Examples of Crediting Sources in Text and Bibliographies

University of Michigan

Examples for preparing citations and the list of works cited are taken from Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 6th edition, “Crediting Sources,” and “Reference Examples.” For more complete instructions and additional examples, please see the manual (call number BF 76.7 P83 2010 in the Shapiro Undergraduate Library, Hatcher Graduate Library, Taubman Medical Library and Public Health Library) or at the association’s style guide web site: http://www.apastyle.org/.

Reference List

Arrange entries in alphabetical order by surname of the first author. For more than one work by the same author, arrange in date order, earliest first. One-author entries precede multiple-author entries beginning with the same surname.

Journals and other periodicals:

The general format for periodicals (items published on a regular basis, like newspapers, magazines, and journals):


Note: DOI refers to Digital Object Identifier; see “Electronic Journal Articles,“ below. If a DOI is available, include it, for both print and electronic sources (Manual, Section 6.31).

When there are up to seven authors, spell out all authors’ names; beyond that use ellipses before the last author’s name.

Print journal articles (Manual section 7.01)


Online magazine articles  *(Manual section 7.01.8)*


Electronic journal articles

APA style requires the addition of a DOI – Digital Object Identifier – for electronic journal articles if one is available. (Most current journals articles and many historic articles found in PsycINFO will have a DOI.) (Note: your instructor may choose to have you do reference lists in a simpler format. Please check with them if you are not sure.)

If retrieving an article from a private database (examples of private databases include library databases like ProQuest, PsycInfo, or LexisNexis), it is not necessary to include the database information in your reference. However, if there is no DOI available for a journal article, you should look up the home page URL of the journal and include it in your reference.

- **DOI available** *(Manual section 6.31, and 7.01.1-2, 5)*
  

- **No DOI Available – Include the journal’s homepage in the reference** *(Manual section 7.01.3-4)*
  

- **No DOI, journal is online only** *(Manual section 7.01.3)*
  

Daily newspaper article, no author *(Manual section 7.01.10)*


Online newspaper article *(Manual section 7.01.11)*

Books:

**Entire book, print version** (*Manual* section 7.02.18)


**Electronic version of print book** (*Manual* section 7.02.19)


*For an explanation of DOI, see the section on Electronic journal articles, p. 2.*

**Electronic-only book** (*Manual* section 7.02.20)


**Book chapter, print version** (*Manual* section 7.02.25)


**Reference book** (*Manual* section 7.02.27)


**Entry in an online reference work** (*Manual* section 7.02.29)


**Entry in an online reference work, no author or editor** (*Manual* section 7.02.30)

**Government report** *(Manual section 7.03.31)*


**Other Resources:**

**Websites**

*If you are citing an entire website, and not a specific document from the site, you can simply include the address of the site within the text of your paper (APA Style website, http://www.apastyle.org/learn/faqs/cite-website.aspx). If you are citing a particular document on a website, however, follow the example(s) below.*

**Web message/post/comment with author listed** *(Manual section 7.11.74)*


**Web article with no author listed** *(http://www.apastyle.org/learn/faqs/web-page-no-author.aspx)*


**Blog posts** *(Manual section 7.11.76)*

*Use the author’s name if known, otherwise use a screen name.*


**Videos on websites such as YouTube** *(APA refers to these as video blog posts; Manual section 7.11.77)*

 Wikis *(Because the entries may change, retrieval date is important. For more information on citing wikis, go to http://blog.apastyle.org/apastyle/2009/10/how-to-cite-wikipedia-in-apa-style.html)*


**Motion Pictures** *(Manual, section 7.07)*


**Television – single episode** *(Manual, Section 7.07)*


**Advertisements, with title** *(email correspondence with APA staff, December 2006)*


**Advertisements, with no title** *(email correspondence with APA staff, December 2006)*


**Citing References in Text** *(Manual, section 6.11)*

APA style uses an author-date format for in-text citations. Every reference cited in the text of your document should be included in the reference list. Generally speaking, the author’s last name and year of publication should be inserted into the text when appropriate. If the author’s name is part of the narrative, then the publication year alone is included in parentheses. If the author’s name is not part of the narrative, then both the author’s last name and the publication year is included in the parentheses.

**One author** *(Manual section 6.11)*

Karaka (1884) describes the religious customs and traditions of the Parsis settled in Gujarat.

One of the most prominent men of the time had a close relationship with the British (Karaka, 1884).
**Multiple authors** (*Manual* section 6.12)

If a work has **two** authors, then include both names every time the reference occurs in the text.

Forte and Hewitt (2006) propose the idea that

If there are between **three** and **five** authors of a work, use all the authors’ names the first time you refer to the work. For any subsequent references, use the first author’s name followed by et al. (include a period after al.) and the publication year if it is the first citation of this work within a paragraph.

Mack, Behler, Roberts and Rimland (2007) found that students

Mack, et al. (2007) continues on to conclude that

If the work has **more** than five authors, then use only the last name of the first author followed by et al. and the publication year.