



APA Citation Format

This guide includes general rules and selected examples of in-text citations and References following the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed., c2010) guidelines. For information on manuscript structure and content, writing mechanics, and other aspects of the publication process, please consult the APA manual. Copies of the APA manual can be found in REF, at RESD, and on the 4th floor under BF76.7.P82 2009. Additional examples can be found at the APA Style web site (www.apastyle.org). Also check out the [Citation Styles & Tools](#) guide for additional online guides from other institutions.

University of Maryland University College has a very informative webpage on [APA Style](#) with 2 tutorials that are particularly useful at explaining; 1) in-text citations and the reference list, 2) citing with and without a DOI. <http://umuc.edu/library/citationguides.shtml>

[Noodlebib](#) and [EndNote Web](#) are online citation management tools that include APA 6th formatting.

In-text Citations - general rules

- APA is an author-date citation system; if no author is given, then the title or a shortened form of the title is used instead. Author, date, and page numbers are separated by commas and included in parentheses.
- Each citation in the text must have a corresponding entry in the Reference list.
- Locate the citation immediately after the quoted or paraphrased material. See example under **A Work with One Author** below.
- For quoted or paraphrased material include the page (p. or pp.) or paragraph numbers (para.), if available. If there are no paragraph or page numbers but there are section headings, cite the heading and the number of the paragraph following it. Example (Smith, 2007, Discussion section, para. 1).
- If the quote is less than 40 words, include it within the text in quotation marks followed by the citation; if it is more than 40 words, create a separate block of text, without quotation marks, and indent the block half an inch from the left margin, followed by the citation.

Four Types of Materials that are Cited Only in the Text and Not in the Reference List

- Classical works such as the Bible and the Qur'an which have standardized sections across editions.
- Entire websites, when referred to in their broadest sense, need only have the URL included in the text. Example: Gifts of Speech (<http://gos.sbc.edu/>) is preserving women's speeches from around the world. If a specific speech or page on the web site is referenced, follow regular APA rules.
- Personal communications that are not archived or recoverable, such as e-mails, personal interviews, private letters or memos, telephone conversations, etc. need only appear in the text with the date and type of communication. Example: J. P. Smith (personal communication, August 24, 2009) or (J. P. Smith, personal communication, August 24, 2009). If the e-mail or message is archived, such as on a discussion group or electronic bulletin board, follow APA guidelines for Archived Documents.

- Tables and charts have their complete citation located directly below their placement in the text. No additional listing is needed in the Reference list.

In-text Citations – Examples

If the author is named as part of the sentence do not repeat it in the parentheses. Include just the date or date and page/paragraph as needed.

A Work with One Author – use surname but do not include suffix (such as Jr.) or professional titles (such as MD)

As Resnick (1997) described in her adventure, the people of South Africa are “committed to the future” (p.351).

The people of South Africa are “committed to the future” (Resnick, 1997, p. 351).

A Work with Two Authors - use both names each time the reference is cited; use & instead of ‘and’ in the parenthetical citation, but do not substitute in the sentence.

Smith and Jones (2005) found ...

As the research shows (Smith & Jones, 2005) ...

A Work with 3, 4, or 5 Authors – use all authors for the first mention and the first author and et al. for subsequent referrals, unless there is more than one reference with that first author and same year. If so, include the second author as well, to distinguish the 2 resources. See Manual for more variations.

Carey, Elfstrand, and Hijleh (2005) found ... [first citation to this work]

As this study shows (Carey et al., 2005) ... [all subsequent references to above work]

Carey, Smith, Wright, and Bradley (2005) found ... [refers to another work by same first author and year, but different co-authors- this is first citation to the work]

Carey, Smith, et al. (2005) found ... [subsequent citations to the work include the second author - in this case there is a comma after the 2nd author]

A Work with More than 6 Authors – use the first author and et al. and the year. See Manual for variations for resources with similar multiple authors.

Gordon et al. (2009) showed ...

As shown previously (Gordon et al., 2009) ...

A Work with a Group as Author – corporations, associations, government agencies, and study groups – use the full name in each citation unless the abbreviation is well known and is easily recognizable for locating the entry in the Reference list.

Rose Society (1999) or (Rose Society, 1999) [all citations to this work –no common abbreviation or acronym]

United Nations Children’s Fund (2007) or (United Nations Children’s Fund, 2007) [first citation]

UNICEF (2007) or (UNICEF, 2007) [subsequent referrals to this work –common acronym – reader would know to look for entry under United Nations Children’s Fund in the Reference list]

A Work with No Author or an Anonymous Author – instead of the author use the title or the first few words of the title (if the title is long). If the title is to a chapter, an article or a web page, put the words in quotes; if the title is to a book, a periodical, a brochure or report, use italics.

A study on internet use (“Survey Shows,” 2008)... [This is a web page from a web site; use quotation marks since work is a part of a whole]

The brochure *Facts about HIV/AIDS* (2009)... [Use italics since this is a whole work]

Twitter and Facebook – see in-text examples listed after the Reference examples later in this document.

Secondary Sources – use only when unable to review the original work - refer to the original work in the text and the secondary source in the citation – the secondary source is the one listed in the Reference list since this is what you are citing

Freeman’s work (as cited in Franklin, 2001) purports... [Franklin is listed in the Reference list]

Legal Codes, Public Laws, Statutes, Regulations, and Cases – treat the citation as a work with no author; use the title followed by the date

According to the Mental Health Systems Act (1988) – entry will be under Mental Health... in the References list

As stated in the Tasini copyright case (New York Times Co. v. Tasini, 2001) – entry will be under New York... in the References list

Patents – give the patent number and issue date (not the application date) in the citation with the inventor

As described in Smith’s patent (U.S. Patent No. 123,456, 1984) – entry in the References list is under Smith

Reference List – general rules that apply to all entries

- Title the list of citations used in the paper - **References** - not Works Cited
- Only include entries for sources used in the paper
- Double-space all entries
- The first line of each entry is at the left margin and subsequent lines of the entry are indented; this is called a hanging indent
- Alphabetize entries by author’s surname or first word of group name; if there is no author/group, use the first word of the title (excluding A, An, The)
- Use initials for given name(s) – even when the full name is used in the source; example, Smith, J. N. not Smith, John Nathan
- Include suffixes, such as Jr. or III, after the initials – Smith, J. N., Jr., & Jones, A. B., III.
- Spell out the full name of a group; do not use acronyms or abbreviations; United Nations Children’s Fund not UNICEF
- Multiple works by the same author are ordered by publishing date, earliest first.
- Multiple works by the same author in the same year are ordered by first word of the title.
- Multiple works by same first author but different co-authors are alphabetized by second author.
- Include all article authors in the entry up through 7 authors; if there are 8 or more authors to an entry, list the first 6 then a comma, then 3 ellipses ... then the last author
- For entries with 2 to 7 authors use the ampersand (&) before the last author
- Publication date appears in parentheses, followed by a period. Use (n.d.) when no publication date is available
- For periodicals, give publication date with year followed by month and day or season; (1995, March 11) or (1996, Spring)
- Italicize titles of whole entities - books, periodicals, brochures, films, reports, etc. - not chapters or article titles
- Italicize volume numbers of magazines and journals, but not the issue number.
- Include the periodical issue number only if the issues are paged separately, i.e. each issue starts with p. 1; if issue number is used include it in parentheses after the volume number.
- Capitalize only the first word of the title, the first word of any subtitle, and any proper nouns used in the titles of books, chapters, articles, brochures, films, reports, etc.

- For periodical titles, capitalize all major words
- Include additional identifying information for a book or report in parentheses after the title, such as edition (2nd ed.) or report number (Publication No. FR-PRD-94-06); however, include in brackets information that describes the type of material being cited, such as [Lecture notes], [Abstract], [Video webcast], etc.
- For publication information for books and reports give the city of publication, and the state or country; use the 2 letter code for a state – CA for California; follow with a colon and the name of the publisher in as brief a form as possible – drop such words as Co., Inc., Publishers. Use full names for associations and university presses – Association of Computing Machinery not ACM – University of North Carolina Press not UNC Press

Electronic Sources based on a Print Version

- Provide the publication information for the print equivalent of the article.
- Provide the DOI for the article as follows: doi:xxxxxxxxxx
The DOI (digital object identifier) is a unique number assigned to each article. It is displayed on PDF versions of the article and sometimes listed in a database record. The DOI is an alphanumeric string that needs to be copied exactly. Copy & paste function is best way to be sure it is complete. All DOI strings begin with a 10 (this will help to identify it). If a DOI is available, no other retrieval information is needed.
- If the article does not have a DOI, APA says to provide the homepage URL for the journal or the publisher. Do not provide electronic database information, since it is not stable retrieval information. Material is added and deleted from databases and may not always be available for retrieval, but the journal homepage will verify the publication information.
- If the document does not have a DOI and is informally published or the publication was discontinued, so that there is no current publisher, but the article is in an archival database such as JSTOR or a document is available in a depository such as ERIC, then include the URL for the home page of the online archive.

Electronic Sources not based on a Print Version

- Provide the same elements, in the same order as a print media and add as much electronic information as available to locate the resource.
- Use this statement – Retrieved from URL or Retrieved from Name of Website: URL
- Do not include a retrieval date unless the source is likely to change over time, such as Wikis

References - Examples – in your paper use double space, this guide will show entries in single-spaced hanging indent to save space

Periodicals – Magazines, Journals, Newsletters, & Newspapers

Magazine, newsletter, or journal article in print

Nayak, N. V. & Taylor, J. E. (2009, October). Offshore outsourcing in global design networks. *Journal of Management in Engineering*, 25, 177-184.

Laurance, W. (2009, April). Possum or polar bear? *The Ecologist*, 39(3), 32-34.

Twitter: a vampire that can legally suck the life out of you. (2009, September 21). *Advertising Age*, 80(31), 42.

Journal article with DOI (from web or database) – no retrieval information needed

Lorenz, L. S., & Kolb, B. (2009, September). Involving the public through participatory visual research methods. *Health Expectations*, 12, 262-274. doi: 10.1111/j.1369-7625.2009.00560.x

Journal article retrieved online (web or database) without DOI (no DOI available) – provide homepage URL of the journal, newsletter or magazine rather than electronic database information.

Clemmitt, M. (2009, October 9). Medication abuse. *CQ Researcher*, 19, 837-860. Retrieved from <http://library.cqpress.com/cqresearcher/>

Offshoring by U.S. companies doubles. (2009, September). *Industry Week/IW*, 258(9), 49. Retrieved from <http://www.industryweek.com/>

Pennisi, E. (2009, August 21). Two steps forward for synthetic biology. *Science*, 325, 928-929. Retrieved from <http://www.sciencemag.org/>

Laurance, W. (2009, April). Possum or polar bear? *The Ecologist*, 39(3), 32-34. Retrieved from <http://www.theecologist.org/>

Journal article without DOI retrieved from an archival database – journal is no longer published, so no journal homepage exists – however, article is archived in a database (use home URL of database)

Ransom-Williams, C. (1930, May). Wall decorations of the Main Temple of the Sun at El Amarn. *Metropolitan Museum Studies*, 2, 135-151 Retrieved from <http://www.jstor.org>

Abstract as an original source and as a secondary source – preferable to cite the full text, but may cite abstract if article is unavailable

Bushmich, S. L. (1998). *Lyme disease in dairy cattle*. Speech presented at 11th International Scientific Conference on Lyme Disease and Other Spirochetal & Tick-Borne Disorders, New York City, NY. Abstract retrieved from http://www.lyme.org/conferences/98_abstract.html

Goodings, L., Locke, A., & Brown, S. D. (2007, November/December). Social networking technology: Place and identity in mediated communities. *Journal of Community & Applied Social Psychology*, 17, 463-476. Abstract retrieved from Sociological Abstracts database. (Accession No. 200815359)

Newsletter article, no author, online – use exact URL if difficult to find on agency/organization home page

Ancient Ogham language. (2009, August). *The Information about Ireland Site Newsletter*. Retrieved from <http://www.ireland-information.com/aug09.htm>

Newspaper article in print and retrieved online– use p. or pp. for page numbers in a newspaper

Kazmin, A. (2009, September 9). 'Politics of water' leaves Punjab in deep trouble. *Financial Times*, p. 6.

Kazmin, A. (2009, September 9). 'Politics of water' leaves Punjab in deep trouble. *Financial Times*. Retrieved from <http://www.ft.com>

Books, Reference Books and Book Chapters

Entire book, print version

Belasco, W. J. (2007). *Appetite for change: How the counterculture took on the food industry*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press.

Entire book, electronic version of a print book – If DOI is available, that is all that is needed; without DOI, include the URL of the homepage of the publisher, not the ebook repository.

Bohman, J. (2007). *Democracy across borders: From Dêmos to Dêmoi*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press. Retrieved from <http://mitpress.mit.edu/>

Jones, D. W. (2008). *Understanding criminal behaviour: Psychosocial approaches to criminality*. doi: 10.1037/158790678

Entire book, electronic-only version – i.e. is published in electronic form only, is public domain book available online or is out-of-print book available only in an online repository - electronic retrieval information replaces publication information

Lardner, R. (n.d.). *The real dope*. Retrieved from Project Gutenberg: <http://www.gutenberg.org/etext/7405>

Stevens, K. (n.d.). *The dreamer and the beast*. Retrieved from <http://www.onlineoriginals.com/showitem.asp?itemID=321>

Limited-circulation book or monograph, from electronic database such as ERIC

Walz, G. R. & Kirkman, C. (Eds.). (2004). *CyberBytes: Highlighting compelling uses of technology in counseling* [Book]. Retrieved from <http://www.eric.ed.gov>

Book chapter, article in edited book, story in anthology, print

Sonntag, G. & Meulemans, Y. (2003). Planning for assessment. In E. F. Avery (Ed.), *Assessing student learning outcomes for information literacy instruction in academic institutions* (pp. 6-21). Chicago, IL: American Library Association.

Book chapter, article in edited book, story in anthology, electronic - do not include ebook repository (e.g. NetLibrary or Google books) or database links (e.g. Opposing Viewpoints), use the URL of the homepage of the publisher

Bartolomeo, J. F. (2007). A fragile utopia of sensibility: David Simple. In N. Pohl & B. Tooley (Eds.). *Gender and utopia in the eighteenth century: Essays in English and French utopian writing* (pp. 39-52). Aldershot, England: Ashgate. Retrieved from <http://www.ashgatepublishing.com/>

Carll, E. K. (2008). Violent video games and aggressive behavior in children are linked. In L. Gerdes (Ed.). *Opposing Viewpoints: Violence* (pp.115-120). Detroit: Greenhaven Press. Retrieved from <http://www.gale.cengage.com/greenhaven/>

Entry in a reference book, print and electronic

Reputation. (1996). In E. Sommer (with D. Weiss) (Eds.), *Metaphors dictionary*. Detroit, MI: Visible Ink.

Hasker, W. (2005). Afterlife. In E. N. Zalta (Ed.), *The Stanford encyclopedia of philosophy* (Summer 2009 ed.). Retrieved from <http://plato.stanford.edu/archives/sum2009/entries/afterlife/>

Other Specialized Resources

Online Documents: technical reports, research reports, issue briefs, working papers, and other corporate documents – same as a book but with Website name and URL

European Union, European Commission for the Environment. (2009, April). *Adapting to climate change: Towards a European framework for action* (White Paper 52009DC0147). Retrieved from <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:52009DC0147:EN:NOT>

Nike and TomTom unveil game-changing Nike+ SportWatch GPS. (2011, January 6). Retrieved from Nikebiz.com website: http://www.nikebiz.com/media/pr/2011/01/06_Nike_SportWatch_GPS.html

Smith, A., Schlozman, K. L., Verba, S., & Brady, H. (2009, September 1). *The internet and civic engagement*. Retrieved from Pew Internet & American Life Project website: <http://www.pewinternet.org/Reports/2009/15--The-Internet-and-Civic-Engagement.aspx?r=1>

Valdes-Dapena, P. (2011, February 11). *Hit the brakes! Drivers hit the gas instead*. Retrieved from CNNMoney.com website: http://money.cnn.com/2011/02/11/autos/pedal_misapplication/index.htm?source=cnn_bin&hpt=Sbin

Meetings, symposia, poster session, or conference paper – proceedings published in book form follow rules for article in an edited book; proceedings published on a regular basis follow format for article in a periodical. Papers and posters that have not been formally published need to include year and month, location and conference chair, if available.

McMahan, C., Hovland, R., & McMillan, S. (2008) Gender and internet advertising: Differences in the ways males and females engage with and perceive internet advertising. In S. Rodgers (Ed.), *Proceedings of the 2008 Conference of the American Academy of Advertising* (pp. 52-55). Columbia, MO: University of Missouri Press.

Weaver, T. D. (2009, September 22). The meaning of Neandertal skeletal morphology. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 106, 16028-16033. Advance online publication. doi: 10.1073/pnas.0903864106

Sreenivas, R. S. (1999, June). *On readily available supervisory policies that enforce liveness in a class of completely controlled Petri nets*. Paper presented at the 7th Mediterranean Conference on Control and Automation, Haifa, Israel.

Doctoral dissertations and masters theses – from a database and from an institutional repository (RIT DML)

Worrell, T. R. (2006). *Exemplification of health messages in the media* (Doctoral dissertation). Available from ProQuest Dissertations and Theses database. (UMI No. 1273133201)

Ucci, A. (2008, May). American Sign Language: An influence on graphic design problem-solving (Master's thesis). Available from <http://hdl.handle.net/1850/6274>

Informally published or self-archived work/report, from electronic database such as ERIC

Kariuki, C. (2009). *Professional development for 21st century teachers: Effective classroom management*. Retrieved from ERIC database. (ED505988).

Reviews – of a book, video and a video game

Erickson, B. E. (2009, September 7). Never-ending controversy: Finding truth on both sides of the water fluoridation debate [Review of the book *Fluoride wars: How a modest public health measure became America's longest-running political melodrama*, by J. H. Lehr & R. A. Freeze]. *Chemical & Engineering News*, 87(36), 72-74. Retrieved from <http://pubs.acs.org/cen/>

Braiker, B. (2008, April 7). Bathing John Malkovich. [Review of Web-only talk show "Bathing with Bierko," produced by Robert Cohen, starring Craig Bierko, guest John Malkovich, viewed at Superdeluxe.com]. *Newsweek*, 151(14), 14. Retrieved from <http://www.newsweek.com>

Morgenstern, S. (2003, August 7). Advance Wars 2: Black Hole Rising. [Review of the video game Advance Wars 2: Black Hole Rising, released by Nintendo, 2003]. *Rolling Stone*, (928), 84.

Audiovisual Media – movie, DVD, TV series, podcast, audio file or transcripts, and music

Coppola, F. F. (Producer), & Coppola, F. F. (Director). (1979). *Apocalypse now* [Motion picture]. Hollywood, CA: Paramount.

Dannis, J. (Producer), & Lee, Y. (Director). (2006). *The lives of deaf Mexicans: Struggle and success* [DVD]. San Diego, CA: Dawn Pictures.

Kohan, J. (Writer), & Seidelman, S. (Director). (1998). The power of female sex [Television series, Season One, Episode 5]. In D. Star (Producer), *Sex and the city*. USA: Darren Star Productions.

National Public Radio. (Producer). (2009, June 12). Secret to slithering is in the scales [Audio file]. Retrieved from <http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=105310436>

National Public Radio. (Producer). (2009, June 12). Secret to slithering is in the scales [Transcript]. Retrieved from <http://www.npr.org/templates/transcript/transcript.php?storyId=105310436>

Note: if this transcript was retrieved from a database such as Opposing Viewpoints or LexisNexis, the NPR URL would still be used, do not include the database URL.

Torres, B. & Torres, J. (Writers). (2009, May 5). Love us or hate us, we think you should go vegan - no apologies! [Audio podcast, 107]. In B. Torres, & J. Torres (Producers), *Vegan freak radio*. Retrieved from <http://www.veganfreakradio.com/>

Cash, R. (2009). Motherless children. On *The list* [CD]. New York, NY: Manhattan Records.

Note: In text citations for music include side and band or track numbers: “Motherless Children” (Cash, 2009, track 2)

Archived Online Communications - electronic mailing list, blog post, video, video blog post

Note: Email discussions in MyCourses are not considered archived, since they are retained for 2 years only, per RIT legal guidelines – treat these as personal communications (see Four Types of Materials that are cited only in the Text and not in the Reference List – first page of this guide)

Coppola, L. (2009, October 1). Re: My Kindle Experience [Electronic mailing list message]. Retrieved from <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/rra-l/message/13606>

RIT Libraries. Digital Assets Department. (2009, September 16). Health & medicine: Free flu information [Web blog]. Retrieved from http://library.rit.edu/blogs/digital_assets/IES/databases/archives/2009/09/health-medicine.html

Lyon, J. (2009, April 24). Dominoes everywhere [Video file] Retrieved from <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OEmKCs0eAXE>

Winfrey, O. (2009, September 29). Oprah reveals why "Fattening for Gabon" was a turning point for her [Video file]. Retrieved from <http://www.oprah.com/media/20090929-obc-oprah-video-blog-2>

Twitter and Facebook entries – as outlined by APA’s Chelsea Lee in *How to Cite Twitter and Facebook, Part II: Reference List Entries and In-Text Citations* (2009, October 26). <http://blog.apastyle.org/apastyle/2009/10/how-to-cite-twitter-and-facebook-part-ii.html>

BarackObama. (2009a, July 15). Launched American Graduation Initiative to help additional 5 mill. Americans graduate college by 2020: <http://bit.ly/gcTX7> [Twitter post]. Retrieved from <http://twitter.com/BarackObama/status/2651151366>

Barack Obama. (2009b, October 9). Humbled.

<http://my.barackobama.com/page/community/post/obamaforamerica/gGM45m> [Facebook update]. Retrieved from http://www.facebook.com/posted.php?id=6815841748&share_id=154954250775&comments=1#s154954250775

Note: Both entries are listed as posted, including name and text with URL, then brackets indicating what it is and URL for retrieving the posting. To differentiate among posts from the same person in the same year (or even the same day), you can include “a” or “b” after the year, in chronological order. If you have only one post from the writer in a year, then it is not necessary to include “a” or “b.”

Twitter and Facebook – in-text

President Obama announced the launch of the American Graduation Initiative (BarackObama, 2009a).

He also stated that he was “humbled” to have received the Nobel Peace Prize (Barack Obama, 2009b)

Legal Citations – follow guidelines in *The Bluebook: a Uniform System of Citation* REF KF245.U5

Cases

Marbury v. Madison, 2 L.Ed. 60 (1803).

Probst v. Cacoulidis, 295 A.D.2d 331, 743 N.Y.S.2d 509 (2002).

Statutes (laws)

Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Pub. L. No. 101-336, § 2, 104 Stat. 328 (1991).

Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C.A. § 12101 *et seq.* (West 1993).

N.Y. Bus. Corp. Law § 717 (McKinney 1983).

Regulations

12 C.F.R. § 225.22(d) (2) (ii) (1988)

22 N.Y.C.R.R. 1200.3 (2008)

Patents

Smith, J. D. (1984). *U.S. Patent No. 123,456*. Washington, DC: U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Created by Linda Coppola based on the rules outlined in the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed., c2010). Updated 9/2011 by Lara Nicosia. Contact Lara Nicosia for questions: ldnwml@rit.edu or 475-2626.