APA CITATION GUIDELINES

This handout gives the most commonly used citations from the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (2010). Note that there are differences from the previous edition.

APA In-text Citations

Whenever you use information or ideas from another text in your paper, you must indicate what work you used and when it was published. In-text citations are used in conjunction with the Reference list. Author and year should go in parenthesis after the idea, paraphrase, or quote from a source. If there is no author, use the first item of the Reference list (article or website name, etc).

Typical reference: single author
A recent study (Davis, 1997) indicates that the attention span of college freshmen varies from class to class.

Author name in text
Davis (1997) notes that the attention span of college freshmen varies from those of college seniors.

A work by two authors (Write out all last names in text)
Jacobsen and Waugh note that the death penalty is not warranted because of all the innocent people who have been found on death row (210).

A work by two or three authors (Write out all last names)
Jacobson and Waugh (1985) argue that the death penalty is not warranted because of the difficulties of proving guilt.

A work by more than three authors (List all authors first time, note et al subsequently)
Bell, Carter, Dixon, and Reed (1999) explore the evolution of Islam in modern Europe. Bell et al. (1999) note that the European powers believed they could change the fundamentals of Moslem existence.

A work produced by a group (Write out full name the first time, use acronym subsequently)
New figures for stress-related illnesses reveal a disturbing trend (National Institute of Mental Health [NIMH], 1999). Researchers differ in approaches to dealing with these new challenges (NIMH, 1999).

A work without an author or with an anonymous author (Use a shortened version of the title beginning with the first word on reference page)
Incidents of harassment on college campuses have been on the decline (“Study Finds,” 2001). The report New Frontiers in Therapy (2000) outlines several alternative approaches in the field. The institution also encourages teachers to give additional homework weekly (Anonymous, 1999).

A work without a publication date (Use “n.d.” for “no date”)
Lerner (n.d.) questions the variables of guilt and self-esteem in studying serial killers.

A work where only a specific part of a source is used (Indicate page number, table, figure, etc)
Another experiment (Williams, 1998, table 2) finds no relationship.

Works that have the same information (Note the sources in alphabetical order)
Several studies (Edwards, 1999; Finster, 1995; Sprague, 1992) note a connection between exercise and stress level.

Works with the same author last name (Use first initials)
An indirect source (if you are using a source quoted in another source use “as cited in”)
Allport’s diary showcases examples of the time period (as cited in Nicholson, 2003).

Personal communication (Use in-text only)
This was determined in a conversation with T.K Lutes (personal communication, April 18, 2001).

A direct quote of four lines or more (Indent quotation one tab, double space, no quotation marks)
Bell (2001) notes that readers and writers have a specific kind of relationship:

Writers stake out a territory to explore, provide maps designed for discovery, and invite readers to join the expedition. Readers, in turn, survey the invitation and weigh the possibilities for discovery before making a commitment to the journey. The next time you’re in a bookstore or library, you can watch these negotiations in action. (p. 1)

APA References Page (Print/Media Sources)
If a portion of the information shown below does not exist for your source, omit it. Note: when you cite in APA format, use a hanging indent (shown below). For space reasons, the citations here are not double-spaced but citations in a paper should be.

Books:
Author’s (or editor’s if an edited work) last name, first initial. (Year of Publication). Title of Book.
City of Publication: Name of publisher.

One author or edited volume:

Two to eight authors:
Albuquerque, NM: Desert.

Reference book:

Conference presentation or poster:

Doctoral dissertation:

Editorial without author:
Magazine article:

Newspaper article:

Translation:

Book review:

Television episode:

Music recording:

Unpublished manuscript:

Photographs:
Photographs of Robert M. Yerkes]. (cs. 1917-1954). Robert Mearns Yerkes Papers (Box 137, Folder 2292), Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library, New Haven, CT.

**APA References Page (Online Sources)**

Note that some online sources from databases and other resources may contain a digital object identifier, or DOI. When present, this should be listed in your reference page. If not present, use this format for urls: “Retrieved from http://www.xxxxxxx”

Online version of a print book:

Online magazine article:

Online newspaper article:
An internet article based on a print source:

Media obtained online (video):

Corporate author:

Entry in an online reference work:

Online entry with no author:

Government report:

Blog post:

Online forum/discussion group:
Rampersad, T. (2005, June 8). Re: Traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions [Online forum comment]. Retrieved from http://www.wipo.int/roller/comments/ipisforum/Weblog/theme_eight_how_can_cultural#comments

For more information, please refer to:
- The Purdue Online Writing Lab: http://owl.english.purdue.edu/
- Anatomy of an APA citation handout
- Librarian or Writing Center Tutor