

APA CITATION STYLE (American Psychological Association)

NOTE: Examples here are single-spaced to keep this handout brief, but *your* reference list citations must be double-spaced when you do your paper!

This handout is not intended to be a full explanation of APA style. The content is excerpted or paraphrased from the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, fifth edition, or the APA website: <http://www.apastyle.org/>. Situations not addressed in this handout may be looked up in this book, which is *much* more detailed.

General Tips:

1. Double-space your reference list, and use a **hanging indentation** format (as shown in the examples below).
2. The entries should be **arranged alphabetically** in order by the last name of the first author.
3. Use **last names and initials** for authors (see below for handling various numbers of authors).
4. The publication date for published works is the **copyright date**.
5. Personal communications that cannot be accessed by others, such as **personal e-mails or interviews**, should not be included in your reference list. You should make reference to such items in your in-text citations. (For more information, see page 214 of the *Publication Manual*.)
6. When you have **more than one work by an author**, order the entries by publication date, from the oldest to the newest.
7. Use “&” instead of the word “and” when there is more than one author.
8. **Book titles** are italicized and are capitalized in “sentence style.” Capitalize only the first letter of the first word of the title and any subtitle that may appear after a colon. Example: *Family mediation: Facts, myths, and future prospects*. **Book chapters** are also capitalized in sentence style but are not italicized.
9. **Journal titles** should be italicized. All important words should be capitalized, e.g., *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*. Capitalize **article titles** in sentence style as explained in number 8 above. Italics and quotation marks are not used in **article titles**, e.g., *Husbands at home: Predictors of paternal participation in childcare and housework*.
10. **Proper nouns** that are always capitalized should also be capitalized in the reference list, e.g., person’s names, location names, names of months, brand names, etc.

11. Include the city and state of publication for a book except for a small group of cities well-known for publishing which do not require a state: Baltimore, Boston, Chicago, Los Angeles, New York, Philadelphia, and San Francisco.

BOOKS

Book by a Single Author

Eysenck, M.W. (1976). *Human memory: Theory, research, and individual differences*. Elmsford, NY: Pergamon Press.

Book by Two Authors

Burns, A., & Levy, R. (1992). *Clinical diversity in late onset Alzheimer's disease*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Book by Three to Six Authors

Coates, J. F., Mahaffie, J. B., Hines, A., & Contes, J. F. (1996). *2025: Scenarios of U. S. and global society reshaped by science and technology*. Akron, OH: Oakhill Press.

Book by Seven or More Authors

Wimple, P.B., Van Wijk, M., Potts, C.A., Hayes, J., Obergau, W.R., Zimmer, S., et al. (2001). *Case studies in moral decision making among adolescents*. San Francisco: Jossy-Bass.

Book in More than One Edition

Mitchell, T.R., & Larson, J.R., Jr. (1987). *People in organizations: An introduction to organizational behavior* (3rd ed.). New York: McGraw-Hill.

Book by a Group or Corporate Author

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

Note: When the author and publisher are the same, use the word "Author" as the name of the publisher.

Book, Edited

Bailey, R. (Ed.). (1995). *The true state of the planet*. New York: The Free Press.

Norris, S., & Stevenson, B. (Eds.). (1998). *Ecology for a strong earth*. New York: Longman.

Book, Edited, Article or Chapter

Baker, F.M., & Lightfoot, O.B. (1993). Psychiatric care of ethnic elders. In A.C. Gaw (Ed.), *Culture, ethnicity, and mental illness* (pp. 517-552). Washington, DC: American Psychiatric Press.

Brochure by a Corporate Author

Research and Training Center on Independent Living. (1993). *Guidelines for reporting and writing about people with disabilities* (4th ed.) [Brochure]. Lawrence, KS: Author.

Encyclopedia or Dictionary

Sadie, S. (Ed.). (1980). *The new Grove dictionary of music and musicians* (6th ed., Vols. 1-20). London: Macmillan.

Note: For reference works with a large editorial board, list the name of the lead editor, followed by "et al."

Encyclopedia, Individual Entry

Imago. (2000). In *World Book Encyclopedia* (Vol. 10, p. 79). Chicago: World Book Encyclopedia.

PERIODICALS (Journals, Magazines, Newspapers)

Note about PAGINATION: Periodical numbering systems vary, but a **particularly important distinction in writing APA citations is page numbering (pagination)**. A *volume* usually consists of a number of *issues*. For example, many publications publish a new issue monthly and have one volume number that runs the whole year. The numbering system may start over with page 1 in each issue, or it may continue throughout the issues of the volume. The latter method is called "**continuous pagination.**" For example, the January issue includes pages 1-62, and the February issue starts with page 63. It is not necessary to include the issue number for periodicals that are continuously paginated since each volume will have each page number only once. However, if the page numbers start over with page 1 for each issue of the volume, the issue number *does* need to be included in parentheses after the volume number. The volume number is in italics, but the parentheses and issue number are *not* italicized, e.g., *45*(2).

Journal Article, One Author, Continuous Pagination (see the note above)

Harlow, H.F. (1983). Fundamentals of preparing psychology journal articles. *Journal of Comparative and Physiological Psychology*, *55*, 893-896.

Note: The "55" is the volume number.

Journal Article, Two Authors, Non-Continuous Pagination (see the note above)

Climoski, R., & Palmer, S. (1993). The ADA and the hiring process in organizations. *Consulting Psychology Journal: Practice and Research*, *45*(2), 10-36.

Note: The volume number is 45 (italicized), and the issue number is 2 (not italicized).

Journal Article, Three to Six Authors, Continuous Pagination

Saywitz, K.J., Mannarino, A.P., Berliner, L., & Cohen, J.A. (2000). Treatment for sexually abused children and adolescents. *American Psychologist*, 55, 1040-1049.

Journal Article, More than Six Authors, Non-Continuous Pagination

Harris, M., Karper, E., Stacks, G., Hoffman, D., DeNiro, R., Cruz, P., et al. (2001). Writing labs and the Hollywood connection. *Journal of Film and Writing*, 44(3), 213-245.

Monthly or Weekly Magazine, Continuous Pagination

Posner, M.I. (1993, October 29). Seeing the mind. *Science*, 262, 673-674.

Newspaper Article–Signed

James, T. (1993, July 19). Deaths linked to new potent grade of heroin. *The New York Times*, pp. B5, B7-B8.

Note: Include section letters and page numbers for newspapers. Precede page numbers with “p.” or “pp.” If the article is printed on pages that are not continuous, list all the pages. Separate the numbers with a comma.

Newspaper Article–Unsigned

New drug appears to sharply cut risk of death from heart failure. (1993, July 15). *The Washington Post*, p. A12.

ELECTRONIC SOURCES

The necessity to cite online documents is new, and very little standardization exists at this point. This evolving situation makes citing electronic forms more challenging, and APA does not provide many examples. The *Manual of Publication* states: “At a minimum, a reference of an Internet source should provide a **document title or description**, a **date** (either the date of publication or update or the date of retrieval), and an **address** (in Internet terms, a uniform source locator, or URL). Whenever possible, identify the **authors** of a document as well.” (American Psychological Association [APA], 2001).

Article Found in Online Database

(Examples: The AC Library Network’s online databases such as Academic Search Premier, Student Resource Center, Psychology and Behavioral Sciences Collection, and netLibrary are in this category.)

If the item was published first in print (hard copy), the original print publication information is included before the electronic database information. If given, volume numbers should be in

italics, and issue numbers should be in parentheses and *not* italicized. *Page numbers should be included if given in the electronic document.* Articles available in PDF format (e.g., retrieved via Adobe Reader) are scanned into the databases and will have accurate page numbers because the document appears exactly as it did in the original publication. However, most articles will not have page numbers that correspond to those in the original print publication. Readers can retrieve the article in the database and find the quote by using the “find” function in the browser. Do not put a period after the URL that appears at the end of an entry related to a web page.

No page numbers showing on the electronic document.

Mardesich, J. (1999, October 25). Online music stocks: Expect plenty of static ahead. *Fortune*, 140. Retrieved April 13, 2000, from Academic Search Premier database.

Meadows, M. (2001, March). The power of Accutane. *FDA Consumer*, 35. Retrieved January 9, 2002, from Student Resource Center database.

Thomson, R., & Murachver, T. (2001). Predicting gender from electronic discourse. *British Journal of Social Psychology*, 40. Retrieved April 24, 2002, from the Psychology and Behavioral Sciences Collection database.

Page numbers showing on the electronic document.

Borman, W.C., Hanson, M.A., Oppler, S.H., Pulakos, E.D., & White, L.A. (1993). Role of early supervisory experience in supervisor performance. *Journal of Applied Psychology*, 78, 443-449. Retrieved October 23, 2000, from PsycARTICLES database.

netLibrary e-books Database

McCandless, David Foley. (1997). *Gender And Performance In Shakespeare's Problem Comedies*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press. Retrieved October 20, 2000, from netLibrary database.

Web Page

Daly, B. (1997). Writing argumentative essays. Retrieved May 12, 1998, from <http://www.eslplanet.com/teachertools/argueweb/frntpage.html>

Note: When you need to divide an electronic address from one line to the next, break only after a slash or before a period.

Web Document

Jacobson, J.W., Mulick, J.A., & Schwartz, A.A. (1995). A history of facilitated communication: Science, pseudoscience, and antiscience. *American Psychologist*, 50, 750-765. Retrieved January 25, 2000, from <http://www.apa.org/journals/jacobson.html>

Sleek, S. (1996, January). Psychologists build a culture of peace. *APA Monitor*, pp. 1, 33.
Retrieved January 25, 1999, from <http://www.apa.org/monitor/peacea.html>

Web Document without an Author

Social constructionism and MOOs (2001, May 1). Retrieved August 6, 2001, from
http://sites.unc.edu/-daniel/social_constructionism/

Web Document with no Author and No Date (shown as n.d.)

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

Web Document from a University or Government Agency Web Site

McConnell, L.M. (2001, August 17). Genetic testing and Alzheimer's disease: Has the time come? Retrieved September 1, 2001, from Stanford University, Project in Genomics, Ethics, and Society Web site: <http://scbe.Stanford.edu/pges>

Journal Article in an Online Journal

Wissink, J.A. (2000). Techniques of smoking cessation among teens and adults. *Adolescent Medicine*, 2. Retrieved August 16, 2001, from <http://222.easu.edu/AdolescnetMedince/2-Wissink.html>

Article in an Online Newspaper

Pear, R. (2001, January 23). Gains reported for children of welfare to work families. *The New York Times on the Web*. Retrieved January 23, 2001, from
<http://www.nytimes.com/2001/01/23/national/23/WELF.html>

REFERENCE CITATIONS IN TEXT

One Work by One Author

“Smith (2000) discussed his findings. . .”

“In discussing his findings (Smith, 2000), . . .”

One Work, Two to Five Authors

First mention: “Wasserstein, Zappula, Rosen, Gerstman, and Rock (1994) found . . .”

Subsequent mentions:

“Wasserstein et al. (1994) found . . .” (Use as subsequent first citation per paragraph thereafter.)

“Wasserstein et al. found . . .” (Omit year from subsequent citations after first citation within a paragraph.)

One Work, Six or More Authors

Cite the first author's surname, followed by *et al.* (not italicized and with a period after "al") and the year for the first and later citations.

"Smith *et al.* (2002) found . . ."

Groups as Authors

"The names of group authors are normally spelled out every time they are included in a text citation (e.g., corporations, associations, government agencies, and study groups).

Some group authors (e.g., associations, government agencies) who are readily identifiable by an abbreviation are spelled out in the first citation and abbreviated thereafter" APA, 2001). Give sufficient information in the text citation so that readers can identify the entry in the reference list.

Examples:

First text citation (author readily identified by abbreviation): (National Institute of Mental Health [NIMH], 1999)

Subsequent text citations: (NIMH, 1999)

Others not readily identifiable by an abbreviation should be written out in full each time:
(Amarillo College, 2003)

Works with No Author

The first few words of the reference entry (usually the title) and the year should be cited in the text. Use double quotation marks around the title of an article or chapter. Italicize the title of a periodical, book, brochure, or report.

Example:

on free care ("Senate sources confirm" 1982)

the book *College Bound Seniors* (1979)

Anonymous

When an author is designated as "Anonymous," cite in text the word *Anonymous* followed by a comma and the date: (Anonymous, 1998)

Excerpted from the www.apa.org website:

"Citations in Text of Electronic Material"

"To cite a specific part of a source, indicate the page, chapter, figure, table, or equation at the appropriate point in text. Always give page numbers for quotations (see section 3.34). Note that the words *page* and *chapter* are abbreviated in such text citations:

(Cheek & Buss, 1981, p. 332)
(Shimamura, 1989, chap. 3)

“For electronic sources that do not provide page numbers, use the paragraph number, if available, preceded by the paragraph symbol or the abbreviation para. If neither paragraph nor page numbers are visible, cite the heading and the number of the paragraph following it to direct the reader to the location of the material (see section 3.39).

(Myers, 2000, ¶ 5)
(Beutler, 2000, Conclusion section, para. 1)” (American Psychological Association, 2003).

Reference List

The American Psychological Association. (2001). *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (5th ed.) Washington, DC: Author.

The American Psychological Association. (2003). *Electronic References*. Retrieved 26 March 2004 from APA Online: <http://www.apastyle.org/elecref.html>