
How To Use

APA (American Psychological Assoc.) STYLE

The following guidelines and examples for the construction of a reference list and the use of the author-date method of citation in text are taken from the 6th edition of the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (Ready Reference 808.06615 A54p 2010).

Quoting and Paraphrasing

When you quote or paraphrase an author, you must credit, or *cite*, the source in the text of your paper, and this *citation* will lead the reader to more complete information about the source in the reference list at the end of your paper. For a direct quotation, the type of information provided will vary depending on if the original document is in print or electronic form. For quotations from print sources, give the author's last name, year of publication, and page number in parentheses at the end of the quote. Quotations from electronic sources generally do not have page numbers, and so the citation should include a paragraph number with the abbreviation para. Here are some examples of how this would look in a paper (for further examples, see p. 170-173 of the APA Publication Manual):

Periodicals and books with page numbers

In comparison to other institutions, Asbury University has been identified as “an exceptional university with a high-quality library” (Smith & Jones, 2009, p. 20).

Websites and other electronic resources without page numbers

Johnson (2007) found that “Three-fourths of all students in college dormitories crave Krispy Kreme donuts on a daily basis” (para. 6).

Citing References In Text

When you are making a general reference to another source (not a direct quotation), you are only required to provide the author's name and year of publication within the text of your paper. Here are some examples of how this would look in a paper (for further examples, see p. 174-179 of the APA Publication Manual):

One Work By A Single Author

Within parentheses, you can insert the surname of the author and the year of publication:

Psychology classes at Asbury were found to be particularly enlightening (Jones, 2008).

Alternatively, if the name of the author appears as part of the narrative, you only need to

insert the year of publication in parentheses.

Jones (2008) found psychology classes at Asbury to be particularly enlightening.

Finally, you can also incorporate both the year and the name within the narrative of the text, forgoing the need for parentheses.

In 2008, Jones found psychology classes at Asbury to be particularly enlightening.

One Work By Two Or More Authors

When a work has two authors, always cite both names every time the reference occurs, using the word “and” between the names if mentioning the names in the text, and using an ampersand (&) between the names if using a parenthetical reference. For example:

...as Jones and Smith (1999) demonstrated
...the results of the study were conclusive (Jones & Smith, 1999)

When a work has more than two authors but fewer than six authors, cite all authors the first time the reference occurs.

Williams, Jones, Smith, Bradner, and Torrington (2005) found...

In subsequent citations, include only the surname of the first author followed by "et al."

Williams et al. (2005) found...

When a work has six or more authors, cite only the surname of the first author followed by “et al.”

Groups as Authors

According to the Publication Manual, “the names of groups that serve as authors are usually spelled out each time they appear in a text citation” (p. 176). However, there is an allowance to use an abbreviation after the first citation, if you supply enough information in the citation for the reader to find the source in the reference list. For example:

First text citation - (National Institute of Mental Health [NIMH], 1981)
Subsequent text citations - (NIMH, 1981)

Bible

Reference list entries are not required for the Bible, but if you cite the Bible, you do need to identify the version you used in the first citation. You do not need to include page numbers, since the Bible has a consistent numbering system across versions – reference chapter and verse.

Paul says “the greatest of these is love” (New Living Translation, 1 Cor. 13:13).

Reference List

References cited in your research paper must appear in a reference list which identifies the books, periodicals, and other materials which you have cited or consulted for your paper. These citations are arranged alphabetically by author and appear at the end of your paper.

The examples below include the most common types of materials cited in the reference lists of undergraduate student research papers. For additional details and examples, refer to pages 180-224 of the APA Publication Manual. Italics **MUST** be used for the titles of books, periodicals, or other works. Do not underline.

Periodicals (Journals, Magazines, And Newspapers)

Since many periodical articles are now accessed online, a universal system of electronic identification has been created by publishers, assigning a DOI (digital object identifier) to each article. The APA Publication Manual requires you to include the DOI in your reference list entry when it is available, although there are provisions if a DOI is not available.

General periodical format

Author, A. A., Author, B. B., & Author, C. C. (year). Title of article. *Title of Periodical*, xx, pp-pp. doi:xx.xxxxxxxxxxx

Journal article, electronic, with DOI

Frick, T., Chadha, R., Watson, C., Wang, Y., & Green, P. (2009). College student perceptions of teaching and learning quality. *Educational Technology Research and Development*, 57, 705-720. doi:10.1007/s11423-007-9079-9

Journal article, electronic, without DOI (from a library database)

For articles that are easily located, do not provide database information. If the article is difficult to locate, then you can provide database information.

Kronenberger, W., Mathews, V., Dunn, D., Yang, W., Wood, E., Giauque, A., et al. (2005). Media violence exposure and executive functioning in aggressive and control adolescents. *Journal of Clinical Psychology*, 61(6), 725-737. Retrieved from Academic Search Premier database. (Accession No. 17007703)

If the article appears as a printed version as well, the URL or database name is not required. Use "Electronic version" in brackets after the article title.

Whitmeyer, J. M. (2000). Power through appointment [Electronic version]. *Social Science Research*, 29, 535-555.

Journal article, print

Smith, J. N., Jones, A. B., & Young, I. M. (2009). Measuring fast food preferences among college students. *Food Studies*, 25, 564-569.

Magazine article, print

Zakaria, F. (2009, September 28). A return to reality. *Newsweek*, 154(13), 22.

Newspaper (online)

Goldberg, C. (2006, June 14). When faces have no name: Genetic condition has people struggle to recognize others. *The Boston Globe*. Retrieved from <http://www.boston.com>

Books

General book format:

Author, A. A. (year). *Title of work*. Location: Publisher.

One author

Bernstein, T. M. (1965). *The careful writer: A modern guide to English usage*. New York: Antheneum.

No Author or Editor

College bound seniors. (1979). Princeton, NJ: College Board Publications.

Corporate Author, Author as Publisher

American Psychiatric Association. (1994). *Diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders* (4th ed.). Washington, DC: Author.

Edited Book

Letheridge, S., & Cannon, C. R. (Eds.). (1980). *Bilingual education: Teaching English as a second language*. New York: Praeger.

Chapter in an edited book

Hartley, J. T., Harker, J. O., & Walsh, D. A. (1980). Contemporary issues and new directions in adult development of learning and memory. In L. W. Poon (Ed.), *Aging in the 1980s: Psychological issues* (pp. 239-252). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

Electronic version of a print book (available through subscription service)

Piotrowski, N. A. (2005). *Psychology basics*. Available from <http://www.netlibrary.com/AccessProduct.aspx?ProductId=140683>

Electronic version of a print book (available through Google Books)

Dewey, J. (1922). *Human nature and conduct: An introduction to social psychology*. Retrieved from <http://books.google.com>

ERIC Document

Koretz, D. M. and McCaffrey, D. F. (2005). *Using IRT DIF methods to evaluate the validity of score gains*. Retrieved from ERIC database. (ED488734)

Web Pages

For web pages found on the Internet, it is important to list the date that the web page was published (using n.d. if no date can be found). Also, include the complete URL for the web page.

Author, A. A., & Author, B. B. (Date of publication). *Title of document*. Retrieved from <http://webaddress.domain.edu/document.html>

Heuristic. (n.d.). In *Merriam-Webster's online dictionary* (11th ed.). Retrieved from <http://www.m-w.com/dictionary/heuristic>

Are students are losing their religion on campus? (2005, December 6). Retrieved from <http://abcnews.go.com/GMA/story?id=1375842&page=1>

New child vaccine gets funding boost. (2001). Retrieved from http://news.ninemsn.com.au/health/story_13178.asp

Stand-alone document, no author identified, no date or with date

GVU's 8th WWW user survey. (n.d.). Retrieved August 8, 2000, from <http://www.cc.gatech.edu/gvu/usersurveys/survey1997-10/>

New child vaccine gets funding boost. (2001). Retrieved March 21, 2001, from http://news.ninemsn.com.au/health/story_13178.asp

If the author of a document is not identified, begin the reference with the title of the document.

Document available on university program or department Web site

Chou, L., McClintock, R., Moretti, F., & Nix, D. H. (1993). *Technology and education: New wine in new bottles: Choosing pasts and imagining educational futures*. Retrieved from Columbia University, Institute for Learning Technologies Web site: <http://www.ilt.columbia.edu/publications/papers/newwine1.html>

If a document is contained within a large and complex Web site (such as that for a university or a government agency), identify the host organization and the relevant program or department before giving the URL for the document itself. Precede the URL with a colon.

Article in an Internet-only journal

Sillick, T. J., & Schutte, N. S. (2006). Emotional intelligence and self-esteem mediate between perceived early parental love and adult happiness. *E-Journal of Applied Psychology*, 2(2), 38-48. Retrieved from <http://ojs.lib.swin.edu.au/index.php/ejap>

Glueckauf, R. L., Whitton, J., Baxter, J., Kain, J., Vogelgesang, S., Hudson, M., et al. (1998, July). Videocounseling for families of rural teens with epilepsy -- Project update. *Telehealth News*, 2(2). Retrieved from <http://www.telehealth.net/subscribe/newslett4a.html>

Fredrickson, B. L. (2000, March 7). Cultivating positive emotions to optimize health and well-being. *Prevention & Treatment*, 3, Article 0001a. doi:10.1037/1522-3736.3.1.31a

Online scholarly journal articles without a DOI require a URL.

Author, A. A., & Author, B. B. (Date of publication). Title of article. *Title of Journal*, volume number. Retrieved from <http://www.someaddress.com/full/url/>

Kenneth, I. A. (2000). A Buddhist response to the nature of human rights. *Journal of Buddhist Ethics*, 8. Retrieved from <http://www.cac.psu.edu/jbe/twocont.html>

- Use the complete publication date given on the article.
- Note that most of the time there are no page numbers.
- In an Internet periodical, volume and issue numbers often are not relevant. If they are not used, the name of the periodical is all that can be provided in the reference.
- Break a URL that goes to another line after a slash or before a period. Do not insert (or allow your word-processing program to insert) a hyphen at the break. Do not insert a period at the end of the url.

Non-Print Media

Film (Motion Picture)

Producer, P. P. (Producer), & Director, D. D. (Director). (Date of publication). *Title of motion picture* [Motion picture]. Country of origin: Studio or distributor.

Maas, J. B. (Producer), & Gluck, D. H. (Director). (1979). *Deeper into hypnosis* [Film]. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall.

Television Broadcast (Single Episode)

Writer, W. W. (Writer), & Director, D. D. (Director). (Date of publication). Title of episode [Television series episode]. In P. Producer (Producer), *Series title*. City of origin: Studio or distributor.

Wendy, S. W. (Writer), & Martian, I. R. (Director). (1986). The rising angel and the falling ape [Television series episode]. In D. Dude (Producer), *Creatures and monsters*. Los Angeles, CA: Belarus Studios.

Important, I. M. (Producer). (1990, November 1). *The nightly news hour* [Television broadcast]. New York, NY: Central Broadcasting Service.

Audio Recording

Songwriter, W. W. (Date of copyright). Title of song [Recorded by artist if different from song writer]. On *Title of album* [Medium of recording]. Location: Label. (Recording date if different from copyright date).

Taupin, B. (1975). Someone saved my life tonight [Recorded by Elton John]. On *Captain fantastic and the brown dirt cowboy* [CD]. London, England: Big Pig Music Limited.

Computer Program

Do not cite standard office software (e.g. Word, Excel) or programming languages. Provide references only for specialized software.

Ludwig, T. (2002). PsychInquiry [computer software]. New York: Worth.

Software that is downloaded from a Web site should provide the software's version and year when available.

Hayes, B., Tesar, B., & Zuraw, K. (2003). OTSoft: Optimality Theory Software (Version 2.1) [Software]. Available from <http://www.linguistics.ucla.edu/people/hayes/otsoft/>

Reviews

Review of a Book

Carmody, T. P. (1982). A new look at medicine from the social perspective [Review of the book *Social contexts of health, illness, and patient care*]. *Contemporary Psychology*, 27, 208-209.

Rosen, D. (2010). [Review of *Living with eating disorders* by S. E. Cooperman & S. D. Gilbert]. *Eating Disorders: The Journal of Treatment & Prevention*, 18(2), 178-179. doi:10.1080/10640260903585664.

Zacharek, S. (2008, April 27). Natural women [Review of the book *Girls like us*]. *The New York Times*. Retrieved from <http://www.nytimes.com/2008/04/27/books/review/Zachareck-t.html?pagewanted=2>

Review of a Film

Bowers, K. S. (1982). Deeper into "Deeper into hypnosis" [Review of *Deeper into hypnosis*]. *Contemporary Psychology*, 27, 223-224.

Axelman, M., & Shapiro, J. (2007). Does the solution warrant the problem? [Review of the DVD *Brief therapy with adolescents*, produced by the American Psychological Association, 2007]. *PsycCRITIQUES*, 52(51), doi:10.1037/a0009036

Interviews, Email And Other Personal Communication

No personal communication is included in your reference list; instead, parenthetically cite the communicator's name, the fact that it was personal communication, and the date of the communication in your main text only.

(E. Robbins, personal communication, January 4, 2001).

P. Smith also claimed that many of her students had difficulties with APA style (personal communication, November 3, 2002).

Published Interview, Untitled Work

Newman, P. (1982, January). [Interview with William Epstein, editor of JEP: Human Perception and Performance]. *APA Monitor*, pp. 7, 39.

Legal Materials

When citing legal articles in APA format, do not footnote but locate all such references in the reference list. For additional examples of references to court cases and statutes, see the APA Publication Manual, pp. 397-410.

U.S. Supreme Court Case (Citation to the United States Reports)

O'Connor v. Donaldson, 422 U.S. 563 (1975).

The examples in this STUDY GUIDE are based on the **sixth edition** of the *American Psychological Association's Publication Manual*. The APA format is only one of many formats available to writers. If you need another format or writers' manual, please consult with a Reference Librarian if you require additional assistance.

Go to: <http://www.asbury.edu/offices/library/services/style-guides> for more citation formats.

For more information, visit: <http://asbury.libguides.com/apaguide>

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