



# APA Reference Guide

**What is APA format?** The American Psychological Association (APA) has developed standards for paper preparation. These standards include rules for how your research paper should look and how your references should appear within the text and at the end of the paper.

**What is a reference?** When you write a research paper you must make a reference to everything in your paper that is not your own original idea. When you do this in the body of your paper, it is called a **parenthetical or in-text citation**. At the end of your paper you should also include a **reference list**. This list is arranged in alphabetical order by the author's last name, and includes the information required to access everything you consulted when writing your paper (e.g. articles, books, websites, etc.).

**What is in this guide?** This guide includes sample in text citations AND reference list citations for the following types of media: **Electronic, Print, and Audio & Visual Resources**.

**What is not in this guide?** This guide includes examples for most commonly consulted resources. For additional samples, consult the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (6<sup>th</sup> ed.) located in the MCTC Library reference collection at BF 76.7 .P83 2010 the *APA Style Guide to Electronic References*, (access the PDF at <http://www.minneapolis.edu/library/pages/citing.htm>), or visit [www.apastyle.org](http://www.apastyle.org). The following websites might help you prepare a citation: <http://citationmachine.net>. **Always** proofread citations created by databases & electronic citation machines for accuracy.

**What about Personal Communications (email, interviews, etc.)?** The following is an excerpt from *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*:

"Because they do not provide recoverable data, personal communications are not included in the reference list. **Cite personal communications in text only**. Give the initials as well as the surname of the communicator, and provide as exact a date as possible" (APA, 2010).

**What is a DOI (digital object identifier)?** The APA defines it as "a unique alphanumeric string assigned by a registration agency (the international DOI Foundation) to correctly identify content and provide a persistent link to its location on the Internet" (APA, 2010). In other words, the DOI is a permanent path to a digital article or text. The APA recommends using the DOI in your citations when available. However, **please defer to your instructor as to whether or not you should use the DOI in your citations**. See the «Reference List Citations» section of this guide for citing resources using the DOI.

# In Text and Parenthetical Citations

*When citing text within the structure of a sentence, the last name and year of publication are required:*

Kessler (2003) found that among epidemiological samples...

*Note: "Within a paragraph, when the name of the author is part of the narrative (as in the first example above), you need not include the year in subsequent nonparenthetical references to a study as long as the study cannot be confused with other studies cited in the article." (APA, 2010).*

*This can also be written:*

Early onset results in more persistent and severe course (Kessler, 2003).

*If you are directly quoting from a resource, you must cite the page number(s) in the in-text citation. If a resource doesn't have page numbers, you should refer to the paragraph where the quotation is taken from:*

"Extraordinarily successful executives, it turns out, were not perceived as overly self interested" (Citrin & Smith, 2003, p. 52).

"Beyond money, prestige, even lifestyle, the successful executive wants to have an impact and to be recognized for it" (Citrin & Smith, 2003, pp. 54-55).

"Many believe that success is the result of either luck or larceny" (Smith, 2009, "The Leap," para. 19)

## **Work by one author**

(Author's Last Name, Year of Publication)

## **Work by two authors – Use this each time the work is cited**

(Author's Last Name & Second Author's Last Name, Year of Publication)

## **Work by 3-5 multiple authors**

**FIRST** citation, list ALL authors:

(Author's Last Name, 2nd Author's Last Name, & 3rd Author's Last Name, Year of Publication)

**AFTER** first citation:

(First Author's Last Name et al., Year of Publication)

## **Works by more than 6 or more authors**

All citations:

(First Author's Last Name et al., Year of Publication)

## **Article with no author**

("Article Title," Year of Publication)

## **Book with no author**

(*Book Title*, Year of Publication)

## **Personal Communication**

(First Initial Last Name, personal communication, [Month Day, Year of Communication])

# Reference List Citations

*You should not indent the first line of a citation, but should indent the second line and each succeeding line by five spaces. Citations should be double-spaced. Except for web pages & web sites, we do not recommend including a URL in your citation. Instead, include the name of the database where you accessed the material and the last date of access. Carefully observe the punctuation and capitalization in each sample.*

## Electronic Resources - Periodicals

### Journal article from an online database

Authorlastname, A. (Year). Title of article. *Title of Periodical, Volume(Issue), xx-xx*. Retrieved from [Name of database].

Delves, D. P. (2004). How much pay . . . for how much performance? *Across the Board*, 14-18. Retrieved from MasterFILE Premier database.

### Journal article from an online database with 2-7 authors

Authorlastname, A., Authorlastname, B., & Authorlastname, C. (Year). Title of article. *Title of Periodical, Volume(Issue), xx-xx*. Retrieved from [Name of database].

Declercq, E., Sakala, C., Corry, M., & Applebaum, S. (2007). Listening to mothers II: Report of the second national U.S. survey of women's childbearing experiences. *Journal of Perinatal Education, 16*(4), 9-14. Retrieved from Alt HealthWatch database.

Kull, S., Ramsay, C., & Lewis, E. (2003/2004). Misperceptions, the media, and the Iraq war. *Political Science Quarterly, 118*(4), 569-598. Retrieved from Academic Search Premier database.

Rouse, D., Hirtz, D., Thom, E., Varner, M., Spong, C., Mercer, B... Roberts, J. (2008). A randomized, controlled trial of magnesium sulfate for the prevention of cerebral palsy. *New England Journal of Medicine, 359*(9), 895-905. Retrieved from EBSCOHost Electronic Journals Service database.

*For resources with more than 7 authors, list the first six followed by "... " and the final author's name.*

### Newspaper article from an online database

*Precede newspaper articles pages numbers with p. or pp. If article appears on inconsecutive pages, list each page separated by commas.*

Authorlastname, A. (Year, Month Day). Title of article. *Title of Newspaper, edition*, p. x [or pp. xx-xx]. Retrieved from [Name of database].

Levy, P. (2004, August 4). Minneapolis gets top shelf in literacy study; St. Paul is ranked no. 16, but experts say national report's books don't add up. *Star Tribune*, p. B1. Retrieved from ProQuest Newspapers database.

Kifner, J. (1969, December 5). Police in Chicago slay 2 panthers. *New York Times*, p. 1. Retrieved from ProQuest: Historical Newspapers The New York Times database.

### Magazine article from an online database

Authorlastname, A. (Year, Month Day). Title of article. *Title of publication, Volume(Issue)*. Retrieved from [Name of database].

Luma, J. (2008, February 11). When nature is nurture. *Newsweek*. Retrieved from EBSCOhost MasterFile Premier.

### Any Periodical article or publication with DOI

*In the abstract or the article itself, an identifier call a DOI (Digital Object Identifier) may be included. The APA prefers that you use the DOI if available. Check with your course instructor to find out if they would like you to use the DOI number in your citations.*

Authorlastname, A. (Date). Title of article. *Title of Periodical, Volume(Issue)*, x-xx. doi:  
xx.xxxxxxxxxxx

Declercq, E., Sakala, C., Corry, M., & Applebaum, S. (2007, Fall). Listening to mothers II: Report of the second national U.S. survey of women's childbearing experiences. *Journal of Perinatal Education*, 16(4), 9-14. doi:10.1624/105812407X244769

## Electronic Resources - Reference

### Article or Entry from an online reference resource with an author

Authorlastname, A. (Year). Title of article. *Title of Reference Resource, Volume* (Edition).  
Retrieved from [Name of database or URL].

Katel, P. (2005). Minimum wage. *CQ Researcher, 15*. Retrieved from CQ Researcher Online database.

Graham, G. (2005). Behaviorism. *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*. Retrieved from <http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/behavioralism/>

### Article or Entry from an online reference resource with an editor

Editorlastname, A., ed. Title of article. (Year). *Title of Reference Resource*. Retrieved from [Name of database or URL].

Commire, A., ed. Anna of Bohemia (fl. 1230s). (2002). *Women in World History: A Biographical Encyclopedia*. Retrieved from Gale Virtual Reference Library.

### Article or Entry from an online reference with no author or editor

Title of article. (Date). In *Title of Encyclopedia*. Retrieved from [Name of database or URL].

Transgender rights. (2002, May 24). In *Issues & Controversies on File*. Retrieved from Issues & Controversies @ FACTS.com database.

Minimum wage. (2005). In *West's Encyclopedia of American Law*. Retrieved from Gale Virtual Reference Library database.

## Electronic Resources - Other

### Web Page

*When citing a web page, use as much traditional citation information as possible. In addition, you will need to include the Web page address (URL) of the specific web page you are citing. If the URL is very long, use the URL of the main web site. At minimum, a citation for a web page should include a title, date of publication, and the URL. If no publication date is available, note that with (n.d.) in place of where you would cite the date.*

Authorlastname, A. [if no author, Name of organization sponsoring website] (Date). Title of the web page. Retrieved from [URL]

Bendersky, Y. (2004, August 18). India: a rising power. Retrieved from <http://www.pinr.com>

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA). (n.d.) *Pet Shops: No bargain for animals*. Retrieved from <http://www.helpinganimals.com/Factsheet/files/FactsheetDisplay.asp?ID=36>

### E-book

Authorlastname, A. (Year). *Title of electronic book*. Place of Publication: Publisher. Retrieved from [Name of database].

Gold, J. R., & Revill, G. (2004). *Representing the environment*. New York: Routledge. Retrieved from NetLibrary.

### Blog or Message Board Post

Authorlastname, A. (Year, Month Day). Title of post. [Description of form]. Retrieved from URL

Peters, Tom. (2009, June 15). Absent at the ebook revolution. [Web log message]. Retrieved from <http://www.alatechsource.org/blog/2009/06/absent-at-the-ebook-revolution.html>

## Audio Recording – Podcast

Speakerlastname, A. (Speaker's Title). (Date). Title. *Production name*. [Audio podcast].  
Retrieved from [URL]

Heinrich, Virginia. (Producer) (2009, October 2). Fahrenheit 451 and banned books week.  
*BlogTalk radio: Our view from the park*. [Audio Podcast]. Retrieved from  
<http://www.blogtalkradio.com/MCTC-Library/2009/10/02/Our-View-From-the-Park>

## Print Resources – Periodicals

### Scholarly Journal article

Authorlastname, A. (Year, Month). Title of article. *Title of Publication, Volume(Issue)*, xx-xx.

Frye, R. V. (2004). Therapeutic communities: A therapeutic bridge. *Journal of Psychoactive  
Drugs*, 36(2), 265-271.

### Magazine article

Authorlastname, A. (Year, Month). Title of article. *Title of Publication*, xx-xx.

Roddick, A. (2004, July-August). There is a human being behind that label. *Ecologist*, 23-27.

### Newspaper article

*Precede newspaper articles pages numbers with p. or pp. If article appears on inconsecutive pages, list each page separated by commas.*

Authorlastname, A. (Year, Month). Title of article. *Title of newspaper*, p. x [or pp. xx-xx].

Madrick, J. (2004, August 5). If higher education is so important to the economy, why is its financing being cut more than that of other large programs? *New York Times* (late ed.), p. C2.

## Print Resources – Books

### Book with a single author

Authorlastname, A. (Year). *Complete title of work*. Place of Publication: Name of Publisher.

Ruggiero, V.R. (2007) *The art of thinking: A guide to critical and creative thought*. New York, NY: Pearson Longman.

### Book with two to seven authors

Authorlastname, A., & Authorlastname, B. (Year). *Complete title of work*. Place of Publication: Name of Publisher.

Herman, E. S., & Chomsky, N. (1988). *Manufacturing consent: The political economy of the mass media*. New York, NY: Pantheon Books.

*For resources with more than 7 authors, list the first six followed by “...” and the final author’s name.*

### Book with translator

Authorlastname, A. (Year). *Complete title of work* (Translator’s Name, Trans.) Place of Publication: Name of Publisher. (Original work published [Year]).

Korn, F. & Eichhorst, S. (2006). *Born in the big rains: a memoir of Somalia and survival*. (Tobe Levin, Trans.) New York, NY: Feminist Press at the City University of New York. (Original work published 2004).

### Book with an editor

Editorlastname, A. (Ed.). (Year). *Complete title of work*. Place of Publication: Name of Publisher.

Davis, C. M. (Ed.). (2004). *Complementary therapies in rehabilitation* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.). Thorofare, NJ: SLACK.



## Chapter in an edited book

Authorlastname, A. (Year). Title of chapter. In E. Editorlastname (eds.), *Title of book* (pp. xx-xx). Place of Publication: Name of Publisher.

Haybron, D.M. (2008). Philosophy and the science of subjective well-being. In M. Eid & R.J. Larsen (eds.), *The science of subjective well-being* (pp.17-43). New York, NY: Guilford Press.

## Article in an encyclopedia or other reference book

Authorlastname, A. (Year). Title of Article. In [Editorfirstinitial Editorlastname] (Ed.), *Title of encyclopedia or reference book* (Vol. x, pp. xx-xx). Place of Publication: Publisher.

Bedau, H. A. (1998). Civil disobedience. In R. Cadunek (Ed.), *Encyclopedia of applied ethics*. (Vol.1, pp. 501-508). San Diego, CA: Academic Press.

Randall, M. (2000). Barbara Kingsolver 1955-. In J. Hunter (Ed.), *Contemporary literary criticism*. (Vol. 130, pp. 68-70). Detroit, MI: Gale Group.

## Audio, Visual and Other Resources

### VHS, DVD, YouTube Recordings

Name(s) of primary contributors (Function). (Year). *Title*. [Medium]. Country of Origin: Studio.

Collins, M. (Producer/Writer), & Wolfinger, K. (Director). (2002). *Bioterror* [Motion picture]. United States: a Nova production by the New York Times/Granada Factuals USA, Lone Wolf Pictures, Inc., for WGBH/Boston.

Achbar, M., Wintonick, P., & Symansky, A. (Producers). (2002). *Manufacturing consent: Noam Chomsky and the media*. [DVD]. United States: Zeitgeist Films.

### 🎧 Audio Recording – Music

Artistlastname, A. (Year). Title of track (if applicable). *Title of album* [Medium]. Place of Publication: Publisher.

Hill, J. (1990). *Don't mourn—organize!: Songs of labor songwriter Joe Hill* [CD]. Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian/Folkways.

### 🎧 Audio Recording – Spoken Word

Speakerlastname, A. (Speaker's Title). (Year). Title of track (if applicable). *Title of album* [Medium]. Place of Publication: Publisher.

Babbich, P. (Producer/Host). (2001). *Ballot access: Race and the U.S. electoral system*. [Cassette]. Oakland, CA: National Radio Project.

## Reference

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