How to use the American River College Library

Citing Sources in APA Style

This is a brief overview of how to cite sources using American Psychological Association (APA) style. For more information, see:

- *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (Library Reference Desk)
- Purdue University’s *Online Writing Lab* - [http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl)

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INTRODUCTION

In APA style, you acknowledge your outside sources in two ways:

1. **In-text citations:** When you paraphrase or quote information that came from an outside source, you must tell your reader where the information came from. To do this, you provide brief information about the source, usually the author and publication year. If you use a direct quote, you should also include the page number (see p. 8 for details). Example:

   There are not enough wild bees to pollinate California’s 700,000 acres of almond trees, so farmers must rent bees from commercial beekeepers (Ellwood, 2009).

2. **Reference list:** You also need to provide a list of all of the sources that you cited in your paper. Here, you will give additional information about each source you cited. (See p. 8 for details). Example:

   
   Retrieved from Academic Search Complete database.

FORMATTING REFERENCES

Guidelines:

- Include citations only for sources that you personally read and actually cited in your paper.
- When listing authors’ names, include only the last name and initials.
- Italicize book titles as well as periodical titles and volumes.
- Capitalize all words in a periodical title (e.g. *Psychology Today*) but only the first word in an article title, book title, or Web page (e.g. *To kill a mockingbird*). Also, capitalize the first word of a subtitle and capitalize proper nouns.
AUTHOR FORMATTING

One Author

Multiple Authors (up to 7)
List each author’s name. Separate the names with commas, add an ampersand (&) before the final name.

More Than 7 Authors
List the first 6 authors, insert an ellipsis (…), then list the last author.

Organization as an Author

REFERENCE EXAMPLES

I. PRINT BOOKS

• Basic Format for a Print Book
• Book with an Editor or Editors
• Chapter in an Edited Book
• Chapter in an Opposing Viewpoints Book
• Entry in an Encyclopedia (Or Other Reference Book)
• Entry in the DSM-V

BASIC FORMAT FOR A PRINT BOOK
Author(s)’ Last Name(s), Initial(s). (Year of Publication). Title of book. Publication City, State: Publisher.


Book with an Editor or Editors
Editor(s)’ Last Name(s), Initial(s). (Ed. or Eds.). (Year of Publication). Title of book. Publication City, State: Publisher.

**Chapter in an Edited Book**
Author(s)' Last Name(s), Initial(s). (Year). Title of chapter or entry. In Editor(s)' Initial(s) Last Name(s) (Ed. or Eds.), *Title of book* (page numbers of chapter or entry pp. xxx-xxx). Publication City, State: Publisher.


**Chapter in an Opposing Viewpoints Book**

**Article in an Encyclopedia or Other Reference Book**
Author(s)' Last Name(s), Initial(s). Title of entry. (Year). In Editor(s)’ Initial(s) Last Name(s) (Ed. or Eds.), *Title of reference book* (xx ed., Vol. xx, pp. xxx-xxx). Publication City, State: Publisher.

With an author listed

With no author listed

**Entry in the DSM-V (print version)**

II. PRINT PERIODICAL ARTICLES

- Scholarly Journal Article
- Newspaper Article
- Magazine Article

**Journal Article**
Author(s)' Last Name(s), Initial(s). (Year). Title of article. *Title of Periodical, volume*(issue), page numbers.


**Newspaper article**
Author(s)' Last Name(s), Initial(s). (Year, Month Day). Title of article. *Title of Newspaper, pp. page numbers.*


**Magazine Article**
Author’s Last Name, Initials. (Year, Month Day). Title of article. *Title of Magazine, volume*(issue), page numbers.


III. ONLINE SOURCES

- Webpage
- Entire Website
- Online Video
- Wiki Article
- Online Newspaper Article
- Journal Article with a DOI
- Journal Article Without a DOI
- Opposing Viewpoints Database
- CQ Researcher Database
- Gale Virtual Reference Library Database
- E-Book
- Other Online Sources
WEB CITATION GUIDELINES:
Include as much of the requested information as is available:
- If there is no author, start the entry with the title.
- If there is no publication date, use (n.d.), which stands for “no date.”

For ebooks and online periodical articles found on the Web:
- If the source has a Digital Object Identifier (DOI), include it
- If the source does not have a DOI, cite the Web address for the homepage of the source.

For online periodical articles found through a library subscription database:
- If the article has a Digital Object Identifier (DOI), include it
- If the article has no DOI, the APA Manual says to cite the URL for the journal’s homepage. Because this is not always feasible, we suggest you give the name of the database in which you found the article.

BASIC FORMAT FOR A WEBPAGE
Author(s)’ Last Name(s), Initial(s). (Year, Month Day). Title of webpage.
Retrieved from http://URL

With an author
Retrieved from http://mentalhealth.about.com/od/depression/a/howexercise.htm

With no author

With no date

Entire Website
If you are describing a whole website but not referring to a specific fact or idea from the site, it is OK to simply list the URL in an in-text citation. You do not need to include it in your list of references.

Example:
The KhanAcademy website hosts excellent instructional videos on a variety of subjects (http://www.khanacademy.org).

Online Video (e.g. from YouTube)
Name of creator. (Year, Month Day). Title of video [Video file]. Retrieved from http://URL

Article from CQ Researcher Database
Author(s)’ Last Name(s), Initial(s). (Year, Month Day). Title of article. CQ Researcher, volume(issue), pp-pp. Retrieved from CQ Researcher Online database.


Article from Gale Virtual Reference Library Database
Author(s)’ Last Name(s), Initial(s). (Year). Title of article. In Editor(s)’ Initial(s). Last Name(s) (Ed. or Eds.), Title of reference book (xx ed., Vol. xx, pp. xxx-xxx). Publication City, State: Publisher. Retrieved from Gale Virtual Reference Library database.


E-book
Author(s)’ Last Name(s), Initial(s). (Year of Publication). Title of book. Publication City, State: Publisher. Retrieved from DOI, URL of e-book publisher’s homepage, or Name of e-book database.


Other Online Sources
Some online sources aren’t easily definable. If you aren’t sure what kind of source you have, first check with your instructor or a librarian, or consult a citation manual like Hacker’s A Writer’s Reference. If you can’t find a clear category, the APA Style Blog (blog.apastyle.org) recommends using the template below. If there is no author, begin the entry with the title. If there is no date, use (n.d.). Use a format description for unusual sources such as tweets, blog posts, or lecture notes -- otherwise it’s not needed:

Author(s)’ Last Name(s), Initial(s). (Year, Month Day). Title of document [format description]. Retrieved from http://URL

Examples of possible format descriptions:
[Tweet] [Online forum comment] [Press release]
[Blog post] [Artwork] [Facebook update]
[Blog comment] [Technical report] [Audio podcast]
IN-TEXT CITATIONS
When you use direct quotations or ideas from an outside source, give that source credit by including a brief citation. Every work you cite in-text should have an entry in your reference list. Always include a page number when citing direct quotations, and consider including a page number when paraphrasing complex ideas.

One Author (or Editor)
(Author’s Last Name, Year)
(Reamer, 2001)

Two Authors
(Khoury & Takeda, 2011)

Multiple Authors (up to five)
First citation: (Duany, Plater-Zyberk, & Speck, 2001)
Subsequent citations: (Duany et al., 2001)

Six or More Authors
(Ramos et al., 2010)

No Author
(“Title of Entry,” Year)
(“Scoliosis Treatments,” 2009)

No Author, No Date
(“Title of Entry,” n.d.)
(“Questions and Answers,” n.d.)

Entry in the DSM-V
(American Psychiatric Association, 2013)

Source Quoted in Another Source
(as cited in Zakharchenko, 2014, p. 99)

Direct Quotation
(Asante, 2014, p. 325)

Direct Quotations
If you use a direct quotation, also cite the page number in your in-text citation.

If the quotation appears mid-sentence, cite the source immediately after the quotation marks:

One study found that both Latinos and Anglos who are involved in organizations “vote at impressively higher rates” (de la Garza, 2004, p. 97) than those who are not members of an organization.

If the quotation appears at the end of the sentence, cite the source in parentheses immediately after the quotation marks, and end with a period or other punctuation outside the final parenthesis:

Williams, Paluck, & Spencer-Rodgers (2010) argue that “observations of men as higher earners than women has led to a stereotype that associates men (more than women) with wealth, and...this stereotype itself may serve to perpetuate the wage gap at both conscious and nonconscious levels” (p. 7).

If the quotation is 40 words or longer, omit the quotation marks. Start the quotation on a new line and indent the block of text ½ inch from the left margin. Double space the entire quotation:

This restructuring has proven effective:
In every single case, beginning with General Motors, the keiretsu – that is, the integration, into one management system, of enterprises that are linked economically rather than controlled legally – has given a cost advantage of at least 25 percent and more often 30 percent (Drucker, 2008, pp. 77-78).
HOW TO FORMAT YOUR PAPER IN MICROSOFT WORD

The whole paper should have 1-inch margins (this will probably be the default setting), should be double-spaced, and should be typed in a readable, standard font size. APA recommends Times New Roman, 12pt. See the last page of this handout for examples of how your paper should look.

Title Page and Running Head
1. From the “Home” tab, find the “Paragraph” box. Find the Line and Paragraph Spacing icon (look for two small blue vertical arrows, one pointing up and the other down) and choose “Remove Space After Paragraph.” Then, click the spacing icon again and choose 2.0 (double spacing)
2. From the “Insert” tab, click Header > “Blank”
3. Check “different first page”
4. In the header, type Running head: SHORT VERSION OF YOUR TITLE (the shortened title may be up to 50 characters, including punctuation and spacing).
5. Hit Tab once or twice as needed, so that the cursor is aligned with the far right
6. From the “Insert” tab, click Page number > Current Position > Plain number
7. Click “Header & Footer Tools” > Close Header and Footer
8. Hit Enter on your keyboard until you’re about halfway down the page. Center the cursor (see pg. 10) and type the following, double-spaced:
   The Full Title of Your Paper
   Your Name
   The Name of Your School

9. Go to the next page
10. Re-align the cursor to the far left (use the alignment icons in the Home tab > Paragraph box)
11. Click Insert > Header > Blank
12. Type the shortened title you wrote for the Running head on the previous page. It should be in ALL CAPS.
13. Hit tab once or twice as needed, so that the cursor is aligned with the far right.
14. From the “Insert” tab, click Page Number > Current Position > Plain Number
15. Click Header & Footer Tools > Close Header & Footer

Abstract
If your instructor requires an abstract, it should go on the page immediately following the title page. An abstract is a brief summary of your paper. It should be about a paragraph long. Center the word Abstract at the top of the page, and begin typing your abstract on the next line. It should be double-spaced.

Body
If your paper requires an abstract, the body of your paper should begin at the top of the page following the abstract. If you don’t have an abstract, the body should begin at the top of the page following the title page. Center the full title of your paper at the top of the body page and begin typing your paper on the next line. Be sure to indent each paragraph. The whole paper should be double-spaced.

Reference List
- At the end of your paper and at the top of the new page, center the word References.
- Arrange your references alphabetically by author’s last name. For sources with no author, use the title to determine alphabetical placement.
- Double space the entire list. Apply “hanging indentation,” which means that for each entry, every line except the first line should be indented by ½ inch. (See below for instructions).
MICROSOFT WORD TIPS & TRICKS

Adjust Alignment

1. Highlight text to be indented.
2. In the “Home” tab, find the “Paragraph” box.
3. Click the small arrow to the right of the word “Paragraph.”
4. In the Indentation section, find the “Special” drop-down menu and choose “Hanging.”

Double Space

Hanging Indentation

Alphabetize

1. Highlight text to be indented.
2. In the “Home” tab, find the “Paragraph” box.
3. Click the small arrow to the right of the word “Paragraph.”
4. In the Indentation section, find the “Special” drop-down menu and choose “Hanging.”

Remove the “Extra” Space after Paragraphs

Italicize
EXAMPLE PAGES

Title Page:

Running head: SHORTENED TITLE

~~~~~~~~~~ (Skip down to halfway down the page) ~~~~~~~~~

Full Title of my Paper

Sally Student

American River College

Abstract:

SHORTENED TITLE

Abstract

This should be a brief summary of your paper. Nam facilis aliquam eros, placerat lobortis lorem iaculis sed. Aliquam cursus, lorem volutpat tempus malesuada, elit eros faucibus condimentum vestibulum. Nam dictum metus ut risus nisl nentesque placerat. Brin volutpat sem

Body:

SHORTENED TITLE

Full Title of my Paper

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Quisque placerat felis et nisi condimentum vestibulum. Nam dictum metus ut risus nisl nentesque placerat. Brin volutpat sem

References:

SHORTENED TITLE

References
