APA Style Citations
A Quick Guide

This is the style established by the American Psychological Association (APA) for citing resources used in research papers. APA Style is used primarily in the behavioral and social sciences. The rules for APA Style citations are provided in pages 193-224 of the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, Sixth Edition. (The numbers in parentheses refer to these pages.) For general rules on formatting papers in APA Style, see sections 2 and 4 of the Publication Manual. Copies of the manual are available at each STLCC campus library.

The purpose of citation is to allow readers to access the information being cited. Proper citation also ensures that you are not committing plagiarism or misusing sources, which is in violation of the STLCC Academic Integrity Statement.

APA Citation Formatting Guidelines

1. All APA citations should be double spaced.
2. The first line of each citation should be flush with the left margin. All other lines are indented a half-inch. (This is called a hanging indent).
3. Only the first and middle initial of author name(s) are used. Smith, J. A.
4. Multiple authors are separated by an ampersand (&) not the word 'and.' Smith, J.A., Brown, L., & Jones, B.
5. The publication date follows the author name(s) and is contained in parentheses. Smith, J. A. (2017).
6. Capitalize ONLY the first word of the title of a book or article, the subtitle, and proper nouns. Exception: Capitalize every important word in journal titles.
7. Italicize titles of books and journals and the volume number of journals. DO NOT italicize or put quotation marks around the title of a book chapter or article in a journal.
8. If the book has a subtitle, put a colon between the main title and the subtitle. Subtitles must be included in the citation.
9. Give the location (city and state) where the publisher is located for books, reports, and other non-periodical publications. Use the official two-letter U.S. Postal Service abbreviations. For cities outside the United States, spell out the country names.
10. Include the digital object identifier (DOI) assigned to a source even if the print is available. doi:
11. If you retrieved a journal article electronically and there is no DOI, give the URL of the journal home page. If the journal is available in print, there is no need to include the URL.
12. Usually, database information is not included as part of the citation. However, if a document is difficult to locate through its primary publishing channels, give the home page URL for the online service. Many ERIC documents and discontinued items in JSTOR meet this criteria. (p.189-192) **NOTE: Your instructor may require that you use the name of the database** used to retrieve an article, Example: page 4 of this document.
13. Do not end the citation with a period if you include the URL. However, if you use the name of the database, use a period to end the citation. Example: page 4 of this document.
14. Reference examples (citations) can be found in chapter 7, pp. 193-224 of the APA Manual.

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**Books**

**BOOK (SINGLE AUTHOR) (p.202)**


In Text: (Packer, 2002) or Packer (2002)

**BOOK (TWO OR MORE AUTHORS) (p.202)**


**EDITED BOOK (p.202)**


In Text: (Keeble & Wheeler, 2007) or Keeble and Wheeler (2007)

**CHAPTER/ARTICLE IN AN EDITED BOOK (p.202)**


In Text: (Khan, 2007) or Khan (2007)

**E-BOOK (p.203)**


Retrieved from [https://ebookcentral.proquest.com](https://ebookcentral.proquest.com)

In Text: (Nichols, 2016) or Nichols (2016)

**CHAPTER/ARTICLE IN AN E-BOOK**

Reference Works

Author, A. (Year). Title of chapter or entry. In A. Editor (Eds.), *Title of book* (pp. xx-xx). Location: Publisher.

**DICTIONARY ENTRY OR ENCYCLOPEDIA ARTICLE (p.202-205)**

**Print – No editor or author given (p.202)**


**In Text:** (“Freud,” 2005)

**Print – Editors and author given (p. 202-203)**


**In Text:** (Buckley, 2001) or Buckley (2001)

**Online Dictionary Entry – No author (p.205)**


**In Text:** (“Anomaly,” 2008)

**Online Encyclopedia Entry – No author (p.205)**


**In Text:** (“Dorothy Day,” 2011)
**Journal Articles**


doi:xx.xxxxxxxxxxx

**SCHOLARLY JOURNAL ARTICLE WITH DOI (p.198)**


**In Text:** (Hart et al., 2009) or Hart et al. (2009)

**SCHOLARLY JOURNAL ARTICLE WITHOUT DOI (WHEN DOI IS NOT AVAILABLE) (p.199)**

**Option 1 (include the URL of the journal home page)**


**In Text:** (Light & Light, 2008) or M.A. Light and I.H. Light (2008)

**Option 2 (Include the name of the database used in Retrieved from statement.)**


**Magazines and News Sources**

**Print**


**Online**


**OR:** Author, A. (Year, Month Day). Title of article. *Title of Publication, volume*(issue), pp. Retrieved from Database.

**Note:** Give the URL of the home page when the online version of the article is available by search to avoid nonworking URLs. Or, your instructor may require the name of the database article use to retrieve article.
MAGAZINE ARTICLE (p.200)


**In Text:** (Walsh, 2010) or Walsh (2010)

NEWSPAPER ARTICLE (p.200)


**In Text:** (Michaels, 2010)

ONLINE MAGAZINE ARTICLE (p.200)


**In Text:** (“Removing the Qaddafis,” 2011)

ONLINE NEWSPAPER ARTICLE (p.200)


**In Text:** (Rhoden, 2010) or Rhoden (2010)

ARTICLE FROM ONLINE NEWS WEBSITE


**In Text:** (Voss, 2011) or Voss (2011)

**Personal Communications**

*Includes interviews, emails, letters, etc.* (p.179)

(Gates, B., personal communication, April 25, 2011)

**In Text:** B. Gates (personal communication, April 25, 2011)

**Note:** Because personal communications do not provide recoverable data, they are NOT included in the reference list. Cite personal communications in text only. Give initials as well as the last name of the communicator, and provide as exact a date as possible.
Web Sources


Note: The format description in brackets [ ] is used only when the format is something out of the ordinary, such as a blog post or lecture notes; otherwise, it’s not necessary.

WEB PAGE


In Text: (Schulman, 2011) or Schulman (2011)

WEB PAGE/ARTICLE ON A WEB SITE (NO AUTHOR)


Note: If no date is given, put n.d. in the parentheses. Include the date retrieved only if the information is likely to change.


WEB PAGE/ARTICLE ON A GOVERNMENT WEBSITE


In Text: (National Heart, Lung, & Blood Institute [NHLBI], 2011) or National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI, 2011)

Note: The names of groups that serve as authors are usually spelled out each time they appear in a text citation, but some are spelled out in the first citation and abbreviated thereafter. If the name is long and cumbersome and if the abbreviation is familiar or readily understandable, you may abbreviate. If the name is short or if the abbreviation would not be easily identified in the reference list, write out the name each time.

DOCUMENT ON A LARGER WEB SITE


Note: If a document is contained within a complex Web site (such as that for a university or a government agency), identify the host organization and the relevant program or department (if it is not listed as the author) before giving the URL for the document itself. Precede the URL with a colon.

**Legal Sources**

Note: Information on citing legal sources in APA can be found in Appendix 7.1. APA relies on the *The Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citation* for formatting legal citations. Some examples are provided here. For more complex examples, consult The Bluebook.

**COURT DECISIONS**


**STATUTES**


In Text: *(Copyright Cleanup, Clarification, and Corrections Act, 2010)* or Copyright Cleanup, Clarification, and Corrections Act of 2010

**U. S. CONSTITUTION**

U. S. Const. art. I, § 3.

In Text: *(U.S. Const. art. I, § 3.)*

U. S. Const. amend. XIX

In Text: *(U.S. Const. amend. XIX)*

**Secondary Sources** *(p.178)*

In Text: Franklin’s research (as cited in Johnson, 2007)

Note: Whenever possible, find the original source of the quotation or information. If the original source is unavailable, give the secondary source in the reference list. In the text, name the original work and cite the secondary source.
References in Text

- Cite any information that you did not know before beginning your research. You do not have to cite common knowledge.
- Reproduce word for word material quoted from another author’s work.
- When quoting directly from a source, include the author's name, year of publication, and page number.
- For information that is paraphrased or does not have page numbers, use the author-date format to cite references in text.
- If the quotation comprises fewer than 40 words, incorporate it into the text and enclose the quotation with double quotation marks. “Quotation”

PARAPHRASING (p.171)

These effects have been well-documented in recent research (Simmons, 2009).
Simmons (2009) documented similar findings in a recent report.
In 2009, Simmons conducted research on this topic and published an extensive report.

QUOTING FROM A SOURCE (p.170-171)

Effective communication can “build bridges between disparate groups” (Keller, 2005, p.13).

BLOCK QUOTE (p.171)

Note: If the quotation has 40 or more words, display it in a freestanding block of text without quotation marks. Double-space the entire quotation. At the end, cite the quoted source and the page or paragraph number in parentheses after the final punctuation mark.

Jones' 1993 study found the following:

The "placebo effect," which had been verified in previous studies, disappeared when behaviors were studied in this manner. Furthermore, the behaviors were never exhibited again [italics added], even when reel [sic] drugs were administered. Earlier studies were clearly premature in attributing the results to a placebo effect. (p.199)

Still Need Help?

- Ask for Assistance at a Campus Writing Center or Writing Lab: http://www.stlcc.edu/Student_Resources/Academic_Resources/Writing_Assistance.html
- Use "Ask a Librarian" from the library’s home page: http://stlcc.edu/libraries