The Research Paper: APA Style

In-text Citation and Reference List examples based on the

Examples are for print sources unless otherwise indicated.

For additional examples and more details consult the full APA manual kept at the Research Help Desk. Some disciplines may require other styles, so check with your instructor for a style recommendation. *

For updated citation information and tutorials consult http://www.apastyle.org/learn

IN-TEXT CITATION is used to identify your source of information, whether quoted or paraphrased, within your paper. It is brief information, referring the reader to your reference list. Include the author(s) last name (unless it appears in the narrative) and the date. For quotations, include the page number, or for electronic (online) articles without page numbers, use a brief section title and paragraph number. Here are a few examples:

Quotations -- with pages: “Our culture is full of simpleminded myths of blame” (Sher, 1994, p. 45).

-- online article, no pages: “Empirical studies have found mixed results” (Golan & Kuchler, 2007, “Conclusions,” para. 4).


OR (Pagels, 1995) OR (Juedes & Curry, 1999)

Three to five authors – first citation: Smiler, Kay, and Harris (2008) examined the history…

-- more references to the same source (first author followed by et al.): Smiler et al. (2008) found…

Six or more authors: The first author followed by et al for all citations. If there is more than one article with the same lead author, see the manual for directions.

Multiple works cited together: List alphabetically by first author.

Several studies (Balda, 1995; Kamil, 1988; Pepperberg & Funk, 1990)…

Personal Communications (e.g., e-mail, personal interviews): These are included for in-text citations, but are not included in the reference list because they are not recoverable.

…as described by R. Gerstner (personal communication, November 12, 2001).

Secondary Source (use sparingly): The secondary source, Claiborne, is the one included in the reference list.
Strangelove and Manic’s study (1990, as cited in Clairborne, 1999) …

The **REFERENCE LIST** is a list of all resources cited in your paper. There are several general guidelines to use, regardless of the type of resource. There are many examples on the following pages.

- **Double space between all lines.** This guide shows entries single spaced to save paper.
- Use a hanging indent, with all lines after the first indented.
- List entries alphabetically.
- List all authors of a work, up to and including seven authors.
- Use authors’ initial(s), not first name.
- Put the date of publication after the author's name(s). If no date use: n.d.
- If author is unknown, alphabetize by first significant title word.
- Capitalize only the first word of a book or article title, the subtitle, and all proper names.
- For a periodical title capitalize as on the source (i.e., journal or magazine title).
- Italicize periodical titles and volume number, and book titles.
- For unusual formats add note in brackets. Example: [DVD]

For **ELECTRONIC RESOURCES** use the same elements as for comparable print materials. Add enough retrieval information to enable others to find the source, preferably the digital object identifier (DOI).

**BOOKS**

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