

American Psychological Association (APA) Documentation



APA documentation style is used in the social and behavioral sciences, including government, psychology, and sociology. For more help, consult the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, sixth edition (2013), the Purdue OWL website (https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/), or visit the Writing Studio.

Your references should include both in-text citations and a reference page.

In-Text Citations

In-text citations appear at the end of the sentence where material that is not common knowledge is either quoted directly, paraphrased, or summarized. The format includes the author (or editor or organization), publication year, and pages – or, if no pages, then paragraphs – cited (demarcated with "p." or "para."). Always include a date with the author's name. If you include the author, editor, or organization names in the body of the text, they need not appear in the citation.

Ex. Though frequently neglected in discussions of modernity, "these ideas about nationality, ethnicity, authenticity, and cultural integrity are characteristically modern phenomena that have profound implications for cultural criticism and cultural history" (Gilroy, 1993, p. 2).

Ex. According to sociologist Paul Gilroy (1993), "these ideas about nationality, ethnicity, authenticity, and cultural integrity are characteristically modern phenomena that have profound implications for cultural criticism and cultural history" (p. 2).

If you summarize or paraphrase an idea from another source but are not directly quoting the material, or if you reference an entire text (and not just a portion of it), then the citation only requires the author and year of publication.

Ex. Research in sociology has demonstrated how cultural criticism, cultural history, and modernity are impacted by ideas of identity and subjectivity (Gilroy, 1993).

Whether quoting directly, paraphrasing, or summarizing, references that appear in the text must also appear in the reference list.

Reference List

The final element of the paper is the Reference list. Title it: References.

Format: Entries should be double-spaced and listed alphabetically by the author's last name. For the authors of a particular work, put the last name, followed by the author's initials. The first line of each entry should align with the left margin; all other lines of the entry should be indented one-half inch from the left margin. Italicize titles of books, magazines, journals, and websites. Only the first word of the title and subtitle, as well as proper nouns, are capitalized; the rest of the citation should be written in sentence-case.

Electronic sources and DOI numbers: In addition to the citation practices of print sources, you need to include retrieval information for electronic sources. If the work has a DOI (digital object identification) number, list it last in the reference. If no DOI number exists, include the web address for the journal or book publisher's homepage or the URL of a personal webpage. In addition to the copyright/updated date, include a retrieval date for website citations This is the generic template for all Writing Studio handouts. Please be sure to save the word file, along with the final pdf for the website. There is no need to type the title of the handout in the main text of the handout. Instead, click into the header above and replace the text in the middle box, resizing the text if necessary. It is easiest to paste the text of a new or updated handout into this file and save it with a new name, rather than trying to add the header to the existing file (the header formatting in ornery, and if you use this file you shouldn't have to worry about the header spacing).

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References Example

Book with single author.

Author last name, Initials. (year). *Title*. City of publication, State abbr. [unless major city. See APA manual]. Publisher.

Print journal article. Author last name, Initials. (date). Article title. *Journal title, volume #* (issue #), page #s.

Online journal article

(example taken from the University of Denver Writing Center). Author last name, Initials. (date). Article title. Journal title, volume (issue), pages #s. Retrieved from URL (no retrieval date needed because final version of the article is being referenced) OR doi:xxx

Part of an anthology or chapter in a collection of essays. Author last name, Initials (date). Article title. In Editors' first initials and last names (Eds.), *Book Title* (page numbers). City of publication, State [unless major city]: Publisher.

Article from a newspaper or magazine published at least twice a month (example from the University of Denver). Author last name, Initials. (year, month day). Article title. Periodical Title, vol. (issue #) (if given), page #s. (If online include Retrieved from URL)

References

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