

American Psychological Association Referencing Style



AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION REFERENCING STYLE

APA style describes rules for the preparation of manuscripts for writers and students in psychology. It is also used in disciplines such as Sociology, Occupational Therapy, Social Work and Nursing.

For a comprehensive guide to the APA Style please refer to: American Psychological Association. *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.), on which this handout is based.

In-Text Citations

- When citing references within the text of an assignment, use the author's name followed by the date of publication in brackets. Citations of two or more works in the same parentheses should be listed in the order they appear in the reference list (i.e., alphabetically, then chronologically), e.g. (Major, 2004; White, 1990).
- Page numbers must be given when quoting directly from another source and double quotation marks placed around the quote.
- When a source has three, four, or five authors, include all authors the first time the source is cited. When that source is cited again, the first author's surname and "et al." are used. *When a source has six or more authors, the first author's surname and "et al." are used every time the source is cited (including the first time).*

How to Create a Reference List

- A reference list only includes books, articles etc. that are cited in the text. This is in contrast to a bibliography which is a list of sources used for background or further reading.
- The reference list is arranged alphabetically by author, editor or first significant word of title (where there is no author).
- List up to seven authors. If there are more than seven, list the first six, followed by ... and then the last author's name.
- The title of the book and title of the journal, including volume number, must be in italics (not the title of journal article).
- Only indicate the issue number if the journal is paginated by issue, i.e. if each issue begins with page 1.
- The second and subsequent lines of the reference must be indented.

It is very important that you check the assignment guide for your Department as some details, e.g. punctuation, may vary from the guidelines in this document.

Books	In-Text Example	Reference List Example
Single author	A profession is characterized by extensive, specialized theory-content (Muller, 2002) .	Muller, M. (2002). <i>Nursing dynamics</i> (3rd ed.). Johannesburg, South Africa: Heinemann Publishers.
2 authors	Melnyk and Fineout-Overholt (2005) believe that cohort studies are a “nonexperimental” research design.	Melnyk, B. M., & Fineout-Overholt, E. (2005). <i>Evidence-based practice in nursing & healthcare: A guide to best practice</i> . Philadelphia, PA: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.
3, 4 and 5 authors	Stereotyping has been used as a measure of the salience of social categories (Oakes, Turner, & Haslam, 1994). Or, (Oakes et al., 1994). [Subsequent citations of the work]	Oakes, P. J., Haslam, S. A., & Turner, J. C. (1994). <i>Stereotyping and social reality</i> . Oxford, England: Blackwell.
No author	In the book <i>Emergency nursing made incredibly easy!</i> (2007), nursing is defined as...	<i>Emergency nursing made incredibly easy!</i> (2007). Philadelphia, PA: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.
Section or chapter in a book	In her analysis, Powers (2005) discussed three elements of a successful clinical case.	Powers, B. A. (2005). Critically appraising qualitative evidence. In B. M. Melnyk & E. Fineout-Overholt (Eds.), <i>Evidence-based practice in nursing & healthcare: A guide to best practice</i> (pp.127-162). Philadelphia, PA: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.
Electronic book	Neurodevelopment is a continuous process which begins shortly after conception and deteriorates as we grow older (Hagerman & Hendren, 2014).	Hagerman, R.J., & Hendren, R. L. (2014). <i>Treatments for neurodevelopmental disorders: Targeting neurobiological mechanisms</i> . Retrieved from http://www.EBSCOhost.com
Print Journals	In-Text Example	Reference List Example
Article	Urban birth, a risk factor for schizophrenia, is more frequent among second-generation immigrants (Cantor-Graae & Pedersen, 2007).	Cantor-Graae, E., & Pedersen, C. B. (2007). Risk of schizophrenia in second-generation immigrants: A Danish population-based cohort study. <i>Psychological Medicine</i> , 37 (4), 485-494. [Each issue begins with page 1.]
Article—no author	It’s a growing problem in the U.K. (“Anorexia nervosa”, 1969).	Anorexia nervosa. (1969). <i>British Medical Journal</i> , 1, 529-30.

Electronic Journals	In-Text Example	Reference List Example
Online journal article	Teenage motherhood was positively correlated with a childhood experience of parental separation/divorce (Quinlivan, Tan, Steele, & Black, 2004) .	Quinlivan, J. A., Tan, L. H., Steele, A., & Black, K. (2004). Impact of demographic factors in teenage pregnancy. <i>Australian and New Zealand Journal of Psychiatry</i> , 38, 197-203. doi: 15038797. [Please note: provide the doi or URL if available]
World Wide Web	In-Text Example	Reference List Example
Document on WWW	“I’m not sure how many street level practitioners read cluster and factor analysis studies” (Alterio, 2011).	Alterio, C. (2011, April 13). <i>Sensory integration research: Who is it for?</i> [Blog post]. Retrieved from http://abctherapeutics.blogspot.com/search/label/evidence-based%20practice [Please note: retrieval date does not have to be indicated unless the website is liable to change or be removed.]
Secondary sources	In-Text Example	Reference List Example
Journal article (when citing an author who has been cited in the article in hand)	“...origins of neuralgia” (Carini & Hogan, as cited in Patton, 2002, p.2154).	Patton, K. T. (2002). Neuralgia and headaches. <i>Science</i> , 400, 2153-55. [Record the journal that you actually sourced.]
Other sources	In-Text Example	Reference List Example
Personal communication, e-mail and discussion lists with no web archive	It was confirmed that an outbreak occurred in London (S. Savieri, personal communication, April 24, 1999).	Not included in reference list as they cannot be traced by the reader.