APA 6th Citation Style

These pages provide citing guidance for various formats according to the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed., 2009-10). Please refer to this manual for formats not mentioned here.

**The References list**

Begin a new page labeled **References** (centered and in lower case letters with a capital R). Entries should be alphabetized and have a hanging indent. The entire reference list **MUST BE DOUBLE SPACED** (examples below are not double-spaced to save space). Alphabetize entries by the first word (excluding *The*, *A* or *An*) in the entry.

APA requires that references cited in the text must appear in the reference list; conversely, each entry on the reference list must be cited in the text. *Be sure that each source appears in both places and that entries in both places are identical in spelling and year.*

1. Periodicals: Journal, magazine and newspaper articles

   **General form**
   
   doi:xx.xxxxxxxxxx

   - If one is available, provide the digital object identifier (doi) for all formats.
   - If no doi is available and you retrieved the complete article online, provide homepage URL of the online version of the journal or the **name of the database**. Many SCU professors prefer the latter, but you should **ask your professor** for her/his preferences. Examples are below.
   - Professors may prefer that online articles include the name of the database (rather than the doi). Be sure to ask!
   - Include an issue number (after the volume, in parentheses, not italicized) only if each issue in the volume begins with page 1.

   **One author**
   
   
   **In-text:** Simpson (2007) states that… or …other research (Simpson, 2007).

   **Two authors**
   
   
   **In-text:** (Sands & Shaevitz, 2007). or According to Sands and Shaevitz (2007), …

   **Three to 5 authors**
   
   doi:10.1177/0145721707303807
   
   **In-text:** (Geller, Schrader, & Nansel, 2007). or Research by Geller, Schrader and Nansel (2007)…

   **Note:** After the first time the citation is used, shorten to first author’s name and et al. Example: Geller et al. (2007).

   **Six to 7 authors**
   
   Follow the general form, including all authors in the reference list citation.
   **In-text:** Firstauthor et al. (year). (Use this form each time it is used in the paper)

   **Magazine article**
   
   
   **In-text:** …other people (Padgett, 2007). or …research by Padgett (2007).

   **Daily newspaper, no author**
   
   
   **Note:** Use author if provided. If no author, move the article title to the first position and alphabetize in the reference list by the first word. Give all page numbers, separated by a comma, on which article appears.
   **In-text:** (“Driving,” 2001). or According to “Driving + talking” (2001)...

   **Online newspaper article**
   
Review of a book or motion picture


Abstracts from an online database


2. Books and reference books


In-text: …of learning (Dillard, 1974). or …according to a study by Dillard (1974) the…


In-text: (American Psychiatric Association [APA], 2000). first time it is used in paper. Afterward: (APA, 2000).


In-text: (Kerrigan & Braden, 1989). or …Kerrigan and Braden (1989) …

Three to five authors  Follow the general form, including the names of all authors.

In-text: Cite the surnames of all authors the first time the reference occurs in your paper. In subsequent citations, use only the first author followed by et al. and the year.

Examples: Rott, Rickert, Newsome and Humeston (2005) reported … (Use as first citation in text) Rott et al. (2005) found substantial evidence… (Next time citation is used)

More than 5 authors  Please see the examples for Periodicals, above.


In-text: (Gibbs & Huang, 1998). or Gibbs and Huang (1998) contend…


In-text: (Webster’s new explorer dictionary and thesaurus, 1999). You may also shorten the name: … according to Webster’s (1999)…


In-text: (Rose, 1987). or …Rose (1987) contends that…


In-text: (Smith, 1991). or Smith (1991) writes that…


In-text: …about Timothy Leary’s beliefs (“Leary,” 1997).

Online book, dictionary or encyclopedia


In-text: (“Feminism,” 2005). or According to “Feminism” (2005), the most…


In-text: (“Social networks,” 2001) or In “Social networks” (2001), we learn….

3. Bible or other classical works

According to the APA manual, the Bible or other classical works are not given entries on the References list, but are cited in the text of the paper. However, check with your professor to see what is required by her or him.

Using the in-text/parenthetical reference, give the book, chapter, and verse of the passage with the version of the Bible you used. This is required for the first citation only; you do not need to identify the version in later citations unless you switch to a different version.


4. Personal communications

Examples of personal communications may include personal or telephone interviews, letters, memos, e-mail messages, chat or other types of discussion formats. Personal communications are cited in the text of the paper only (because they are not considered recoverable, they are not included in the reference list). Provide the date as exact as is possible.

J. M. Newsome (personal communication, May 28, 2007) expressed concern regarding….

…of their lives and their jobs (V. P. DeLuca, personal communication, November 9, 2007).

5. Motion pictures and videos

**General form:** Name, A. B. (Producer), & Name, D. (Director). (Year). *Title of the motion picture* [Motion picture]. Country of origin: Studio. **


In-text: … was clearly shown in the video *Toxic Racism* (Donnelly & Raisz, 1994).


**Note:** Use [DVD] if you viewed this on a DVD. Use [Motion picture] if you viewed it in a theater.

6. Citing specific parts of a source

To cite a specific part of a source, APA requires that the page number be included in the in-text citation. This includes references to specific pages, chapters, figures, tables or equations. (See pages 170-173 of the APA 6th manual for more on quotations.)

**Examples:** … (Edeline & Weinberg, 1991, p. 302). or According to Edeline and Weinberg (1991, p. 302)…

… (Pepperberg, 1998, chapter 21). or Research by Pepperberg (1998, chapter 21) found…

Most **electronic sources** do not provide page numbers (unless they are PDF reproductions of printed material). If paragraph numbers are visible, use them in place of page numbers. Use the abbreviation para.

**Examples:** As Myers (2000, para. 5) phrased it… or … (Jostad, 2001, para. 6).

If there are headings in the document and neither paragraph nor page numbers are visible, cite the heading and the number of the paragraph within this section where the information was found.

**Example:** (Beutler, 2000, Conclusion section, para. 1)

Headings may be shortened, as long as the intended heading is still apparent to the reader. If neither numbers nor headings are present, it is acceptable to omit a location reference altogether.
7. Other Electronic Resources

Web sites
There is much variation in Web sites - follow the examples as closely as you can. If the source gives no copyright or “last updated” date, use (n.d.) -- no date. It is good practice to include the sponsoring organization for the Web site somewhere in the citation, either as the author or in the „Retrieval” info. **Do not end the URL with a period**, and remove underlines on URLs.

**General form:** 

**OR** 

*Note: When a site has many pages, it is acceptable to give a URL for the home (or entry) page for the site.


**In text:** (American Academy of Pediatrics, 1994) if using source just once.

**OR:** 


**In-text:** (“Latex allergy,” 2009).


**In-text:** (Lindsley, 2001).


**In-text citation:** (National Families in Action, 2004)

**Daily newspaper article, from the Web site of the newspaper**

**In text:** (Jostad, 2009).

**Brochure** (in PDF form)

**In text:** (United States Department of Agriculture, 2009).

**Reference to entire Web site**
When referring to an entire site, give the URL in the text but do not include it in the reference list.

*Example:* The Web site Witchcraft in Europe and America (http://www.witchcraft.psmedia.com/) presents the full text of many essential works in the literature of witchcraft and demonology.…

**Stand-alone document, with no author identified and no date given**

**In-text:** (“Faculty survey,” n.d.).

**Blog post**

**In text:** (Library News, 2010).

**Video blog post (such as YouTube)**

**In text:** (Arizona State University, 2010)

**PowerPoint slides**

**In-text:** (Sprott, n.d.)


**In-text:** (Fogarty, 2010).

**Podcasts**

**In text:** (Dabrowski, 2010).