblatex-sbl supports all entry fields from the biblatex manual except for pagetotal. There are also a number of custom entry fields and specially handled fields supported by biblatex-sbl. These are documented below.

bookeditor list (name)

The editor(s) of the booktitle.

The behaviour of editor, bookeditor, and maineditor is as follows (when editor is not used as the overall editor): editor applies to maintitle (if set) unless maineditor is set. In this case, editor applies to booktitle (if set) unless bookeditor is set. In this case, editor applies to title.

booktranslator list (name)

The translator(s) of the booktitle.

The behaviour of translator, booktranslator, and maintranslator is the same as for editor, bookeditor, and maineditor.

eprintdate field (date)

The date a text edition published online with no print counterpart or an article in an online database is released. See §6.4.1 and §6.4.13 of biblatex-sbl-examples.pdf.
**eprintday** field (datepart)
This field holds the day component of the eprintdate field.

**eprintmonth** field (datepart)
This field holds the month component of the eprintdate field.

**eprintyear** field (datepart)
This field holds the year component of the eprintdate field.

**mainauthor** list (name)
The author(s) of the maintitle.

**maineditor** list (name)
The editor(s) of the maintitle.

**maintranslator** list (name)
The translator(s) of the maintitle.

**revdauthor** list (name)
The author(s) of the revdtlitle.

**revdeditor** list (name)
The editor(s) of the revdtlitle.

**revdshorttitle** field (literal)
The title of a book being review in an abridged form. This field is used in subsequent citations of @review entry types.

**revdsbtitle** field (literal)
The subtitle of a book being reviewed.

**revdtlitle** field (literal)
The title of a book being reviewed.

**revdtlitleaddon** field (literal)
An annex to the revdtlitle, to be printed in a different font.
series

Field (literal)

This field is used when a series is begun anew to distinguish between the old and new series. See SBLHS §6.2.24.

shortbooktitle

Field (literal)

The booktitle in abridged form.

shorthand

Field (literal)

A special short form printed instead of the usual citation. Sometimes the shorthand is short for the authors and should be printed in an upright font shape. Other times it is short for the title and should be printed in italics. This behaviour is controlled using the shorttitle field. If the shorttitle is the same as the shorthand then the shorthand is assumed to be short for the title and printed in italics, otherwise it is printed in an upright font. The shorthand is automatically inserted into the list of abbreviations.

The separator between the shorthand and postnote depends on the content of the postnote. If the postnote contains a ‘,’ ‘;’ or ‘§’, then the separator is a space, otherwise it is a comma.

shortjournal

Field (literal)

The journaltitle in abridged form. This is always printed instead of the journaltitle. The shortjournal and journaltitle is then automatically inserted into the list of abbreviations.

shortmaintitle

Field (literal)

The maintitle in abridged form.

shortseries

Field (literal)

The series in abridged form. This is always printed instead of the series. The shortseries and series is then automatically inserted into the list of abbreviations.

shorttitle

Field (literal)

The title in abridged form. This is printed instead of the full title on subsequent citations.

sorttitle

Field (literal)

A field used to modify the sorting order of the bibliography. If present, this field is used instead of the title field when sorting the bibliography. This field is automatically populated if it doesn’t exist and the title field begins with ‘A’, ‘An’, or ‘The’ so that these articles do not affect sorting.

withauthor

List (name)

The author(s) who assist the author. See witheditor, below, for an example.
The type of `withauthor`. This field will affect the string used to introduce the author(s) who assist the author. If unspecified, the bibliography string `with` is used.

`witheditor` list (name)
The editor(s) who assist the editor.

`witheditor` field (literal)
The type of `witheditor`. This field will affect the string used to introduce the editor(s) who assist the editor. If unspecified, the bibliography string `with` is used.

1. `TLOT` 1:24.


`withtranslator` list (name)
The translator(s) who assist the translator.

`withtranslator` field (literal)
The type of `withtranslator`. This field will affect the string used to introduce the translator(s) who assist the translator. If unspecified, the bibliography string `with` is used.

`withbookauthor` list (name)
The author(s) who assist the `bookauthor`.

`withbookauthor` field (literal)
This field is analogous to the `withauthor` type, but for the `bookauthor`.

`withbookeditor` list (name)
The editor(s) who assist the `bookeditor`.
withbookeditortype field (literal)
This field is analogous to the witheditortype, but for the bookeditor.

withbooktranslator list (name)
The translator(s) who assist the booktranslator.

withbooktranslatortype field (literal)
This field is analogous to the withtranslatortype, but for the booktranslator.

withmainauthor list (name)
The author(s) who assist the mainauthor.

withmainauthorlist (name)
The author(s) who assist the mainauthor.

withmainauthorfield (literal)
This field is analogous to the withauthorfield, but for the mainauthor.

withmaineditor list (name)
The editor(s) who assist the maineditor.

withmaineditortype field (literal)
This field is analogous to the witheditortype, but for the maineditor.

withmaintranslator list (name)
The translator(s) who assist the maintranslator.

withmaintranslatortype field (literal)
This field is analogous to the withtranslatortype, but for the maintranslator.

4.3 Type and Entry Options
biblatex-sbl supports many of the entry options outlined in the biblatex manual. There are also a number of custom entry options supported by biblatex-sbl. These are documented below.

skipbiblistshorthand=true, false
default: false

This option controls what appears in the list of abbreviations for database entries containing both a shorthand and a shortseries. For entries not containing a shortseries just use the option skipbiblist. The possible options are:

true Do not include the shorthand in the list of abbreviations.
false Include the shorthand in the list of abbreviations.

skipbiblistshortseries=true, false default: false

This option controls what appears in the list of abbreviations for database entries containing both a shorthand and a shortseries. For entries not containing a shorthand just use the option skipbiblist. The possible options are:

true Do not include the shortseries in the list of abbreviations.
false Include the shortseries in the list of abbreviations.

usefullcite=true, false default: true

This option controls the format of first citations. The possible choices are:

true Use a full citation the first time the entry is cited.
false Use the short citation form the first time the entry is cited.

useseries=true, false default: true

This option controls whether the series is printed in parentheses following a @classicertext citation. This does not affect other entry types.

true Print the series.
false Suppress printing the series.

useshorttitle=true, false default: true

This option controls the format of subsequent citations. The possible choices are:

true Include the shorttitle or title in subsequent citations.
false  Suppress the shorttitle or title in subsequent citations, so only the au-
hor(s) or editor(s) are printed.

usevolume=true, false default: true

This option controls whether the volume is printed as part of the citation text or as part of
the postnote.
true  Print the volume as part of the main citation information. e.g., “Vol. 1.”
false  Print the volume field as part of the postnote. e.g., “1:”

4.4 Reprints

biblatex-sbl supports three different ways of doing reprints with varying complexity.
If only the original publisher, location, and/or year are required, then use the fields
origpublisher, origlocation, and origdate. e.g.,

@book{vanseters:1997,
  author = {Van Seters, John},
  title = {In Search of History: Historiography in the Ancient
           World and the Origins of Biblical History},
  origlocation = {New Haven},
  origpublisher = {Yale University Press},
  origdate = {1983},
  location = {Winona Lake, IN},
  publisher = {Eisenbrauns},
  date = {1997}
}

\autocite[90]{vanseters:1997}

1. John Van Seters. In Search of History: Historiography in the Ancient World
   repr., Winona Lake, IN: Eisenbrauns, 1997), 90.

\printbibliography

Van Seters, John. In Search of History: Historiography in the Ancient World and

When extra information is required, use a related entry with relatedtype = {reprint}.
A custom string can be specified instead of “Repr.” using the optional relatedstring field.
In this case no punctuation is inserted after the relatedstring. You could think of the
default being relatedstring = {ibstring{reprint},}. e.g.,

A full reprint history also uses the related field, but with some other relatedtype apart from relatedtype = {reprint}. e.g.,

@book{wellhausen:1883,
    author = {Wellhausen, Julius},
    title = {Prolegomena zur Geschichte Israels},
    edition = {2},
    location = {Berlin},
    publisher = {Reimer},
    date = {1883}
}

@book{wellhausen:1885,
    author = {Wellhausen, Julius},
    title = {Prolegomena to the History of Israel},
    edition = {2},
    location = {Berlin},
    publisher = {Reimer},
    date = {1885}
}

5 Important Changes

0.12 2020-11-04

- Ibid. and idem are no longer used by default.
- Only the author family name is printed for subsequent citations of a different work by the same author within a footnote or citation.
Add abbreviations from related entries to the list of abbreviations.
Add starred variants for citation commands.

Add dashed option.
Fix list of abbreviations regression from v0.9.

Support and require `biblatex` 3.11.
Use `ibid.` and `idem` by default.
`polyglossia` is no longer supported. You should use `babel` instead.

Support and require `biblatex` 3.8a

**Abbreviations**

- **ANF** *The Ante-Nicene Fathers*
- **CRBR** *Critical Review of Books in Religion*
- **JBL** *Journal of Biblical Literature*
- **JECS** *Journal of Early Christian Studies*
- **LCL** *Loeb Classical Library*
References


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