APA STYLE GUIDE


Reference Citations in Text

- **Print Sources (paper)** Articles, books, reports, government documents, corporate author, etc.
- **Electronic Sources (online/web)** articles, ebooks, reports, broadcast, data, blogs, wiki, podcasts, etc.

More Help with APA

APA Web Sites and Tutorials

PDF version (5th Edition)

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American Psychological Association or APA style is widely accepted in the Social Sciences. For more information consult the 6th edition of the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association located on 2 North Reference and in Dictionary Stands on all floors: BF 76.7 P83 2010. Publication Manual sections are noted in square brackets [ ].

CITING REFERENCES IN TEXT [6.11-6.22]

Throughout the body of your paper, briefly note the author and date of research that you mention. Enough information is needed to identify the correct source in the References list at the end of your paper. For more information and examples, see Table 6.1 in the 6th ed. Publication Manual.

- **Author and Date Cited in Text** (no parenthetical citation necessary)
  In a 1989 article, Gould explores some of Darwin's most effective metaphors.

- **Author Not Cited in Text**
  As metaphors for the workings of nature, Darwin used the tangled bank, the tree of life, and the face of nature (Gould, 1989).

- **Author Cited in Text**
  Gould (1989) attributes Darwin's success to his gift for making the appropriate metaphor.

- **Direct Quotation with Name of Author**
  Gould (1989) explains that Darwin used the metaphor of the tree of life "to express the other form of interconnectedness—genealogical rather than ecological—and to illustrate both success and failure in the history of life" (p. 14).

- **Direct Quotation without Name of Author**
Darwin used the metaphor of the tree of life “to express the other form of interconnectedness—genealogical rather than ecological” (Gould, 1989, p. 14).

For each of the samples above the correct “References” APA style format would be:


- **Quoting references that cite other works** [6.17]
  
  To cite secondary sources, refer to both sources in the text, but include in the References list only the source that you actually used. For instance, suppose you read Feist (1998) and would like to paraphrase the following sentence within that book:

  Bandura (1989) defined self-efficacy as "people's beliefs about their capabilities to exercise control over events that affect their lives" (p. 1175).

  **In this case, your in-text citation would be:** (Bandura, 1989, as cited in Feist, 1998).

  Feist (1998) would be fully referenced within the list of References. Bandura (1989) would not be listed. Remember to use the examples in this handout to cite and reference your quote correctly.

**REFERENCES**

For more information and examples, see sections 6.22-6.32 in the 6th ed. Publication Manual:

- Begin your list of references on a new page, headed with the word “References” centered at the top.
- Use “Reference” if there is only one.
- Alphabetize the list by author’s last name. If there is no author given, start with the first significant word in the title.
- For article titles, capitalize only the first word of the title and subtitle, and proper names.
- Periodical titles should be written in full with both capital and lower case letters.
- References are to be in a hanging indent format, meaning that the first line of each reference is set flush left and subsequent lines are indented.
- Double space the entire document.

**Example:**


**PRINT SOURCES: JOURNAL ARTICLES**

(periodical articles published in journals, magazines, newspapers, etc.)

- **One Author** [6.27]

  **Note:** Include issue number if the journal is paginated separately by issue. [6.30]

- **Two to Seven Authors** [6.27]

- **Eight or More Authors** [7.01.2]

- **Magazine Article** [7.01.7]

- **Review of a Book** [7.06.45]

- **Daily Newspaper Article, No Author** [7.01.10]

  **Note:** Use *p* or **pp** before page number. If the article had more than one page but not continuous then the citation would be "**pp. A12, A14.**"


- **Letter to the Editor, Newspaper Article**[7.01.15]

- **Entire Issue of a Journal [7.01.12]**


  [Special issue]. *Journal of Abnormal Psychology, 100*(3).

PRINT SOURCES: BOOKS AND REPORTS

**Format:** Author, A. A. (year). *Title of work*. Location: Publisher.

- **Book [7.02.18]**


- **A Book by More than One Author [7.02.24]**


- **Edited Book [7.02.22-24]**


- **Corporate Author as Publisher [7.02]**


- **Anonymous Author [6.27]**

  *Guidelines and application form for directors, 1990 summer seminar for school teachers.*


- **Chapter in a Book [7.02.25]**

• **ERIC Document** [7.09.62]


• **Government Report** [7.03.31]


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**ELECTRONIC (BROADCAST, ONLINE and WEB SITES)**

Many scholarly publishers have been assigning unique identifiers to each published article. The **DOI (Digital Object Identifier)** is an alpha-numeric code registered to each scholarly article in order to assign a persistent link to the article. **The DOI has replaced the database name and URL in the list of references.** Because the link is to the final version, do not include a retrieval date. Since DOI numbers are complex, copy and paste DOI into the reference. APA recommends that the DOI be included for print and online citations.

Citing electronic sources is similar to citing print sources; citations direct readers to the source or as close as possible.

**Where do I find a DOI?**

- It may be part of the citation or abstract of a record.
- It may be found on the first page of an article, especially in pdf format.
- Use [DOI Lookup](http://www.crossref.org/guestquery/).
- Cut and paste a citation into [CrossRef Simple Text Query](http://www.crossref.org/SimpleTextQuery/)
- Verify a known DOI by using [CrossRef DOI Resolver](http://www.crossref.org/05researchers/58doi_resolver.html)


- **Full-Text Article with DOI assigned**


Full-Text Articles without a DOI [6.32]
If no DOI has been assigned, provide the home page URL of the journal, book or report publisher. If you are accessing through a database, you may need to do a web search to locate the URL. It is not necessary to include the name of the database. There is no period at the end of a reference citation ending with a URL.


Online Newspaper Article [7.01.11]

Research or Technical Report from a Web Site [7.03]


Article from Web Site or E-journal [7.01.3]

Television Broadcast [7.07.51]

Electronic Book from Web Site [7.02.19]
O'Keefe, E. (n.d). *Egoism & the crisis in Western values.* Retrieved from
- **Electronic Book from Database** [7.02.19]
  Retrieved from http://www.netlibrary.com

- **Wiki** [7.11]

- **Data set** [7.08.54]

- **Blog post** [7.11.76]

- **Audio podcast** [7.07.50]

**MORE HELP WITH APA**

Can't find the right rule? If you do not find a rule in this guide to fit the specific citation situation you are working on, you need to consult the 6th edition of the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*. Copies are available at all dictionary stands on all four floors in the Library, in Reference (BF 76.7 P83 2009), and in the Reserve Book Room for a 2 hour check out period. **Reference examples are in Chapter Seven**.

It is impossible to have an example for every type of source available. If you are unable to find the perfect example, remember, that the purpose of listing references is to allow readers to retrieve and use your sources. Find the closest example, and put as much information as you think necessary in your citation to ensure that the source can be retrieved in the future.

Students may also seek assistance with papers for any class in any department, or for preparation for writing exams at the **CSUS Writing Center**. The Writing Center is located in Room 128 of Calaveras Hall.

Also consider taking one of the drop in classes in the Library. Classes are held throughout the
year. Check at the Reference Desk (2North) for a schedule of workshops or on the Library Instruction web page.

Examples are also available from the web sites listed below.

APA WEB SITES and Tutorials

- Basics of APA Style Tutorial
  This is a short video by Deborah Metzger, CSU Sacramento Science Librarian
- APA Style for Electronic Sources/Trinity University
- OWL at Purdue/APA Format
- Frequently Asked Questions about APA Style

PDF VERSION OF APA STYLE GUIDE

- APA (6th Edition) / Alvin Sherman Library, Research and Information Technology Center, Nova Southeastern University

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