Referencing work by other authors in a scientific paper

In the body of your paper…
Waddington et al. (2005) presented a novel method for estimating ice-thickness and accumulation-rate histories using the depth–age scale and the layer thickness pattern from an ice core. They applied their method to data from Siple Dome ice core (WAISCORES Ice Core Data Archive Index). Paterson (1994) described the basic glaciological principles applied by Waddington et al. (2005).

- Do use the past tense when discussing published results.
- Don’t use statements like “In Waddington et al. (2005), they found that X is false because…”. Instead, use statements like “Waddington et al. (2005) showed that X is false because…”.

In your references section…

Book:

Last name of first author, first author’s initials, second author’s initials, second author’s last name, etc. (year of publication), title of book, edition number, number of pages, publisher, location of publisher.

Journal article:

Last name of first author, first author’s initials, second author’s initials, second author’s last name, etc. (year of publication), title of paper, journal name, volume(number), page numbers.

Webpage:
WAISCORES Ice Core Data Archive Index, http://nsidc.org/data/waiscores/data.html, 03/06/07.

Title of web page, URL, date accessed.

- Do organize your references alphabetically using the last name of the first author or organization, regardless of the type of reference.
- Don’t include references in this section that aren’t cited in the body of your paper.
- Don’t number your references, which shouldn’t be necessary if you’ve organized them alphabetically.