APA 6th Edition Citation Guide

The American Psychological Association (APA) system for documenting your research includes:

- **In-text citations** within the body of the text that enable your reader to find the full citation in a list of references.
- **A list of references** at the end of your research paper that cites all the sources you quoted, summarized, or paraphrased in the paper.

This guide was created using the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 6th edition*.

### Arrangement of the list of references:

- Title your list References. Put this title at the top center of the page.
- For each source you cite, determine the type of source and follow the guidelines for citing that type of source.
- Put references in order by the author’s last name or the first author’s last name if there is more than one author. If listing source by title, alphabetize by the first main title word (instead of initial articles such as A, An, or The).
- Double-space the entire reference list.
- All lines after the first line of each entry in your reference list should be indented one-half inch from the left margin. This is called hanging indentation.

### Basic citation format:

1. **Author & Editor:** List last name, then initials (for the first and middle names). When a source has multiple authors, use & before final author’s last name. Use Ed. Or Eds. in parentheses to indicate any editor(s). When no author/editor is indicated, begin with the title.
2. **Publication Date:** List in parentheses. For books and journal articles, list the year. For magazine and newspaper articles, list the year with month and day. If no date is available, write n.d. in parentheses.
3. **Title:** Quotation marks are not used. For a book title, use italics and sentence case (capitalize first word of title, first word of subtitle, and all proper nouns). For a periodical title (newspaper, magazine, or journal), use italics and title case (capitalize all main words). For an article or chapter title, do not use italics, and capitalize according to sentence case.
4. **Publication information:** For books: list city and state, or city and country of publication, then the name of the publisher. For journals and magazines, give the volume number in italics and include the journal issue number in parentheses, without italics, if available, then list the page range. For newspapers and parts of books, use p. or pp. to indicate pages. For articles from the library subscription databases, include the Digital Object Identifier (DOI) at the end of the citation.
   - A **DOI** is a unique string of numbers assigned by a registration agency (the International DOI Foundation) to online journals to identify their content and provide a consistent link to their locations on the Internet. The DOI number is usually located on the first page of the electronic journal article and in the citation or on the first page of the article record in the database.

NOTE: If a DOI is not available, it may help your reader if you include “Retrieved from”: with the database name and/or the periodical’s website URL. In general, it is not necessary to include database information, however the GWC Library recommends it when citing from the library’s article databases. (6.32, p. 192) Retrieval date is not required, unless the source is not dated or is likely to change over time (e.g., Wikis, Internet websites). (6.32, p. 192)
Citing References in Text (APA Manual 6.15, p. 177)

APA Style uses the author-date citation system. This system allows readers to find the sources cited in text in the reference list, where each source is listed alphabetically.

To insert a citation in text, include the author’s surname and year of publication. For a direct quotation, include the page number or specific location of the phrase or sentences in the original work.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author and Date Cited in Text (no parenthetical citation necessary)</th>
<th>In a 1989 article, Gould explores some of Darwin's most effective metaphors.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Author Not Cited in Text</td>
<td>As metaphors for the workings of nature, Darwin used the tangled bank, the tree of life, and the face of nature (Gould, 1989).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Author Cited in Text</td>
<td>Gould (1989) attributes Darwin's success to his gift for making the appropriate metaphor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct Quotation with Name of Author</td>
<td>Gould (1989) explains that Darwin used the metaphor of the tree of life &quot;to express the other form of interconnectedness–genealogical rather than ecological–and to illustrate both success and failure in the history of life&quot; (p. 1.4).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct Quotation without Name of Author</td>
<td>Darwin used the metaphor of the tree of life &quot;to express the other form of interconnectedness–genealogical rather than ecological&quot; (Gould, 1989, p. 14).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For each of the samples above, the correct APA style format for the Reference List would be:


_Natural History, 89_(3), 14-21.

If there is no author, move the title to the author position. (“School and teenagers,” 2007) If the source cited is a book, italicize the title.

When you need to cite two or more works together, arrange the in-text citations alphabetically in the same order in which they appear in the reference list.

Here are some examples of citations that include more than one work in the same parenthesis:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Training materials are available (Department of Veterans Affairs, 2001, 2003)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Past research (Gogel, 1990, 2006)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Several studies (Derryberry &amp; Reed, 2005a, 2005b; Rothbart, 2003a, 2003b)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Several studies (Miller, 1999; Shafranske &amp; Mahoney, 1998)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Additional information on citing sources are available at:

- KnightCite - [http://www.calvin.edu/library/knightcite/](http://www.calvin.edu/library/knightcite/)
- Purdue Online Writing Lab (OWL) APA guide - [https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/](https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/)
- Ask a Librarian! Research help is available in person at the library, by calling [714-895-8741](tel:714-895-8741), via text messaging at [714-882-5425](tel:714-882-5425) or live chat online at [http://www.goldenwestcollege.edu/library/](http://www.goldenwestcollege.edu/library/) during library operating hours.
APA Style Examples by Source Type*

*Reminder: Reference List must be double-spaced and placed in alphabetical order.

PERIODICALS (APA Manual 7.01, p. 198)


**ARTICLE IN A MAGAZINE**


**ARTICLE IN A SCHOLARLY (PEER-REVIEWED) JOURNAL**


**ARTICLE WITH NO AUTHOR**


**ARTICLE IN A NEWSPAPER**


**ARTICLE ON A WEBSITE**


BOOKS (APA Manual 7.02.18, p. 203)

**For a book:**

Author(s) or Editor(s) Last name, First Initial(s). (Publication year). *Title of book*. Place of publication: Publisher.

**For a chapter or article in a book, or entry in a reference book:**

Author(s) of article or chapter. (Year of publication). Title of article or chapter. In Name of editors (Ed.), *Title of book* (Page numbers). City of publication: Publisher.

**BOOK WITH ONE TO SEVEN AUTHORS**


**EDITED BOOK, NO AUTHOR**


**EDITED BOOK WITH AUTHOR(S)**


**ARTICLE, ENTRY, OR CHAPTER IN AN EDITED BOOK**


**GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS**

For a motion picture, use the following format:

For a music recording, use the following format:
Writer, A. (Copyright year). *Title of song* [Recorded by B. B. Artist if different from writer]. On *Title of album* [Medium of recording: CD, record, cassette, etc.] Location: Label. (Date of recording if different from song copyright date)

**VIDEOCASSETTE, DVD, LASER DISC**

**MUSIC RECORDING**

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**Examples from GWC Library Databases and Electronic Resources**

**ARTICLE FROM ONESearch**

**ARTICLE FROM EBSCOHOST ACADEMIC SEARCH PREMIER**

**SIRS ISSUES RESEARCHER**

**LITERATURE RESOURCE CENTER**


**CQ RESEARCHER**

**PROJECT MUSE**

**EBOOK COLLECTION (EBSCOHOST)**