

## APA Style

When you write a paper, you will routinely refer to, draw upon, or quote other people's work. When you do so, you must identify the source. APA (American Psychological Association) style is the most commonly used style in the social sciences. The following guidelines are based on the sixth edition of the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, a copy of which is kept at the Reference Desk.

This handout has two parts: how to do the **CITATIONS** within your paper, and how to do the **REFERENCES** at the end of your paper. APA style requires double spacing; however, single spacing is used in this guide in order to save space.

The *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* includes many more examples. Always consult this essential manual when the reference you are working on does not match any of the examples in this booklet. Go to <http://blog.apastyle.org/> for more information on citing sources.

## Citations

When you use information from an author – either a quote or using your own words to describe what the author says, you must credit the source. Citing the works you use briefly identifies the sources for readers, documents your own work, and enables readers to locate the source of information in the alphabetical reference list at the end of your paper.

APA style uses the author-date method of citation: that is, the author's surname (last name) and the year of publication are inserted in your text at the appropriate point. If citing a specific source section, include the page, paragraph, or chapter used.

### **When Using Information From an Author – NOT a Direct Quote:**

#### **Author's Name in Text**

If the author's name is used in your sentence the citation includes only the year of publication entered after the author's name.

Example: Gibson (1987) identified another type, the unretired-retired, who are those persons over age 55 who are not working, but do not call themselves retired.

#### **Author's Name Not in Text:**

If the author's name is not used in the sentence then include both name and date at the end of the sentence.

Example: For many, they may describe their status as “disabled” instead of “retired” (Gibson, 1987).

### **Works by Two or More Authors:**

When a work has **two authors**, always cite both names; but if there are **three to five authors**, cite them all the first time with the year, in the second citation from the same source identify the first author's surname (last name) followed by "et al" and the year, and in all other citations to the same source, eliminate the year. When a work has **six or more authors**, cite only the surname of the first author followed by "et al" and the year for the first and subsequent citations.

Examples:

#### **Two Authors:**

The same subjects were retested after 11 years by a different team of investigators (Granick & Patterson, 1971).  
Granick and Patterson (1971) retested the subject after 11 years and discovered interesting results.

#### **3 to 5 Authors:**

First time cited - Hughie, Dewey, and Louis (1987) found webbed feet improved swimming stamina.  
Second time cited - Hughie et al. (1987) also studied surface diving capability with webbed feet.  
Third or more times cited - Hughie et al. concluded that webbed feet were a benefit in water activity.

#### **6 or More Authors:**

McCarthy et al. (2001) studied the roots of 1960s music, tracing its style origins back to the early part of the century.

**Works Listed by Title (No Author):**

When there is no known author use the first few words of the work's reference list entry – usually the title. A journal title is surrounded by quotes, a book is not.

*Example - Journal:* A new study shows that reminders of death increase the need for psychological security in turn increasing the appeal of leaders who emphasize the greatness of the nation and a heroic victory over evil (“Social Psychologists Study,” 2004). *Example – Book:* Increasingly, each younger generation is segmented by marketers to better target their audience (Handbook of Marketing, 2005).

**Electronic Sources (Websites, etc.):**

Specific electronic documents are cited in the same author/date format as shown above for other types of documents. If page numbers are not present use paragraph, chapter, figure, table, etc., numbers. Such details simply have to be omitted if they don't exist.

*Two Examples:*

Insulin also has profound effects on the transcription of numerous genes, effects that are primarily mediated by regulated function of sterol-regulated element binding protein, SREBP (King, 2005, p. 13).

The Fed's original job was to organize, standardize and stabilize the monetary system in the United States. It had to set up a method that could create "liquidity" in the money supply -- in other words, make sure banks could honor withdrawals for customers (Obringer).

**Citing a Website (No Author, No Date):**

When you cite a website, simply include the website's title and indicate n.d. (for no date). For long website titles, just use the first few words.

*Example:* The “Original Pizza Hut” is presently located on the Wichita State University Main Campus and the name “Pizza Hut” was chosen because the existing building's sign only had space for nine characters (“Original Pizza Hut Building,” n.d.).

**When Using a Direct Quotation:**

When you quote an author's work, the page number is added to the author and date information.

In a **short quote** where the **author is not named** in your sentence, put author, date, and page in parentheses at the end of the quote.

*Example:* A recent study defined attachment behavior as "any form of behavior that results in a person attaining or retaining proximity to some preferred individual" (Livesley et al., 1990, p. 132) but did not define proximity.

In a **short quote** where the **author is named** in your sentence, put the date in parentheses after the name, and the page in parentheses after the quote.

*Example:* Livesley et al. (1990) defined attachment behavior as "any form of behavior that results in a person attaining or retaining proximity to some preferred individual" (p. 132) but did not define proximity.

In a **long quote of 40 or more words** the same principle applies but the quote is treated as a free-standing, indented block quotation and is double-spaced.

*Two Examples:*

Since leisure is no longer defined in contrast to work, it is no longer the opposite of a positive value; there is no longer a struggle between leisure and work, but rather a coexistence. (Neulinger, 1976b, p. 17)

Livesley et al. (1990) note that attachment behavior typically refers to:

Any form of behavior that results in a person attaining or retaining proximity to some preferred individual, who is usually conceived as stronger and/or wiser. Dependency behaviors, in contrast, are not directed toward a specific individual nor are they concerned with promoting the feelings of security that arise from proximity to attachment figures. Instead, they are more generalized behaviors designed to elicit assistance, guidance and approval [from others]. (p. 132)

# **Reference List**

The reference list, which is sometimes called "Works Cited" or, simply, "References," comes at the end of your paper. It documents the paper and provides information necessary to identify and retrieve the source. There must not be anything in your reference list that was not cited in your paper—the reference list is **not** a bibliography or general reading list. Likewise, every citation must have a reference. Remember to:

Double-space; use hanging indentation (indent each line after the first in each record);  
alphabetize the list by the first word (either author or title, depending on the individual item); and  
italicize book and periodical titles and the volume number of periodicals.

## **Print Books:**

The general form for books and other non-periodicals is:

Author, A. A. (date). *Title of book*. Location: Publisher.

### **Book with One Author, Jr. in Name, & Edition Number**

Phillips, J. L., Jr. (1988). *How to think about statistics* (3rd ed.). New York, NY: W. H. Freeman.

### **Book with 2 or More Authors**

Weygandt, J. J., Kieso, D. E., & Kimmel, P. D. (2003). *Financial accounting*. (4th ed.). New York, NY: John Wiley & Sons.

### **Edited Book**

Goldstein, G., & Hersen, M. (Eds.). (1984). *Handbook of psychological assessment*. New York, NY: Pergamon Press.

### **Book Where Organization, Association, or Group is both Author & Publisher**

American Psychiatric Association. (1987). *Diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders: DSM-III-R* (3rd ed., rev.). Washington, DC: Author.

### **Article or Chapter in an Edited Book, Two Editors**

Fivush, R. (1993). Developmental perspectives on autobiographical recall. In G. S. Goodman & B. L. Bottoms (Eds.), *Child victims, child witnesses* (pp. 1-24). New York, NY: Guilford.

### **Encyclopedia Article**

Turner, R. H., & Killian, L. M. (1987). Collective behavior. In *The new encyclopedia Britannica* (Vol. 16, pp. 607-618). Chicago, IL: Encyclopedia Britannica.

## **Print Periodical Articles (Magazines, Newspapers, Journals & Newswires - Printed):**

The general form for periodical articles is: Author, X. X., Author, Y. Y., & Author, Z. Z. (date). Title of article. *Title of Periodical*, volume (issue), #-#. The issue number is only needed when the journal is paged by issue rather than continuously through the volume. If a Digital Object Identifier (DOI) is assigned to the article you are citing, include it in the citation. The DOI is often located on the first page of a journal article or can be found on [www.crossref.org](http://www.crossref.org) by doing a "Metadata Search." If the DOI is not available, it is not included in the citation.

### **Newspaper Article, No DOI**

Findings on AIDS babies. (1995, May 9). *The New York Times*, p. C3.

Blakeslee, S. (1995, May 16). The mystery of music: How it works in the brain. *The New York Times*, pp. C1, C10.

### **Magazine Article, No DOI**

Cohen, J. (1995, April 7). Genes and behavior make an appearance in the O. J. trial. *Science*, 268, 22-23.

### **Article from Journal with Continuous Pagination with a DOI**

Ratcliff, R. (1993). Methods for dealing with reaction time outliers. *Psychological Bulletin*, 114, 510-532.  
doi:10.1037/0033-2909.114.3.510

### **Article from Journal with Issues Paged Separately & with Two Authors, No DOI**

Wasserman, I. M., & Reeves, J. L. (1994). Suicide and the media. *Journal of Communication*, 44(2), 64-83.

### **Electronic Publications (Online Books, Online Periodicals, and Websites):**

Standards for referencing electronic media are evolving, just as are the media themselves. A general principle is to include all the information required for a print source and then add uniquely electronic details, such as a Digital Object Identifier (DOI), if available, or URL (internet address). There may not be page numbers, so it is important to include the exact date and issue number of the article.

**A Digital Object Identifier is a number that corresponds to the article. DOI can be accessed via library databases or [www.crossref.org](http://www.crossref.org). If a Digital Object Identifier is unavailable, articles from a library database should list the URL. Articles without a DOI directly from a publisher's website or other website should list the URL.**

### **From an Online Library Database:**

#### **Article from a Magazine, Newspaper or Newswire in a Library Database, No DOI**

Sidel, R., & Pacelle, M. (2005, June 23). Credit-card breach tests banking industry's defenses. *The Wall Street Journal*. Retrieved from <http://search.proquest.com/docview/398929913?accountid=29096>

#### **Article from a Journal in a Library Database with a DOI**

Lujic, C., Reuter, M., & Netter, P. (2005). Psychobiological theories of smoking and smoking motivation. *European Psychologist*, 10(3), 1-24. doi:10.1027/1016-9040.10.1.1.

#### **Electronic Book from a Library Database, No DOI**

Bragg, S. M. (2013). *Accounting best practices* (7th ed.). Somerset, NJ: John Wiley & Sons Inc. Retrieved from <http://site.ebrary.com/lib/oldwestbury/Doc?id=10661505>

#### **Book Chapter or Encyclopedia Section in a Library Database, No DOI**

Ihinger-Tallman, M., & Henderson, D. A. (2003). Marriage ceremonies. In J. J. Ponzetti, (Ed.), *International encyclopedia of marriage and family*, (2nd ed., Vol. 3, pp. 1091-1094). Retrieved from <http://go.galegroup.com/ps/i.do?id=GALE%7CCX3406900287&v=2.1&u=oldwestbury&it=r&p=GVRL&sw=w&asid=7d5b2fe55b1b641e018217d28606a07e>

### **From a Website:**

#### **Article from an Online Journal with a DOI**

Torgesen, J. K. (2002). The prevention of reading difficulties. *Journal of school psychology*, 40, 7-26. doi:10.1016/S0022-4405(01)00092-9

#### **Article from an Online Newspaper, No DOI**

Ramzy, A., & Wong, A. (2014, September 29). Hong Kong protestors defy officials' call to disperse. *The New York Times*. Retrieved from [http://www.nytimes.com/2014/09/30/world/asia/hong-kong-protests.html?hp&action=click&pgtype=Homepage&version=LedeSumLargeMedia&module=a-lede-package-region&region=top-news&WT.nav=top-news&\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2014/09/30/world/asia/hong-kong-protests.html?hp&action=click&pgtype=Homepage&version=LedeSumLargeMedia&module=a-lede-package-region&region=top-news&WT.nav=top-news&_r=0)

#### **Article from an Online Magazine, No DOI**

Teinowitz, I. (2005, October 19). \$92 million Navy ad account stays with Campbell-Ewald: Media strategy expanded to include video games and cell phones. *AdAge.com Online Edition*. Retrieved from <http://adage.com/article/agency-news/92-million-navy-ad-account-stays-campbell-ewald/47124/>

#### **Document from a Website – Published by Organization, No Date**

National Institute of Mental Health. (n.d.). *Depression*. Retrieved from <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/topics/depression/index.shtml>

#### **Document from a Website – No Author, No Date**

*Definition of Spice*. (n.d.). Retrieved from <http://www.astaspice.org/government-relations-advocacy/complying-with-u-s-policy-regulations/definitions/>

#### **Document from a Website – No Author**

*Subway FAQ: A brief history of the subway*. (2012). Retrieved from [http://www.nycsubway.org/wiki/Subway\\_FAQ:\\_A\\_Brief\\_History\\_of\\_the\\_Subway](http://www.nycsubway.org/wiki/Subway_FAQ:_A_Brief_History_of_the_Subway)

#### **Document from a Website – No Date**

Rosemont, F. (n.d.). *Spanish revolution of 1936*. Retrieved from <http://www.writing.upenn.edu/~afilreis/88/spain-overview.html>