Documenting Sources in APA Style

This guide provides frequently cited sources using the American Psychological Association (APA) citation style. The following examples are based on the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 6th edition. (REF BF76.7 .P83 2010) The numbers in brackets [ ] refer to the appropriate chapters in the manual. Please consult the manual directly for items not referenced in this guide.

I. CITING REFERENCES IN TEXT [6.03, 6.11-6.21]

References in the text of your paper briefly identify sources and enable readers to locate them in the reference list. Provide at least the author’s last name and the date of publication, enclosed in parentheses: (Smith, 2006). Although it is not required, for direct quotations and some paraphrases, APA encourages you to provide the page number(s) as well: (Smith, 2006, p.9).

• One Work by Multiple Authors When a work has two authors, cite both names every time the reference occurs in the text.
When a work has three, four, or five authors, cite all authors the first time the reference occurs; in subsequent citations, include only the surname of the first author followed by et al. and the year:

\[\text{First in-text citation} \]
Kisangau, Lyaruu, Hosea, and Joseph (2007) found

\[\text{Subsequent citations} \]
Kisangau et al. (2007) found

• Works With No Identified Author When a work has no author, cite in text the first few words of the reference list entry (usually the title) and the year. Use double quotation marks around the title of an article, a chapter, or a web page and italicize the title of a periodical, a book, a brochure, or a report:

on free care ("Study finds," 2007)

the book College Bound Seniors (2008)
II. REFERENCE LIST [6.22-6.32]
The reference list provides the information necessary for a reader to locate and retrieve any source you cite in the body of your paper. It should appear at the end of your paper and begin on a new page separate from the text of the paper under the label References (with no quotation marks, underlining, etc.), centered at the top of the page.

Double-space all reference entries. Indent all lines after the first line of each entry. Alphabetize your reference list by the authors’ last names. If you have more than one work by the same author, arrange them by publication date, oldest to newest. If no author is given for a particular source, alphabetize by the title of the work.

Basic Rules

- AUTHOR [6.27]
  Invert the author’s name. Begin with last name, followed by a comma, then by first and middle initials (if any). Example – Calfee, R. C.

- PUBLICATION DATE [6.28]
  For books, enclose the year the work was published in parentheses. Close with a period. Example – (2006).
  For magazines, journals, and newspapers, give the year and the exact date of the publication. Close with a period. Example – (2008, June 16).
  If no date is available, write n.d. in parentheses. Close with a period. Example – (n.d.).

- TITLE [6.29]
  Italicize the title. For books, capitalize only the first word of the title and of the subtitle (if any), and proper nouns. Close with a period. Example – Giants of the frost.
  For the titles of magazines, journals, or newspapers, give the title in full, in upper and lower case letters. Example – Social Science Quarterly

- PUBLICATION INFORMATION [6.30]
  o Periodicals – Journals, magazines, newspapers
    Give the volume number after the publication title; italicize it. Do not use Vol. before the number. Include the journal issue number (if available) along with the volume number. Give the issue number in parentheses immediately after the volume number; do not italicize it. Give inclusive page numbers on which the cited material appears. Close with a period. Example – 27(5), 26-30.
  o Nonperiodicals – Books and reports
    Give the location (city and state or, if outside of the United States, city and country) where the publisher is located. This information is noted on the title page for books; reports; brochures; and other separate, nonperiodical publications. Use the official two-letter Postal Service abbreviations for the names of U.S. states and territories. To cite locations outside of the United States, spell out the city and country names. Use a colon after the location. Give the name of the publisher in as brief a form as is intelligible (omit superfluous terms, such as Publishers, Co., Inc., and retain the words Books and Press). Close with a period. Example – New York, NY: Palgrave Macmillan.
• **ONLINE SOURCES AND LOCATOR INFORMATION** [6.31-6.32]
  o Access to online content is ever changing, which is why APA recommends using digital object identifiers (DOIs) instead of uniform resource locators (URLs) to cite information from electronic resources. DOIs provide long-lasting links to content obtained online. In simplest terms, a DOI is a unique article identifier. Most publishers of scholarly journals provide articles with a DOI.
  o If no DOI has been assigned to an article, provide the home page URL of the journal or of the book or report publisher. Transcribe the URL correctly by copying it directly from the address window in your browser and pasting it into your working document.
  o In general, it is NOT necessary to include library database information, such as the vendor’s or aggregator’s name (EBSCO, Gale, etc.) or the name of the database. Many online databases provide DOIs for articles, so be sure to carefully review the article’s full record description.
  o Use this format for the DOI in references (do not capitalize): doi:xxxxxxxx
  o Do not put a period at the end of a DOI or URL.

**BASIC FORMAT FOR BOOKS** [7.02]

Author, A. A. (Year of publication). *Title of work: Capital letter also for subtitle*. Location: Publisher.

**BOOK – Single Author**


**BOOK – Two Authors** (with edition other than first)

- Use an ampersand [&] instead of “and.”


**BOOK – Three to Seven Authors**

- List all authors by last names and initials; commas separate author names, while the last author name is preceded again by an ampersand.
- More than seven authors - consult the manual.
EDITED BOOK – No Author


BOOK – No Author

- In a reference to a work with no author, move the title to the author position, before the date of publication. A period follows the title.


Honolulu, HI: Palama Settlement.

Chapter from a Book

Author, A. A. (Year). Title of chapter or entry. In A. Editor (Ed.), *Title of book* (pp. xx-xx).

Location: Publisher.


Encyclopedia or Reference Book Entry


[This example has two publishers.]
E-BOOK: Electronic Version of a Print Book (ebrary, NetLibrary, etc.)


BASIC FORMAT FOR PRINT PERIODICAL ARTICLES –  [7.01]

Magazines, Journals, and Newspapers


Magazine Articles in Print


Magazine Articles Online


Scholarly Journal Articles in Print


Scholarly Journal Articles, Online with DOI Assigned


doi:10.1016/j.soscij.2008.03.001


Scholarly Journal Articles, Online with No DOI Assigned


Newspaper Articles in Print


Newspaper Articles, Online


Technical and Research Reports (government/corporate authors), Online [7.03]

- If the issuing organization assigned a number to the report, give that number in parentheses immediately after the title.
- For reports retrieved online, identify the publisher as part of the retrieval statement unless the publisher has been identified as the author: Retrieved from Agency Name website: http://www.xxxxxxx


OTHER HELPFUL RESOURCES

HCC Librarians recommend Purdue University’s Online Writing Lab (OWL) for additional guidance and examples with APA citation style:

http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/

APA Style Web Site

http://www.apastyle.org/