

# The biblatex-sbl Package

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## Abstract

This package provides biblatex support for citations, bibliography and abbreviations in the format specified by the second edition of the *Society of Biblical Literature (SBL) Handbook of Style* including updates on the *SBL Handbook of Style* blog. The design goal is that if bib entries are set up and cited correctly then the output should be exactly in line with SBL recommendations. No manual adjusting should be needed and citations should be able to be moved within the document without errors appearing.

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## 1 Introduction

biblatex-sbl provides support to biblatex and LaTeX for citations, bibliography and abbreviations in the style recommended by the Society of Biblical Literature (SBL). Shorthand citations and a list of

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abbreviations containing journals, series, shorthands and ancient works are handled automatically. Only note style citations, not author-date citations, are supported. biblatex-sbl is compatible with biblatex's support for hyperref.

The style seeks to support the latest requirements outlined on the *SBL Handbook of Style* blog. *SBL Handbook of Style: Explanations, Clarifications, and Expansions*, <https://sblhs2.com/>. All examples from the handbook, student supplement, and blog are fully supported (noting that the blog updates many recommendations).

There is also sophisticated handling of subsequent citations, reprints, and the many unique entry types required by SBL style, such as lexicons, dictionaries, and encyclopaedias.

biblatex-sbl is compatible with biblatex's hyperref and babel support, although custom strings are only provided for English at this stage.

A companion bundle of packages and classes are distributed separately to biblatex-sbl. These provide support for referencing Bible passages (bibleref-sbl), font set up (sblfonts), indexing (sblidx), term papers (sblarticle), theses (sblreport) and print ready books (sblbook). You may also find the scripture package helpful in formatting Bible quotations.

This manual only covers custom features of biblatex-sbl. For general help with biblatex you should consult its extensive manual.

## 1.1 Backward compatibility

The blog has now made SBL style a rolling style that changes with each blog post. Because of this, preserving backward compatibility between releases is not feasible for time I have available to maintain this style and neither is it possible to provide options to vary the style to cater for different seminaries and theological colleges.

**In particular, version 2.0 and later of biblatex-sbl completely breaks compatibility with the version 0.x releases.** If you need to access a legacy release, you should download it from the GitHub repository and place the style files locally in your project.<sup>1</sup> Legacy 0.x versions are no longer maintained or supported.

## 1.2 Bug reports and feature requests

Bug reports and feature requests can be made at the package GitHub repository. See <https://github.com/dcpurton/biblatex-sbl>.

# 2 Usage

## 2.1 Basic usage

At a minimum, just load biblatex with style=sbl. By default many entry types appear in the list of abbreviations rather than the bibliography so you will almost certainly want to use both `\printbiblist{abbreviations}` and `\printbibliography`.

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<sup>1</sup> See <https://github.com/dcpurton/biblatex-sbl/releases> for legacy (and new) releases and <https://github.com/dcpurton/biblatex-sbl/tree/legacy> for legacy source code.

```

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

```

## 2.2 Bib entry set up and citation

The best way to learn how to set up the bib entries and cite them is to use the three example files which show every example from the handbook, the student supplement and the blog. These files show the bib entries, the citation commands and output including the list of abbreviations and bibliography. These three files should be considered the main documentation for the style.

- `biblatex-sbl-handbook-examples.pdf` shows all the examples from the handbook.
- `biblatex-sbl-studentsupplement-examples.pdf` shows all the examples from the student supplement to the handbook.
- `biblatex-sbl-blog-examples.pdf` shows all the examples from the blog.

These files should all be accessible with `texdoc`. Also in the documentation directory is `biblatex-sbl.bib` which contains all bib entries used in the example files.

The bib entry examples shown in example citations below are usually just snippets showing a couple of relevant fields to the particular citation command. You can then look up the full entry in `biblatex-sbl.bib`.

## 2.3 Language and font set up

Language and font set up can be done in the standard way for `biblatex`. I recommend using `babel` and `lualatex`, especially for right-to-left languages.

Note that `biblatex-sbl` contains many custom strings which are only defined for English. Offers to develop and maintain translations for other languages are welcome.

Set up for English, Greek and Hebrew using the SBL biblical fonts can be simplified by using the `sblfonts` package. For example, the following code sets up a document with Australian English as the main language and Greek and Hebrew using the SBL fonts (provided they are installed). The following example requires `lualatex`.

```

\documentclass[australian]{article}
\usepackage[sblfonts]{sblfonts}
\usepackage[style=sbl]{biblatex}
\usepackage{csquotes}
\addbibresource{biblatex-sbl.bib}
\begin{document}
Filler text \autocite[הָלֹט II]{HALOT}.
\end{document}

```

Filler text.<sup>1</sup>

1. *HALOT*, s.v. 'הָלֹט II'.

The big advantage of using `lualatex` with `babel` is that inline Greek and Hebrew do not need to be marked up. They can just be written directly into the document and bib entries.

## 2.4 Citations

In general, you should use `\autocite` and related commands for citations. This will place citations in footnotes or within parentheses if already in a footnote.

### 2.4.1 Shorthands

Many reference books, dictionaries, encyclopaedias and lexicons should be cited by an abbreviation which should in turn appear in a list of abbreviations. The abbreviation for a bib entry is set using the shorthand field.

The font used for the abbreviation should match the format of the field to which the abbreviation refers. So, for example, an abbreviation for the authors of a book would be set in a Roman font, while the abbreviation for the title of a book would be set in an italic font. By default `biblatex-sbl` sets all abbreviations in an italic font, but this can be changed on a per-entry basis by setting `shorthandformat=roman` in the entry options.

<pre>@reference{BDAG,   options = {shorthandformat=roman},   ... } @mvreference{HALOT,   ... }</pre>	<pre>\cite{BDAG} BDAG \cite{HALOT} <i>HALOT</i></pre>
--	---

The separator between a work cited by abbreviation and the postnote is dependent on what the postnote refers to. If the work is cited by page, then the separator should be a comma. If the work is cited by section (§), then the separator should be a space. This is handled by setting the `pagination` field in the bib entry.

<pre>@collection{ANET,   ... } @book{BDF,   pagination = {section}   ... }</pre>	<pre>\cite[319]{ANET} <i>ANET</i>, 319 \cite[151]{BDF} BDF §151</pre>
--	---

### 2.4.2 Multivolume works

SBL has particular rules around the punctuation before and after the volume number in a citation.

- A multivolume work cited by abbreviation has a space before the volume.
- A multivolume work cited in full has a comma before the volume.
- A colon should separate the volume and page number(s).
- A period should separate the volume and other pagination styles (e.g., paragraph or section).

biblatex-sbl uses the biblatex `\volcite` command and related similar commands to cater to these requirements. You *must* use `\volcite` or similar when citing multivolume works otherwise punctuation will be incorrect.

<pre>@mvcollection{ANF,   volumes = {10},   ... } @mvbook{ARAB,   volumes = {2},   pagination = {paragraph},   ... } @mvcommentary{aune:1997-1998,   volumes = {3},   ... }</pre>	<pre>\volcite{3}[63]{ANF} ANF 3:63 \volcite{2}[407-416]{ARAB} ARAB 2.407-16 \volcite{1}[589]{aune:1997-1998} David E. Aune, <i>Revelation</i>, 3 vols., WBC 52A-C (Nelson, 1997-1998), 1:589</pre>
---	--

### 2.4.3 Subsequent citations

SBL style uses a full citation the first time a work is referenced, but then a short form for subsequent citations (usually showing only the author and a shortened title). If `hyperref` is loaded, the short title is usually hyperlinked to the first citation.

`biblatex-sbl` automates the shortening of titles if possible while also providing the `shorttitle` field to allow for a specific short title.

If no `shorttitle` is specified in the bib entry, then the short title is constructed from the `title` field by:

- Removing everything from the first colon as this is assumed to be the subtitle.
- Removing *A*, *An* or *The* from the beginning.

A second feature of SBL style relates to citing chapters by different authors in the same collection of works. In this case, the first citation of subsequent chapters from the collection should use a short form of the collection details. `biblatex-sbl` supports this using the biblatex `crossref` field.

<pre>@collection{rogerson+lieu:2006,   ... } @incollection{dell:2006,   crossref = {rogerson+lieu:2006},   ... } @incollection{davies:2006,   crossref = {rogerson+lieu:2006},   ... }</pre>	<pre>\cite[415-416]{dell:2006} Katharine J. Dell, "Wisdom," in <i>The Oxford Handbook of Biblical Studies</i>, ed. J. W. Rogerson and Judith M. Lieu (Oxford University Press, 2006), 415-16 \cite[99]{davies:2006} Philip Davies, "Qumran Studies," in Rogerson and Lieu, <i>Oxford Handbook of Biblical Studies</i>, 99</pre>
--	---

#### 2.4.4 Footnotes

SBL style has specific requirements for citations relating to discussion or quotation inside footnotes. Long form citations should begin a new sentence and be introduced with *See* (or similar). Short form citations should be placed within parentheses.

bibtex-sbl supports this with `\autocite` in footnotes subject to the following limitations:

- Only one entry key can be specified in `\autocite`.
- You must place `\autocite` between text and final punctuation.
- `\autocites` is not supported.
- If there is a quotation ending immediately before the citation, this must be handled specially. See below.

If the set up is correct the goal is for correct behaviour even if you move footnotes around the order changes.

```
Filler text.\footnote{Discussion
\autocite{desilva:1998}.}
Filler text.\footnote{Discussion
\autocite{desilva:1998}.}
```

Filler text.<sup>1</sup> Filler text.<sup>2</sup>

1. Discussion. See David A. DeSilva, "Honor Discourse and the Rhetorical Strategy of the Apocalypse of John," *JST* 71 (1998): 79–110.
2. Discussion (DeSilva, "Honor Discourse and the Rhetorical Strategy of the Apocalypse of John").

There is extra complexity if there is a quotation immediately before a first citation in a footnote. In this case, the period must be moved inside the quotation (for US style punctuation) or suppressed if the quotation finishes with a question or exclamation mark.

This is accomplished using the `\sblfootquote` command which is placed *just inside the closing quotation mark*. `\sblfootquote` takes an optional argument specifying the final punctuation (? or !) and a mandatory argument specifying the `<key>` of the entry which will be then cited with `\autocite` after the quotation.

`\sblfootquote` works with a literal quotation mark as well as with `\mkbibquote` and the various commands from the `csquotes` package.

```
Filler text.\footnote{"Quotation%
\sblfootquote{richards:1965}"
\autocite[116-117]{richards:1965}.}
Filler text.\footnote{"Quotation%
\sblfootquote{richards:1965}"
\autocite[116-117]{richards:1965}.}
```

Filler text.<sup>1</sup> Filler text.<sup>2</sup>

1. "Quotation." See I. A. Richards, *The Philosophy of Rhetoric* (Oxford University Press, 1965), 116–17.
2. "Quotation" (Richards, *Philosophy of Rhetoric*, 116–17).

#### 2.4.5 Reprints

bibtex-sbl supports three methods of citing reprints with varying degrees of complexity.

If only the original publisher, location, and/or year are required, then use the fields `origpublisher`, `origlocation`, and `origdate`.

```
@book{vanseters:1997,
  origpublisher = {Yale University Press},
  origdate = {1983},
  publisher = {eisenbrauns},
  date = {1997},
  ...
}
```

```
\cite[90]{vanseters:1997}
```

John Van Seters, *In Search of History: Historiography in the Ancient World and the Origins of Biblical History* (Yale University Press, 1983; repr., Eisenbrauns, 1997), 90

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 = {\bibstring{reprint}},`.

```
@book{zerwick:2011,
  related = {zerwick:repr},
  relatedtype = {reprint}
  ...
}
@book{zerwick:repr,
  ...
}
```

```
\cite[360-362]{zerwick:2011}
```

Maximilian Zerwick, *Biblical Greek Illustrated by Examples*, trans. Joseph Smith, Scripta Pontificii Instituti Biblici 114 (Editrice Pontificio Istituto biblico, 1963; repr. SubBi 41, Gregorian & Biblical Press, 2011), §§360–62

Finally, a full reprint history also uses the `related` field, but with some other `relatedtype` apart from `relatedtype = {reprint}`.

```
@book{wellhausen:1883,
  ...
}
@book{wellhausen:1885,
  related = {wellhausen:1883},
  relatedtype = {translationof},
  ...
}
@book{wellhausen:1957,
  related = {wellhausen:1885},
  relatedtype = {reprintof},
  ...
}
```

```
\cite[20]{wellhausen:1957}
```

Julius Wellhausen, *Prolegomena to the History of Ancient Israel* (Meridian Books, 1957), 20; repr. of *Prolegomena to the History of Israel*, trans. J. Sutherland Black and A. Enzies, with preface by W. Robertson Smith (Edinburgh: Black, 1885); trans. of *Prolegomena zur Geschichte Israels*, 2nd ed. (Berlin: Reimer, 1883)

#### 2.4.6 Other related works

biblatex-sbl supports a number of more specialised ways of relating one work to another.

##### JOURNAL ARTICLES PUBLISHED ACROSS MULTIPLE VOLUMES

Some journal articles are published across multiple volumes, but can be cited as one article. This kind of citation uses `relatedtype = {multivolumearticle}` and should be cited with `\avolcite` or similar. Note that there is no `@mvolume` bib entry type, as this type of reference is very rare. Just use `@article`.

```
@article{wellhausen:1876-1887,
  related = {wellhausen:1876, wellhausen:1877},
  relatedtype = {multivolumearticle},
  ...
}
@article{wellhausen:1876,
  volume = {21},
  ...
}
@article{wellhausen:1877,
  volume = {22},
  ...
}
```

```
\volcite{21}[434]{wellhausen:1876-1877}
```

Julius Wellhausen, "Die Composition des Hexateuchs," *JDT* 21 (1876): 392-450; 22 (1877): 407-79, here 21:434

#### WORKS BY MULTIPLE AUTHORS BOUND IN A SINGLE VOLUME

A particularly niche situation arose on the SBL blog at <https://sblhs2.com/2018/01/18/citing-text-collections-to-lcl/> where a question was asked concerning citing from a LCL volume containing works by multiple authors each with a separate translator. When citing from a work by an author other than the first author listed in the volume's title, SBL suggested using a cross reference in the bibliography to point to the main bibliography entry. biblatex-sbl supports this using a combination of `relatedtype = {see}` and an `execute` field. It's not pretty, but it does work.

There's a lot of bib entries that go into making this, so rather than list them here, you can look up `aristotle:poetics:book` and following entries in `biblatex-sbl.bib`. To make things more complicated the main bibliography entry uses the `related` field to append the other two works to the first title.

Several more compiles and runs of biber are required than you wish for, unless you add a couple of entries to `\nocite`.

```
\cite{longinus:sublime}
```

Longinus, *On the Sublime*

```
\printbibliography
```

Aristotle. *Poetics*. Translated and edited by Stephen Halliwell. Longinus. *On the Sublime*. Translated by W. H. Fyfe. Revised by Donald Russell. Demetrius. *On Style*. Translated and edited by Doreen C. Innes. LCL. Harvard University Press, 1995.

Longinus. *On the Sublime*. See Aristotle. *Poetics*.

#### CITING QUOTATIONS FROM WITHIN ANOTHER WORK

A final supported type of relating one work to another deals with citing a quotation from within another work. Note that SBL discourages this as the primary source should be consulted. This type of citation uses the `xref` and `xrefstring` fields.



<pre>@book{edwards:1999,   ... } @ancienttext{victorinus:ephesians,   xref = {edwards:1999},   xrefstring = {quoted in},   ... }</pre>	<pre>\cite{(1.2.12)129}{victorinus:ephesians}</pre> <p>Marius Victorinus, <i>Epistle to the Ephesians</i> 1.2.12, quoted in Mark J. Edwards, ed., <i>Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians</i>, ACCS New Testament 8 (InterVarsity Press, 1999), 129</p>
--	--

#### 2.4.7 Bible commentaries

Most Bible commentaries on a single book of the Bible work in the same way as a @book bib entry.

<pre>@commentary{hooker:1991,   ... }</pre>	<pre>\cite{hooker:1991}</pre> <p>Morna Hooker, <i>The Gospel according to Saint Mark</i>, BNTC 2 (Hendrickson, 1991)</p> <pre>\printbiblist{abbreviations}</pre> <p>BNTC Black's New Testament Commentaries</p> <pre>\printbibliography</pre> <p>Hooker, Morna. <i>The Gospel according to Saint Mark</i>. BNTC 2. Hendrickson, 1991.</p>
---	---

Other commentaries are part of a single or multi-volume commentary on the whole Bible where the commentary is cited as a shorthand and included in the list of abbreviations. In this case, the full commentary should be cross referenced using the xref field.

<pre>@mvcommentary{NIB,   shorthand = {NIB},   ... } @incommentary{miller:jeremiah,   xref = {NIB},   ... }</pre>	<pre>\cite{miller:jeremiah}</pre> <p>Patrick D. Miller, "The Book of Jeremiah: Introduction, Commentary, and Reflections," <i>NIB</i> 6:553–926</p> <pre>\printbiblist{abbreviations}</pre> <p><i>NIB</i> Keck, Leander E., ed. <i>The New Interpreter's Bible</i>. 12 vols. Abingdon, 1994–2004.</p> <pre>\printbibliography</pre> <p>Miller, Patrick D. "The Book of Jeremiah: Introduction, Commentary, and Reflections." <i>NIB</i> 6:553–926.</p>
---	--

#### 2.4.8 Reference works

Dictionaries, encyclopaedias and lexica deserve a special mention. biblatex-sbl uses the @mvreference, @reference and @inreference entry types to support these. @inreference is used to cite signed articles which should appear in the bibliography. Unsigned entries use the @mvreference or @reference entry directly. Typically reference works with unsigned entries in them use pagination = {subverbo} and the articles are referenced by word under consideration rather than page number. Unsigned articles do

not appear in the bibliography. The reference work itself will appear in the list of abbreviation if cited by its abbreviation or in the bibliography otherwise.

<pre>@mvreference{EDNT,   pagination = {subverbo},   ... } @inreference{lattke:kakia,   xref = {EDNT},   ... }</pre>	<pre>\cite["\text{Αγαβος}"]{EDNT} EDNT, s.v. "\text{Αγαβος}" \cite{lattke:kakia} Michael Lattke, "\text{κακία}," EDNT 2:237</pre>
--	---

#### 2.4.9 Ancient works

Citing ancient works and texts is particularly complicated because of the variety of text types and collections they are published in. biblatex-sbl uses the `@ancienttext` entry type for all ancient works.

By default an `@ancienttext` entry will not appear in the bibliography. Include `skipbib=false` in the options field if you need to include the work in the bibliography.

##### SOURCE DIVISIONS IN ANCIENT WORKS

Many ancient works are cited by a commonly agreed on source division (such as book, chapter, section) instead of or as well as a page number in a particular edition.

biblatex-sbl supports this with the aid of the biblatex-source-division package.<sup>2</sup>

The syntax for specifying the source division is the same as for biblatex-source-division so the source division is placed within parentheses at the start of the postnote and is then optionally followed by the location in the particular edition being cited. The text collection is indicated using an `xref` field in the `ancienttext` bib entry.

<pre>@mvcollection{NPNF,   ... } @ancienttext{augustine:letters,   xref = {NPNF},   ... }</pre>	<pre>\cite[(28.3.5)252]{augustine:letters} Augustine, <i>The Letters of St. Augustin</i> 28.3.5 (NPNF 1/1:252)</pre>
---	--

##### TRANSLATIONS OF ANCIENT WORKS

It is sometimes desirable to cite a particular translation of an ancient work. For this purpose a set of variant citation commands are provided, e.g., `\atranscite`. The translator needs to be included in the bib entry of the ancient work.

The format of the translator in the citation varies depending on whether the source being cited is from within a text collection (indicated with the `xref` field) or not.

2. Thanks to Maïeul Rouquette. See <https://ctan.org/package/biblatex-source-division>.

<pre>@collection{ANET, ... } @ancienttext{legendsargon,   translator = {Speiser, E. A.},   xref = {ANET}, ... } @{herodian:hist,   translator = {Whittaker}, ... }</pre>	<pre>\transcite{legendsargon}  "The Legend of Sargon" (trans. E. A. Speiser, ANET, 119)  \transcite[(2.2)]{herodian:hist}  Herodian, <i>Hist.</i> 2.2 (Whittaker)</pre>
--	---

#### ANCIENT WORKS INCLUDED IN TEXT COLLECTIONS

Often ancient works are published as part of a collection. The collection should appear either in the bibliography or list of abbreviations. This collection should be referenced in the `xref` field.

When citing an ancient work which is part of a text collection, it's possible to include a source division and/or location in the text collection. If no *postnote* is included in the citation then the printing of the text collection is suppressed. If you need to print a full citation with unabbreviated name including the text collection use `\fullcite` (or variant).

<pre>@ancienttext{bknoah,   title = {Book of Noah},   shorttitle = {Bk.\@ Noah},   translator = {Himmelfarb, Martha},   xref = {MOTP},   volume = {1},   pages = {40-46} } @mvcollection{MOTP,   shorthand = {MOTP}, ... }</pre>	<pre>\cite[(3)46]{bknoah}  Bk. Noah 3 (<i>MOTP</i> 1:46)  \printbiblist{abbreviations}  Bk. Noah    Book of Noah <i>MOTP</i>       Bauckham, Richard, James R. Davila, and             Alexander Panayotov, eds. <i>Old Testament             Pseudepigrapha: More Noncanonical Scrip-             tures</i>. 2 vols. Eerdmans, 2013–2025.</pre>
--	--

Many classical works are cited using an abbreviated title. In this case the abbreviated title should appear in the list of abbreviations. The abbreviated title should be placed in the `shorttitle` field. Titles are set using `\frenchspacing`, so it's safe to leave periods as is.

<pre>@ancienttext{tacitus:ann,   author = {Tacitus},   title = {Annales},   shorttitle = {Ann.},   xref = {tacitus:histories} } @mvbook{tacitus:histories,   author = {Tacitus},   ... }</pre>	<pre>\cite[(15.18-19)]{tacitus:ann}  Tacitus, <i>Ann.</i> 15.18–19  \printbiblist{abbreviations}  <i>Ann.</i> Tacitus, <i>Annales</i> LCL Loeb Classical Library  \printbibliography  Tacitus. <i>The Histories and The Annals</i>. Translated by Clifford H. Moore and John Jackson. 4 vols. LCL. Harvard University Press, 1937.</pre>
--	--

SBL has specific rules around the formatting of titles in ancient works. Ancient works with an author use italics for the title. Ancient works without an author use either a Roman font or a Roman font enclosed in quotation marks, depending on whether the title is well established and independent of translation or whether the title was given by a translator. The former case uses a plain Roman font. The latter, is placed within quotation marks. Setting `entrysubtype = {inancientcollection}` will use quotation marks for title, otherwise a plain Roman font is used.

<pre>@ancienttext{legendsargon,   entrysubtype = {inancientcollection},   title = {The Legend of Sargon},   translator = {Speiser, E. A.},   xref = {ANET},   pages = {119} } @collection{ANET,   shorthand = {ANET},   ... }</pre>	<pre>\cite{legendsargon}  “The Legend of Sargon” (<i>ANET</i>, 119)  \printbiblist{abbreviations}  <i>ANET</i> Pritchard, James B., ed. <i>Ancient Near Eastern Texts Relating to the Old Testament</i>. 3rd ed. Princeton University Press, 1969.</pre>
---	--

Other ancient works behave like a book or a part of a book. The former uses an italic font for the title and the latter a Roman font in quotation marks, similar to `@book` and `@inbook`. These two types are set using `entrysubtype = {ancientbook}` and `entrysubtype = {inancientbook}` respectively. These two entry subtypes use the `title` in the first citation and the `shorttitle` in subsequent citations.

<pre>@ancienttext{clementinehomilies,   entrysubtype = {ancientbook},   title = {The Clementine Homilies},   xref = {ANF},   volume = {8},   pages = {213-346} } @mvcollection{ANF,   shorthand = {ANF},   ... }</pre>	<pre>\cite[(1.3)223]{clementinehomilies}  <i>The Clementine Homilies</i> 1.3 (<i>ANF</i> 8:223)  \printbiblist{abbreviations}  <i>ANF</i> Roberts, Alexander, and James Donaldson, eds. <i>The Ante-Nicene Fathers: Translations of the Writings of the Fathers Down to A.D. 325</i>. 10 vols. 1885–1887. Repr., Hendrickson, 1994.</pre>
--	---

The best way to learn how to set up bib entries for ancient works is to look through the examples from the handbook and especially the blog for a similar example to what you want and from there see how to implement the set up in biblatex-sbl.

## 2.5 Bibliography

The bibliography is printed using the standard biblatex command, `\printbibliography`. Some bib entries are excluded from the bibliography by default in order to comply with SBL recommendations (e.g., references cited by abbreviation, most ancient sources, blogs, etc.). Often these defaults can be overridden by including options = `{skipbib=false}` in the bib entry.

## 2.6 List of abbreviations

SBL style makes extensive use of abbreviations, so it is almost always necessary to include a list of abbreviations with `\printbiblist{abbreviations}`. If `hyperref` is loaded then abbreviations will hyperlink to the list of abbreviations.

Many longer works split the list of abbreviations into three sections: a list of abbreviations relating to ancient sources, a list of abbreviations relating to secondary sources, and a list of sigla and other abbreviations.

### 2.6.1 Ancient sources

A list of abbreviations of ancient sources can be printed by passing `type=ancienttext` to `\printbiblist`. Preferred abbreviations for ancient sources are specified in the handbook and on the blog. SBL now prefers to use Latin abbreviations over English ones.

To appear in the list of abbreviations and `@ancienttext` must have a `shorttitle`. If two works have the same short title, then SBL specifies that the works should be separated with a semi-colon in the list of abbreviations. This happens automatically.

<pre>@ancienttext{1QM,   title = {War Scroll},   shorttitle = {1QM} } @ancienttext{cicero:agr,   shorttitle = {Agr.},   ... } @ancienttext{philo:agr,   shorttitle = {Agr.},   ... } @ancienttext{plutarch:ant,   shorttitle = {Ant.},   ... }</pre>	<pre>\printbiblist [heading=subbibliography,  title=Ancient Sources,  type=ancienttext] {abbreviations}</pre> <p><b>Ancient Sources</b></p> <p>1QM    War Scroll  Agr.    Cicero, <i>De lege agraria</i>; Philo, <i>De agricultura</i>  Ant.    Plutarch, <i>Antonius</i></p>
--	---

### 2.6.2 Secondary sources

Secondary sources will be included in a list of abbreviations for bib entries containing any one of the fields `shorthand`, `shortseries` and/or `shortjournal`.

```
@reference{BDB,
  shorthand = {BDB},
  ...
}
@article{miller:1984,
  shortjournal = {JSOT},
  ...
}
@book{salters:2010,
  shortseries = {ICC},
  ...
}
```

```
\printbiblist
[heading=subbibliography,
 title=Secondary Sources,
 nottype=ancienttext,
 nottype=abbreviation]
{abbreviations}
```

#### Secondary Sources

BDB Brown, Francis, S. R. Driver, and Charles A. Briggs.  
*A Hebrew and English Lexicon of the Old Testament*.  
 Clarendon, 1907.

ICC International Critical Commentary

*JSOT* *Journal for the Study of the Old Testament*

### 2.6.3 Other abbreviations

biblatex-sbl includes *very* basic support for general abbreviations, sigla and acronyms. These are supported by a basic `@abbreviation` bib entry type with a `shorthand` and corresponding `definition` field. Abbreviations can then be included in the text and added to the list of abbreviations using the `\abbrev` command.

```
@reference{>,
  shorthand = {>},
  definition = {omits the lemma}
}
@article{abl,
  shorthand = {abl.},
  definition = {ablative}
}
```

```
\printbiblist
[heading=subbibliography,
 title=Sigla and Grammatical Abbreviations,
 type=abbreviation]
{abbreviations}
```

#### Sigla and Grammatical Abbreviations

> omits the lemma  
 abl. ablative

### 2.7 Index of modern authors

Passing the option `indexing=cite` to biblatex-sbl activates indexing of modern authors. (SBL tends not to index names in the bibliography and list of abbreviations, neither does it include titles in the index as biblatex does by default.)

Set up for indexing of modern authors (along with subjects and ancient sources) according to SBL style can be simplified by using the `sblidx` package.

biblatex-sbl does not include `@ancienttext` entry types in the index as these are often index in a similar way to Bible references and the set up will likely be unique to a particular project. `bibleref-sbl` could be useful here.

## 3 Reference

Many (but by no means all) of the standard biblatex options, commands, entry types, fields and localisation strings are supported by biblatex-sbl.

The following section documents things which are unique to biblatex-sbl or which behave in unique ways.

### 3.1 Options

biblatex-sbl loads the biblatex verbose-ibid style and then executes the following options by default:

```
citepages=omit, citetracker=context, dateabbrev=false, ibidtracker=false,
idemtracker=citation, isbn=false, language=american, maxbibnames=99,
mincrossrefs=2, minxrefs=1, nametracker=context, pagetracker=true,
sorting=nwty, uniquework=true
```

The following options are unique to biblatex-sbl or behave in a unique way.

#### 3.1.1 Load-time options

---

`citepages` = omit | separate Default: omit

By default SBL recommends that full pages for a chapter or article be included in the bibliography and only the page or pages under consideration be referenced in the first citation.

If there is no bibliography, then setting `citepages=separate` includes the full page range in the first citation. The page under consideration is then included after the string `thiscite`, which is defined as 'here' by default.

One exception to this is in the first citation to a multi-part journal article spread of two volumes. In this case, the behaviour always matches that of `citepages=separate`.

#### 3.1.2 Entry options

---

`nonlatinbooktitleformat` = *<boolean>* Default: false  
`nonlatinmaintitleformat`  
`nonlatintitleformat`

These entry options controls how a title in a non-Latin alphabet is formatted, if you wish to cite by this title rather than a translated title. The translated title is then placed in `translatedtitle`, `translatedbooktitle` or `translatedmaintitle`.

In such cases, the non-Latin title should be formatted in a plain Roman font, rather than italic or quoted Roman font. However, you need to tell biblatex-sbl that your bib entry is using a non-Latin script for the title. This can be done using `options = {nonlatintitle}` in the bib entry.

---

`partsinvols` = true | false Default: false

For entries containing both a `parts` and a `volumes` field, this option controls whether the bibliography record prints `volumes vols. in parts parts` (default) or `parts parts in volumes vols.`

---

`shorthandformat` = italic | roman Default: italic

The format of a shorthand field in SBL style needs to match what the abbreviation points to. So if the shorthand refers to the title of the work, it should be printed in italics, whereas if the shorthand refers to the authors of the work it should be set in a Roman font. By default the shorthand is set using italics, but this can be changed for a bib entry using `options = {shorthandformat=roman}`.

---

`usetitle` = true | false Default: true

For bib entry types that can have a maintitle in addition to a title (@book, @collection, @commentary, @reference) SBL usually places the title first and then locates this in the maintitle. However, there are some situations where it makes more sense to reference the work by its maintitle because the title is overly generic (e.g., *Books 1–3*). In these cases, set use options = {usetitle=false} to place the title after the maintitle.

---

`usexref` = true | false Default: true

Generally, ancient works which are part of a text collection include the text collection in the citation. One exception to this is SBL's treatment of ancient epistles and homilies,<sup>3</sup> where the collection does not appear in the citation, but it still needs to appear in the bibliography. This behaviour can be achieved by placing the text collection in the xref field as usual and then using options = {usexref=false}.

## 3.2 Commands

### 3.2.1 Citation commands

#### MAIN CITATION COMMANDS

---

`\autocite` [*prenote*][*((source division))postnote*]{*key*}

`\autocite*` `\autocite` inserts a citation as a footnote. If used in a footnote, the citation is placed in parentheses.

`\Autocite` 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 to specify a source division for ancient works.

`\Autocite*`

`\Autocite` is similar to `\autocite` but capitalises the name prefix of the first name in the citation if provided that there is a name prefix. This only makes a difference if the `autocite` option has been set to plain or inline.

As with the biblatex package, the behaviour of `\autocite` can be changed with the `autocite load-time` option.

---

`\cite` [*prenote*][*((source division))postnote*]{*key*}

`\cite*` `\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).

`\Cite`

`\Cite*`

`\Cite` is similar to `\cite` but capitalises the name prefix of the first name in the citation if provided that there is a name prefix.

---

`\parencite` [*prenote*][*((source division))postnote*]{*key*}

`\parencite*` `\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.

`\Parencite`

`\Parencite*`

`\Parencite` is similar to `\parencite` but capitalises the name prefix of the first name in the citation if provided that there is a name prefix.

---

3. See §6.4.4 of the handbook.



#### VOLUME CITATION COMMANDS

Multi-volume references *must* be cited using this family of citation commands to ensure correct delimiters before and after the volume number in the citation.

---

<code>\avolcite</code>	<code>[⟨prenote⟩]{⟨volume⟩}[⟨source division⟩]⟨postnote⟩{⟨key⟩}</code>
<code>\avolcite*</code>	
<code>\Avolcite</code>	This function is analogous to <code>\autocite</code> , but allows specifying the <code>⟨volume⟩</code> when citing a multi-volume work.
<code>\Avolcite*</code>	

---

---

<code>\pvolcite</code>	<code>[⟨prenote⟩]{⟨volume⟩}[⟨source division⟩]⟨postnote⟩{⟨key⟩}</code>
<code>\pvolcite*</code>	
<code>\Pvolcite</code>	This function is analogous to <code>\parencite</code> , but allows specifying the <code>⟨volume⟩</code> when citing a multi-volume work.
<code>\Pvolcite*</code>	

---

---

<code>\volcite</code>	<code>[⟨prenote⟩]{⟨volume⟩}[⟨source division⟩]⟨postnote⟩{⟨key⟩}</code>
<code>\volcite*</code>	
<code>\Volcite</code>	This function is analogous to <code>\cite</code> , but allows specifying the <code>⟨volume⟩</code> when citing a multi-volume work.
<code>\Volcite*</code>	

---

#### TRANSLATOR CITATION COMMANDS

When citing a translation of an ancient work, the translator of the work needs to be included. The following commands do this providing the translator is specified in the `translator` field (or inherited via the `crossref` field).

These functions only make sense for `@ancienttext` entry types.

---

<code>\atranscite</code>	<code>[⟨prenote⟩][⟨source division⟩]⟨postnote⟩{⟨key⟩}</code>
<code>\atranscite*</code>	
<code>\Atranscite</code>	This function is analogous to <code>\autocite</code> , but includes the translator.
<code>\Atranscite*</code>	

---

---

<code>\ptranscite</code>	<code>[⟨prenote⟩][⟨source division⟩]⟨postnote⟩{⟨key⟩}</code>
<code>\ptranscite*</code>	
<code>\Ptranscite</code>	This function is analogous to <code>\parencite</code> , but includes the translator.
<code>\Ptranscite*</code>	

---

---

<code>\transcite</code>	<code>[⟨prenote⟩][⟨source division⟩]⟨postnote⟩{⟨key⟩}</code>
<code>\transcite*</code>	
<code>\Transcite</code>	This function is analogous to <code>\cite</code> , but includes the translator.
<code>\Transcite*</code>	

---

---

<code>\avoltranscite</code>	<code>[⟨prenote⟩]{⟨volume⟩}[⟨source division⟩]⟨postnote⟩{⟨key⟩}</code>
<code>\avoltranscite*</code>	
<code>\Avoltranscite</code>	This function is analogous to <code>\avolcite</code> , but includes the translator.
<code>\Avoltranscite*</code>	

---

---

<code>\pvoltrancite</code>	<code>[⟨prenote⟩][⟨volume⟩][⟨source division⟩]⟨postnote⟩{⟨key⟩}</code>
<code>\pvoltrancite*</code>	This function is analogous to <code>\pvolcite</code> , but includes the translator.
<code>\Pvoltrancite</code>	
<code>\Pvoltrancite*</code>	

---



---

<code>\voltrancite</code>	<code>[⟨prenote⟩][⟨volume⟩][⟨source division⟩]⟨postnote⟩{⟨key⟩}</code>
<code>\voltrancite*</code>	This function is analogous to <code>\volcite</code> , but includes the translator.
<code>\Voltrancite</code>	
<code>\Voltrancite*</code>	

---

#### MULTICITE CITATION COMMANDS

Each of the above commands also has multicite variants (`\autocites`, `\parencites`, `\cites`, etc.). See the main biblatex package documentation for syntax and usage.

Each citation `⟨postnote⟩` can be split to include a `⟨source division⟩` as above.

#### SPECIALISED CITATION COMMANDS

The following specialised citation commands are also available.

---

<code>\citeauthor</code>	<code>[⟨prenote⟩][⟨postnote⟩]{⟨key⟩}</code>
<code>\citeauthor*</code>	Print the author (or editor or translator) of a work. The full author is printed for the first citation and the short author is printed for subsequent citations. The starred variant prints just the first author of works by multiple authors.
<code>\Citeauthor</code>	
<code>\Citeauthor*</code>	

---

`\Citeauthor` is similar to `\citeauthor` but capitalises the name prefix of the first name in the citation if provided that there is a name prefix.

---

<code>\citefullauthor</code>	<code>[⟨prenote⟩][⟨postnote⟩]{⟨key⟩}</code>
<code>\citefullauthor*</code>	Similar to <code>\citeauthor</code> , but always cites the full author.
<code>\Citefullauthor</code>	
<code>\Citefullauthor*</code>	

---



---

<code>\citeshortauthor</code>	<code>[⟨prenote⟩][⟨postnote⟩]{⟨key⟩}</code>
<code>\citeshortauthor*</code>	Similar to <code>\citeauthor</code> , but always cites the short author.
<code>\Citeshortauthor</code>	
<code>\Citeshortauthor*</code>	

---



---

<code>\citetitle</code>	<code>[⟨prenote⟩][⟨postnote⟩]{⟨key⟩}</code>
<code>\citetitle*</code>	This command prints the title. It will use the abridged title in the <code>shorttitle</code> field, if available. Otherwise it falls back to the full title found in the <code>title</code> field. The starred variant always prints the full title.

---



---

<code>\citecollection</code>	<code>[⟨prenote⟩][⟨postnote⟩]{⟨key⟩}</code>
<code>\parencitecollection</code>	Cite the text collection which an <code>@ancienttext</code> is included in. The key in this case is the <code>@ancienttext</code> key and the text collection is included in the <code>xref</code> field. The translator (if specified) is included for <code>\transcitecollection</code> and <code>\ptranscitecollection</code> .
<code>\transcitecollection</code>	

---

---

<code>\afullcite</code>	<code>[[\langle prenote \rangle][\langle source division \rangle]\langle postnote \rangle]{\langle key \rangle}</code>
-------------------------	--

<code>\parenfullcite</code>	
-----------------------------	--

<code>\fullcite</code>	
------------------------	--

<code>...</code>	
------------------	--

---

These commands are similar to `\autocite`, `\parencite` and `\cite`, but they always print the full citation.

There is a full suite of starred, capitalised, volume, and translator variants also defined.

### 3.2.2 Bibliography

---

<code>\printbibliography</code>	<code>[\langle key=value, ... \rangle]</code>
---------------------------------	---

---

Print the bibliography. See the biblatex manual for a description of available options.

### 3.2.3 List of abbreviations

---

<code>\printbiblist</code>	<code>[\langle key=value, ... \rangle]{\langle abbreviations \rangle}</code>
----------------------------	--

---

Print the list of abbreviations. See the biblatex manual for a description of available options.

### 3.2.4 Miscellaneous commands

---

<code>\abbrev</code>	<code>{\langle key \rangle}</code>
----------------------	------------------------------------

---

Insert an abbreviation, acronym or sigla defined using the `@abbreviation` entry type.

---

<code>\colno</code>	
---------------------	--

<code>\colsno</code>	
----------------------	--

---

This command forces a column number prefix (col. or cols.) in the `\langle postnote \rangle` argument to a citation command. They use the bib strings `column` and `columns`.

---

<code>\lno</code>	
-------------------	--

<code>\llno</code>	
--------------------	--

<code>\lineno</code>	
----------------------	--

<code>\linesno</code>	
-----------------------	--

---

This command forces a line number prefix (l. or ll.) in the `\langle postnote \rangle` argument to a citation command. They use the bib strings `line` and `lines`.

---

<code>\nopnfmt</code>	
-----------------------	--

---

This command suppresses formatting of the `\langle postnote \rangle` and it's useful if you want '12,13' without a space.

---

<code>\obv</code>	
-------------------	--

<code>\rev</code>	
-------------------	--

---

These commands insert the bib strings `obverse` and `reverse` (`obv.` and `rev.` by default) into a `\langle postnote \rangle`.

---

<code>\sblfootquote</code>	<code>punct [\langle punctuation \rangle]{\langle entry key \rangle}</code>
----------------------------	---

---

Use this command just before the end of a quotation in a footnote where the citation (using `\autocite`) appears immediately after the quotation. The `\langle entry key \rangle` must match the `\langle entry key \rangle` of the `\autocite` command. See <https://sblhs2.com/2016/10/11/placement-citations-traditional/>.

---

<code>\sno</code>	
-------------------	--

<code>\ssno</code>	
--------------------	--

---

This command forces a section number prefix (§ or §§) in the `\langle postnote \rangle` argument to a citation command. They use the bib strings `section` and `sections`.

---

`\sv` These commands insert the bib strings `subverbo` and `subverbis` (s.v. and s.vv. by default) into a  


---

`\svv` `\postnote`.

---

### 3.3 Entry types

The following entry types are used by `biblatex-sbl`. Behaviour of other `biblatex` types should not be relied on to give correct output.

---

`abbreviation` This is a custom type for `biblatex-sbl`. It's used as a simple implementation for acronyms, sigla and grammatical abbreviations.  


---

`@abbrev` only supports two fields: `shorthand` for the abbreviation and `description` for the description of the abbreviation.

---

`ancienttext` This is a custom type for `biblatex-sbl` and covers all types of ancient works.  


---

The following fields are supported by the `@ancienttext` entry type:

`author`, `crossref`, `entrysubtype`, `execute`, `number`, `options`, `shortmaintitle`,  
`maintitle`, `pages`, `text`, `shorttitle`, `title`, `translator`, `volume`, `xref`,  
`xrefstring`

---

`article` An article in a journal, magazine or newspaper. Also use this type for review articles (*SBLHS* §6.3.4) and electronic journal articles (*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.

---



---

`mvbook` A multi-volume `@book`.

---



---

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

---



---

`bookinbook` This type is similar to `@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.

---

`suppbook` Supplemental material in a `@book`. Use this for an introduction, preface or foreword written by someone other than the author (*SBLHS* §6.2.14). The `type` field is used to specify the type of supplementary material.

---



---

`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.

---

<hr/> <hr/> mvcollection	A multi-volume @collection.
<hr/> <hr/> incollection	A contribution to a collection which forms a self-contained unit with a distinct author and title.
<hr/> <hr/> commentary	A single-volume commentary on the whole Bible, a book of the Bible or part of a book of a book of the Bible by one or more authors. This entry type is similar to @book.
<hr/> <hr/> mvcommentary	A multi-volume @commentary.
<hr/> <hr/> incommentary	<p>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.</p> <p>If the main commentary is usually cited by abbreviation, place it in the xref field. Otherwise the details of the main commentary can be included within the bib entry or in the crossref field.</p>
<hr/> <hr/> misc	The @misc is a fallback entry type for references which don't fit into another category. biblatex-sbl only uses this for including a cross reference to an author whose name has changed. See <a href="https://sblhs2.com/2018/04/06/modern-author-names/">https://sblhs2.com/2018/04/06/modern-author-names/</a> .
<hr/> <hr/> online	<p>An online resource without a print counterpart. Use this for online databases, websites, blogs, social media posts/comments.</p> <p>This entry type supports the custom field website to hold the name of the website (if applicable) and also supports the following values for entrysubtype which control the formatting and inclusion/exclusion in the bibliography:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· blog for blog posts.</li> <li>· comment for social media comments.</li> </ul> <p>Neither of these sub types appear in the bibliography.</p>
<hr/> <hr/> periodical	<p>A complete issue of a periodical, such as a special issue of a journal. The title of the periodical is given in the title field. If the issue has its own title in addition to the main title of the periodical, it goes in the issuetitle field.</p> <p>In biblatex-sbl this type is only used to insert a journal into the list of abbreviations.</p>
<hr/> <hr/> inproceedings	An article in a conference proceedings. This type is similar to @incollection. biblatex-sbl only uses this entry type to cite articles published in Studia Patristica where series is set to Studia Patristica and shortseries to StPatr. See <a href="https://sblhs2.com/2017/09/14/studia-patristica/">https://sblhs2.com/2017/09/14/studia-patristica/</a> .

<u>reference</u>	A single-volume dictionary, encyclopaedia or lexicon.
<u>mvreference</u>	A multi-volume dictionary, encyclopaedia or lexicon.
<u>inreference</u>	An article in a dictionary, encyclopaedia or lexicon, which could be signed or unsigned depending on the reference.
<u>review</u>	A book review in a journal. This is similar to an <code>@article</code> . Use the <code>revdauthor/revdeditor</code> and <code>revdtitle</code> 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 <code>@article</code> entry type.
<u>series</u>	A multi-volume series used in one of two ways. When it includes a shorthand and a title, it is similar to a <code>@mvbook</code> except that an upright shaped font is used for the title field. When it includes a <code>shortseries</code> and <code>series</code> it functions as a container type for inserting a series into the list of abbreviations. Series entries are not included in the bibliography.
<u>inseries</u>	A titled section in a book which is part of a series. This is similar to <code>@inbook</code> except that it is formatted like an <code>@article</code> with the <code>shortseries</code> replacing the <code>shortjournal</code> field.
<u>thesis</u>	A thesis written for an educational institution to satisfy the requirements for a degree. Use the <code>type</code> field to specify the type of thesis.
<u>unpublished</u>	A work with an author and a title which has not been formally published, such as a manuscript or the script of a talk. <code>biblatex-sbl</code> uses this type along with <code>type = {paper}</code> for citing a papers presented at a conference, but not published in formal proceedings.
<u>video</u>	An audio visual recording or motion picture. In <code>biblatex-sbl</code> this type supports an <code>invideo</code> entry sub type for citing extra features on something like a DVD.
<u>xdata</u>	This entry type holds data which may be inherited by other entries using the <code>xdata</code> field. Entries of this type only serve as data containers; they may not be cited or added to the bibliography.

### 3.4 Entry fields

This section documents custom fields for `biblatex-sbl`.

### 3.4.1 Literal fields

<u>datemodifier</u>	A modifier for the date of a bib entry. The will affect the string (if any) used before a date is printed.
<u>definition</u>	The definition of an abbreviation. This is only used in the @abbreviation entry type.
<u>parts</u>	The number of parts a work is published in. If an entry includes both a volumes and a parts field, then this information is presented as volumes vols. in parts parts. This order can be reversed by setting options = {partsinvolts}.
<u>printing</u>	The printing number of the specified edition of a publication.
<u>revdtitle</u>	The title of a book being reviewed.
<u>revdsubtitle</u>	The subtitle of a book being reviewed.
<u>revdshorttitle</u>	The title of a book being review in an abridged form. This field is used in subsequent citations of @review entry types.
<u>text</u>	The number of a text withing a volume. This is only used the @ancientttext entry type.
<u>translatedtitle</u>	The title of a work translated into the main document language when citing the work by its original title.
<u>translatedshorttitle</u>	The shorttitle of a work translated into the main document language when citing the work by its original title. This is used in subsequent citations.
<u>translatedsubtitle</u>	The subtitle of a work translated into the main document language when citing the work by its original title.
<u>translatedbooktitle</u>	The booktitle of a work translated into the main document language when citing the work by its original title.
<u>translatedbooksubtitle</u>	The booksubtitle of a work translated into the main document language when citing the work by its original title.

<u>translatedmaintitle</u>	The maintitle of a work translated into the main document language when citing the work by its original title.
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<u>translatedmainsubtitle</u>	The mainsubtitle of a work translated into the main document language when citing the work by its original title.
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<u>website</u>	The name of a website. This could be the name of a blog, a website, or an online database.
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<u>withauthortype</u>	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.
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<u>withbookauthortype</u>	The type of withbookauthor. This field will affect the string used to introduce the author(s) who assist the bookauthor. If unspecified, the bibliography string with is used.
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<u>withmainauthortype</u>	The type of withmainauthor. This field will affect the string used to introduce the author(s) who assist the mainauthor. If unspecified, the bibliography string with is used.
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<u>witheditortype</u>	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.
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<u>withbookeditortype</u>	The type of withbookeditor. This field will affect the string used to introduce the editors(s) who assist the bookeditor. If unspecified, the bibliography string with is used.
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<u>withmaineditortype</u>	The type of withmaineditor. This field will affect the string used to introduce the editors(s) who assist the maineditor. If unspecified, the bibliography string with is used.
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<u>xrefstring</u>	With and @ancienttext entry this modifies the string used to introduce the entry specified in the xref field.
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### 3.4.2 Literal label fields

<u>shortmaintitle</u>	The maintitle in abridged form. This is only used by the @ancienttext entry type.
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### 3.4.3 Name list fields

<u>bookeditor</u>	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.
<u>booktranslator</u>	The behaviour of translator, booktranslator, and maintranslator is the same as for editor, bookeditor, and maineditor.
<u>mainauthor</u>	The author(s) of the maintitle.
<u>maineditor</u>	The editor(s) of the maintitle.
<u>maintranslator</u>	The translator(s) of the maintitle.
<u>preface</u>	The author(s) of the preface to the title.
<u>revdauthor</u>	The author(s) of the revdtitle.
<u>revdeditor</u>	The editor(s) of the revdtitle.
<u>withauthor</u>	The author(s) who assist the author.
<u>withbookauthor</u>	The author(s) who assist the bookauthor.
<u>withmainauthor</u>	The author(s) who assist the mainauthor.
<u>witheditor</u>	The editor(s) who assist the editor.
<u>withbookeditor</u>	The editor(s) who assist the bookeditor.
<u>withmaineditor</u>	The editor(s) who assist the maineditor.

### 3.4.4 Name parts

biblatex-sbl supports the following custom name parts:

<u>postnominal</u>	With extended name format, this can be used to specify post-nominals that should be included in the name.
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<u>shortfamily</u>	With extended name format, this can be used to specify a short family name used in subsequent citations if different from a full family name used in the first citation.
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## 3.5 Localisation strings

This section documents custom localisation strings for biblatex-sbl.

<u>article</u>	The term ‘article’, referring to an electronic article number stored in the <code>eid</code> field.
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<u>bydirector</u>	The expression ‘directed by metaname’.
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<u>bytranslatorrev</u>	The expression ‘translated and revised by $\langle name \rangle$ ’ or ‘translated from $\langle language \rangle$ and revised by $\langle name \rangle$ ’.
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<u>director</u>	The term ‘director’, referring to the director of a film.
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<u>directors</u>	The plural form of <code>director</code> .
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<u>fragment</u>	The term ‘fragment’, referring to a fragment of a manuscript.
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<u>fragments</u>	The plural form of <code>fragment</code> .
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<u>inparts</u>	The term ‘parts’ when used in an expression like ‘ $\langle number \rangle$ volumes in $\langle number \rangle$ parts’.
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<u>inseries</u>	The term ‘series’ when used in an expression like ‘ $\langle number \rangle$ volumes in $\langle number \rangle$ series’.
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<u>involumes</u>	The term ‘volumes’ when used in an expression like ‘ $\langle number \rangle$ parts in $\langle number \rangle$ volumes’.
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<u>obverse</u>	The term ‘obverse’ (the front side of a manuscript).
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<u>of</u>	The term ‘of’ when used between a volume and a title, e.g., volume 1 of <i>Title</i> .
<u>paper</u>	The term ‘paper presented at’.
<u>parts</u>	The term ‘parts’.
<u>printing</u>	The term ‘printing’.
<u>released</u>	The term ‘released’.
<u>reverse</u>	The term ‘reverse’ (the reverse side of a manuscript).
<u>subverbis</u>	The term ‘sub verbis’ (under the words), e.g., s.vv.
<u>subverbo</u>	The term ‘sub verbo’ (under the word), e.g., s.v.
<u>to</u>	The term ‘to’. Used in the @suppbook entry type between the supplementary title and the book title.
<u>with</u>	The term ‘with’ (the default type for withauthor, witheditor and withtranslator).
<u>withassistance</u>	The term ‘with assistance from’ (used with withauthor, witheditor and withtranslator).
<u>withpreface</u>	The term ‘with preface by’ (used to introduced the writer of a preface).