APA Style, 6th Edition Quick Guide

http://www.nwacc.edu/library/citation_help.php

This quick guide provides a basic overview of how to format in-text citations and References entries in APA Style, 6th edition. For further information, consult the following resources available at the NWACC Library:

American Psychological Association. (2010). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

Lipson, C. (2011). *Cite right: A quick guide to citation styles—MLA, APA, Chicago, the Sciences, Professions, and More* (2nd ed.). Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

In-text Citations

What Are In-text Citations and When Should I Use Them?
In-text citations are parenthetical references to works by other authors. They are used to document sources of information in academic and scholarly writing. You should include an in-text citation wherever you directly quote another author; paraphrase, or put another author's ideas into your own words; or include dates, statistics, or other factual information found in a source.

How Do I Format In-text Citations?
In-text citations usually only include, in parentheses, the last name of the author being cited and the page number where the quotation or information occurs in the original text. Notice that the citation is always placed before the period that ends the sentence:

For instance, in this example the writer has quoted Paul Krugman from page 136 of his 1995 book *Peddling Prosperity*:

> Although the 1980s were thought of as a prosperous time for all US citizens, the reality is that "the income of the typical worker or family in the United States grew very slowly during the 1980s" (Krugman, 1995, p. 136).

If the writer had used Krugman's name in the sentence, then only the page number is necessary in the parenthetical citation and the date appears immediately after the author's name:

> Although the 1980s were thought of as a prosperous time for all US citizens, Krugman (1995) reports that, in actuality, "the income of the typical worker or family in the United States grew very slowly during the 1980s" (p. 136).

Additional information is sometimes necessary, however, in cases where multiple authors are credited, an author's name isn't given for a source (such as an article in an encyclopedia), or no page number is given:

Sources with two authors:
Librarians should use active learning strategies when teaching information literacy (Grassian & Kaplowitz, 2004, p. 218).

Sources with three to five authors:
Jeff Davis "was the first to stake out a claim as a progressive governor in Arkansas" (Whayne, Deblack, Sabo, & Arnold, 2002, p. 304).

Sources with no credited author:
The big bang theory postulates that the "universe originated in an explosion at a finite time in the past" ("Big Bang Theory," 2001, p. 12).

Sources where no page number is given (use "par." to indicate paragraph number):
Talcott (2008) reports that black holes are now being discovered in globular clusters, for instance, Omega Centauri, the Milky Way's largest globular cluster (para. 12).

For more information on in-text citations, see pages 169–179 in the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association.*

References Entries

In addition to in-text citations, APA requires that you also include a References page at the end of your paper. The References page includes the full publication information for the sources referenced in your in-text citation, for instance, the author, title, publisher, publication date, medium of publication, and so on.

Basic Rules

- Your list of References should be located at the end of your paper, on a separate page.
- Title the page References and center the title at the top of the page.
- Double space the entire page, but do not place extra spaces between entries.
- For entries that require more than one line, indent each line after the initial line five spaces, creating what is called a "hanging indent."
- Alphabetize the entries by the authors' last names. Initialize the author's first name. Alphabetize sources without a credited author by title. When alphabetizing by title, ignore articles (a/an/the).
- Capitalize only the first word in the titles of articles, books, chapters and so on. For works with subtitles, capitalize only the first word of the subtitle.

Books:

The basic format for citing a book is as follows:

Author's Last Name, First Initial. (Year of Publication). *Title of work: Subtitle of work*. Place of Publication: Publisher.

- **Single Author:**

Vonnegut, K. (1998). *Cat's cradle*. New York: Dell.

▪ **Two to Seven Authors:**
Pohl, F., & Kornbluth, C. M. (1985). *The space merchants*. New York: St. Martins.

▪ **Corporate (Organizational) Author:**
American Medical Association. (1989). *The American Medical Association encyclopedia of medicine*. New York: Random.

▪ **An Anonymous Book:**
American Heritage guide to contemporary usage and style. (2005). Boston: Houghton.

▪ **A Book Prepared by an Editor:**
Onions, C. T. (Ed.). (1966). *The Oxford dictionary of English etymology*. New York: Oxford.

▪ **A Subsequent Edition of a Book:**
Baker, N. L., & Huling, N. (2006). *A research guide for undergraduate students: English and American literature* (6th ed.). New York: MLA.

Works Collected in an Anthology:

Works may include articles, essays, and other short pieces collected in an edited anthology. The basic format for citing a work in an anthology is as follows:

Author's Last Name, First Initial. (Year of Publication). Title of work. In Editor's First Initial and Last Name (Ed.), *Title of anthology: Subtitle of anthology* (pages range of work). Place of Publication: Publisher.

▪ **Work with a Credited Author:**
Plato. (1985). The apology of Socrates. In M. Maynard (Ed.), *The Norton anthology of world masterpieces* (pp. 816-838). New York: Norton.

▪ **Work without a Credited Author:**
Beowulf. (1993). In M. H. Abrams (Ed.), *The Norton anthology of English literature* (pp. 21-67). New York: Norton.

Articles:

Articles appear in newspapers, magazines, scholarly journals, reference books, and electronic databases. See the section on **Electronic Publications** for instructions on citing articles in electronic databases. The format for the citation varies depending on the type of publication:

▪ **Article in a Newspaper**
Author's Last Name, First Initial. (Date of Publication). Title of article. *Title of Newspaper* Date of Publication, Page range of article.

Casteel, C. (2012, December 5). Fallin discusses fiscal cliff with Obama, leaders. *The Daily Oklahoman*, p. 5A.

▪ **Article in a Magazine**
Author's Last Name, First Initial. (Date of Publication). Title of article. *Title of Magazine*, *Volume Number*, Page range of article.

Grunwald, M. (2012, December 10). How to avoid the fiscal cliff. *Time*, *196*, pp. 40-43.

▪ **Article in a Scholarly Journal**

Author's Last Name, First Initial. (Year of Publication). Title of article: Subtitle of article. *Title of Scholarly Journal, Volume*(Issue), Page range of article.

Chlan, L., Tracy, M., & Grossbach, I. (2012). Achieving quality patient-ventilator management: Advancing evidence-based nursing care. *Critical Care Nurse*, *31*(6), 46-50.

▪ **Article in a Reference Book**

Author's Last Name, First Initial. (Year of Publication). Title of article. *Title of Reference Book*. (Page range of article). Place of Publication: Publisher.

Randall, D. M. (1996). Erbach, Christian. *The Harvard biographical dictionary of music*. (p. 174). Cambridge: Belknap Press.

Electronic Publications:

Electronic publications include articles on websites and from online databases. The format for the citation varies depending on the type of publication:

▪ **An Article on a Website also Available in Print**

Author's Last Name, First Initial. (Date of Publication). Title of article: Subtitle of article. *Name of Website.* Retrieved from http://www.somewebsite.com/

Parker, N. (2013, January 6). Syria president Bashar Assad makes clear he won't step down. *Los Angeles Times*. Retrieved from http://www.latimes.com

▪ **An Article on a Website not also Available in Print**

Author's Last Name, First Initial. (Date of Publication). Title of article: Subtitle of article [Supplemental material]. *Name of Website.* Retrieved from http://www.somewebsite.com/

Harrington, P. (2012, December 11). Binocular universe: Lamplighter [Supplemental material]. *Cloudy Nights*. http://www.somewebsite.com/

▪ **An Article from an Online Database**

Articles retrieved from online databases (for instance, *Academic Search Elite* and *Credo Reference*) should be cited the same way as print sources, with the addition of the URL for the database.

Author's Last Name, First Initial. (Year of Publication). Title of article: Subtitle of article. *Title of Scholarly Journal, Volume*(Issue), Page range of article. Retrieved from http://somedatabase.com/full/url/

Evan, T. (2007). Deflationary normative pluralism. *Canadian Journal of Philosophy, 33*(2), 231-262. http://proxy01.nwacc.edu:2048/login?url=http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=afh&AN=57845297&site=ehost-live