APA Style Overview

A short guide to citing sources using APA style (6th edition)

Commonly used in the social sciences, APA style emphasizes the year of publication, which is placed immediately after the author. To introduce the Bibliography, the word ‘References’ should be centered (not in bold or underlined). Acknowledge authors, whose words or ideas you have used, in two places in your essay: in the ‘References’ section and in the body of the essay via in-text citations.

Formatting Checklist (References & In-text Citations)

- Double-space entries
- Indent the second and subsequent lines of each Reference (hanging indent)
- In Reference entries, invert all authors’ names; give last names and initials for up to and including 7 authors

Books

One author

In-text: (Horn, 2009, p. 50)

Two authors

In-text: (Coates & Ewen, 2012, p. 30)

Multiple editions

In-text: (Dickason, 2006, p. 42)

Edited book

In-text: (Hird & Pavlich, 2012, p. 65)
Book chapter

In-text: (Won, 2011, p. 28)

E-book

In-text: (Fallis, 2007, p. 33)

Articles
E-journal

In-text: (Turcotte, 1997, p. 55)

Print journal

In-text: (Pigott & Kalbach, 2005, p. 12)

Magazine article

In-text: (Gladwell, 2011, p. 35)
Newspaper article in print

In-text: (Gagnon, 2012, p. A11)

Newspaper article online

In-text: (Brody, 2007, para. 3)

Web Pages
Entire website

In-text: (Occupy Toronto, 2012)


In-text: (Homeless hub, n.d.)

Web page, authored

In-text: (Létourneau, 2007)

Encyclopedias
Print

In-text: (Peters, 2010, para. 2)
**Digital**


In-text: (Pallardy, 2012, para. 2)


In-text: (“Lester B. Pearson,” n.d., para. 4)

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**Film & Media**

**Film**


In-text: (Tuffard & Gunnarson, 2011)

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**TV**


In-text: (Butt, 2005)

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**Government Documents**

**Authored, digital**


In-text: (Hurley & Wherrett, 2000, p. 2)

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**Corporate author, government report, digital**


In-text: (Office of the Auditor General of Canada, 2011, para. 1)
Secondary Sources
One author quotes another
e.g. In a 2010 book by K. Anderson, you find a quote taken from Karl Marx’ *Collected Works* (1975).

In the body of your essay, cite both authors, indicating the author of the original quote (Marx) in your sentence, and the author in whose work you found the quote (Anderson), in an in-text citation.

Marx astutely predicted that the railroad would “become the forerunner of modern industry.” (as cited in Anderson, 2010, p. 5).

In the Reference list, cite only the author in whose secondary source you found the quote (Anderson).

For more information on how to cite all types of sources using APA style, see:

https://www.library.yorku.ca/find/Record/2323290