APA-style Citation Guide

October 2019

This ‘quick-guide’ provides examples of how to cite commonly-used materials in APA-style. it provides in-text and reference list citation formats. For more information about writing and citation of other materials, refer to the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (2010). The Publication Manual is available at Axinn Library Reference Desk, Call Number Z253 P83 2010

In addition, there are a number of good webguides to APA-style, one of which is APA-Style Essentials at Vanguard University

ORANGE TEXT IN BOXES TELL YOU WHAT TO DO
THE REST ARE EXAMPLES OF CITATIONS

(go to Google and enter “APA-Style Essentials” in search box)

Some general notes –

- Second and subsequent lines of citation are indented
- Titles of books and journals (MAJOR elements) are italicized; titles of chapters and articles (MINOR elements) are not
- Only first letter of title, first letter after colon, and proper nouns are capitalized for articles, chapters, and books.
- JOURNAL TITLES are different – all major words are capitalized
- AUTHORS - only first and middle initials
- Ampersands (&) and “and” – ampersand with authors in reference list and in-text parentheses; “and” in text

**Book – one author**

*Reference List*

*In-text citation*
(McInnis, 1982) -- or -- McInnis (1982) found …

**Book – two authors**

*Reference List*

*In-text citation*
(Vogler & Bartz, 1982) -- or -- Vogler and Bartz (1982) found…

**Book – more than two authors**

*Reference List*

*In-text citation*
(Smith, Jones, & Ely, 2002) – or -- Smith, Jones, and Ely (2002) found…

*after first cite, use* (Smith, et al., 2002) – or – Smith, et al. (2002)…

**Edited Book**

*Reference List*

**Book – no author or editor**

*Reference List*

*In-text citation* *(treat first several words of title as the author)*
(Merriam-Webster, 1993) -- or -- Merriam-Webster (1993) defines …
Book Chapter

Reference List

In-text citation
(O’Neil & Egan, 1992) -- or -- O’Neil and Egan (1992) stated…

When citing a chapter from a book where the author of the chapter and the author of the book are the same, enter the author's name at the beginning of the citation only. Follow the above format, but do not insert author's name a second time.

Authors of chapters are treated the same as authors of books. Note that the editor's name(s) are NOT ‘last name first’ - the chapter author is cited in the text and reference list as it is the chapter that is of interest. Use (Ed.) or (Eds.) as appropriate.

Entries in dictionaries, encyclopedias, and handbooks are treated like book chapters.

Journal Article

Reference List
Author(s) same as all author(s). (2005). Preferred number of sexual partners: Tails of distributions and tales of mating systems. Evolution and Human Behavior, 26(3), 271-278.

Popular Magazine Article

Reference List
Author(s) same as all authors. (1990, April 9). Beyond the melting pot. Time, 135, 28-31.

Newspaper Article

Reference List
Author(s) same as all authors. (1993, September 30). Obesity affects economic, social status. The Washington Post, p. A12.

Notice that dates are treated differently for popular magazine and newspaper articles than for books and journal articles. This is because users often ask for these materials by a specific date.

In-text citation is the same for books, book chapters and articles.
Electronic Resources

Due of the variety of electronic items that can be cited, including articles, books, dissertations, curriculum materials, raw data, gray literature, powerpoint presentations, podcasts, weblog posts, videos, etc., there isn’t enough space to cover citation of these items in this guide.

Rules for citing electronic versions of the commonly cited materials covered in this guide can be found on pp. 187-192 of the APA Manual found at the Reference Desk.

Another excellent source for citing electronic information sources is the APA Style Blog, located at http://blog.apastyle.org/apastyle/electronic-references/

Government Documents

Because government documents vary so much in form and substance, the site or document from which they are accessed usually advise on the correct citation at the bottom of the document.

You can modify this information to fit within APA; for example, if they list the date last, move the date into the proper APA position.

Questions? Comments?

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