

The Chicago Manual of Style Online

11: Foreign Languages

11.30 Titles of French works

French publications vary in the way they capitalize titles of works. Chicago recommends sentence-style capitalization (see [8.156](#)), the rule followed by Grevisse, *Le bon usage* (see [11.3](#), [11.28](#)). (An exception may be made for titles of journals and periodicals, which are often capitalized headline-style; see [14.193](#).) Note that a superscripted ordinal letter should remain in the superior position, as in the last example (cf. [14.96](#)).

L'Apollon de Bellac: Pièce en un acte
L'assommoir
L'exil et le royaume
Les Rougon-Macquart
Le père Goriot
Paris au XX^e siècle

For another practice—in which the first substantive (noun or noun form) and any preceding article or modifier are capitalized—consult *French Review*, *PMLA*, or *Romanic Review* ([bibliog. 5](#)). For punctuation in titles, see [11.4](#).

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