

How to use American River College Library

APA Style: References List

APA (American Psychological Association) has set uniform standards for communication in the field of psychology and other related areas. This is a basic guide for creating a reference list. For more information, consult an APA manual or the APA website at <http://www.apastyle.org> . For a sample APA report and more detailed rules and examples, visit the Purdue University website at http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/research/r_apa.html . Also see Duke University's website at <http://library.duke.edu/research/guides/citing/>

Format for creating reference lists:

Some Basics:

- Use the word “References” at the top of the list.
- Arrange the items on your list in alphabetical order by the author’s last name.
- All lines after first line of each entry should be indented ½ inch from left margin.
- Double space citations.
- Never use author’s first name. Use only first and second initials.
- Italicize titles of books and titles and volumes of journals.
- Capitalize all words in a journal title but only the first letter of the first word in a book title, Web page or non-journal.

Book

Format: Author/Editor. (Date of publication). *Book title (edition)*. Place of publication:
Publisher.

Example: Kohn, A. (1992). *No contest: The case against competition*. Boston: Houghton
Mifflin.

Chapter in Edited Book

Format: Chapter author. (Date of publication). Chapter title. In Book editor (Ed.), *Book
title* (chapter page numbers). Place of publication: Publisher.

Example: Stein, S.T., Hart, K.M., & Wall, T.S. (1999). Aging and memory. In L. M. James
(Ed.), *Contemporary thought in human development of learning and
memory* (pp. 250-272). New York: Dodd, Mead.

Magazine Article and Journal Article

Format: Author, A. A., Author, B.B., & Author, C. C. (Year, month, day), Title of article.

Title of Periodical, volume number (issue number), pages.

Example: Radner, H. (1991, December). Do babies have a universal language? *Psychology*

Today, 9, 70-76.

Example: Rich, M. L., Florenz, H. N., & Wilson, D. M. (1993). Learning and memory

while under stress. *Journal of Experimental Psychology, 9, 14-30.*

Web Site or other Internet Source

Format: Author, A. A. (Date of Publication). *Title of article.* Retrieved month, day, year,

from <http://Web> address

Example: Cameron, J. (2001). *Evaluating web resources.* Retrieved June 1, 2001, from

<http://www.library.ucla.edu/libraries/college/instruct/htm>.

Journal Article from an Electronic Database/Index

Article with DOI (Digital Object Identifier)

Format: Author. (Year). Title. *Journal Title, volume (issue),* paging or indicator of length.

doi: number

Example: Wilens, T. E., & Edmonds, J. (2007). Alcohol, drugs, and attention-

deficit/hyperactivity disorder: A study of addictions in youth. *Journal of*

Psychopharmacology, 20(4), 580-588. doi: 10.1177/026988110558777

Article with no DOI (Digital Object Identifier)

Format: Author. (Year). Title. *Journal Title*, volume (issue), paging or indicator of length.

Retrieved from Database Name.

Example: Coleman, R. B. (2001). Hyperactive disorder and diet in children. *Journal of Nutrition*, 11(31), 60–78. Retrieved from ProQuest Research Library database.

Electronic/e-Books

Entire Electronic Book

Retrieved from database

Example: O’Keefe, E. (2003). *Egoism & the crisis in Western values*. Retrieved from PsycBOOKS database

Item with direct link

Example: Vogel, C.G. (1999). Legends of landforms: Native American Lore. Retrieved from <http://www.nativeamericanresearch.org/productid=444543>

Electronic Book Chapter

Example: Symonds, P. M. (2007) Human drives. In C. L. Stacey & M. DeMartino (Eds.), *Understanding human motivation* (pp. 11-22) Retrieved from PsycBOOKS database.

How to Use American River College Library

APA Style: In-Text Citations

For more information, consult an APA manual or the APA website at <http://www.apastyle.org> . For a sample APA report and more detailed rules and examples, consult the Purdue University website at http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/research/r_apa.html Also see Duke University's website at <http://library.duke.edu/research/guides/citing/>

Handling Quotations

- If you are **referring** to an idea from another work but **NOT** directly quoting the material, or making reference to an entire book, article or other work, you only have to reference the author and year of publication in your in-text reference.
- If you are **directly quoting** or **paraphrasing** from a work, you will need to include the author, year of publication, and the page number for the reference.

Formatting Citations

- After a colon or dash in a title, capitalize the next word.
- *Italicize* the titles of longer works such as books.
- Put quotation marks around the titles of shorter works such as journal articles.
- If a work has two authors, cite both names every time the reference appears in your text. Join the authors' names with the word "and."
- If a work has three, four, or five authors, cite all of the authors the first time you refer to the work in your text. The next time you refer to the work, shorten the citation to the last name of the first author plus the words "et al." Join the authors' names with an ampersand (&) if you are referring to them in a parenthetical citation.

Short Quotations (fewer than 40 words)

- Enclose the quotation within double quotation marks.
- Provide the author, year, and specific page citation in the text.
- Punctuation marks, such as periods, commas, and semicolons, should appear after the parenthetical citation.
-

She stated, "Students often had difficulty using APA style," (Jones, 1998, p. 199), but she did not offer an explanation as to why.

According to Jones (1998), "Students often had difficulty using APA style, especially when it was their first time" (p. 199).

Jones (1998) found "students often had difficulty using APA style" (p. 199); what implications does this have for teachers?

No author, no date, and no page numbers:

- Use the first few words from the title, then the abbreviation n.d. (for “no date”)
- Use paragraph numbers (if available) or simply leave out any reference to pages.

In another study of students and research decisions, it was discovered that students succeeded with tutoring ("Tutoring and APA," n.d.).

Citing a source quoted in another source:

"(Bandura 1989 as cited in Feist 1998)."

Personal communications, such as **e-mail** messages to you, or private **interviews** that you conducted with another person, should be referred to in your in-text citations but NOT in your **References** list. Provide initials and last name of the communicator, the words “personal communication”, plus an exact date in the body of your paper:

A. P. Smith also claimed that many of her students had difficulties with APA style (personal communication, November 3, 2002).

Long Quotations (Block Quotes: longer than 40 words)

- Start the quotation on a new line, indented five spaces from the left margin.
- Instead of quotation marks, type the entire quotation on the new margin, and indent the first line of any subsequent paragraph within the quotation five spaces from the new margin.
- Maintain double-spacing throughout
- The parenthetical citation should come after the closing punctuation mark

Jones's 1993 study found the following:

Students often had difficulty using APA style, especially when it was their first time citing sources. This difficulty could be attributed to the fact that many students failed to purchase a style manual or to ask their teacher for help. (p. 199)

Adding or Omitting Words In Quotations:

Adding your own words to a quotation:

Jan Harold Brunvand, in an essay on urban legends, states: "some individuals who retell urban legends make a point of learning every rumor or tale" (p. 78).

Omitting words in quotations:

In an essay on urban legends, Jan Harold Brunvand notes that "some individuals make a point of learning every recent rumor or tale [...] and in a short time a lively exchange of details occurs" (p. 78).

Last Update: EB 10.09.08