APA Style Overview

Table of Contents

APA STYLE 6TH EDITION ................................................................. 1
BOOKS .......................................................................................... 1
ARTICLES ..................................................................................... 2
WEB PAGES .................................................................................. 3
ENCYCLOPEDIAS ......................................................................... 4
FILM & MEDIA .............................................................................. 4
GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS .................................................. 5
INDIRECT CITATION ................................................................. 5

APA STYLE 7TH EDITION ................................................................. 6
BOOKS .......................................................................................... 6
ARTICLES ..................................................................................... 7
WEB PAGES .................................................................................. 8
ENCYCLOPEDIAS ......................................................................... 9
FILM & MEDIA .............................................................................. 9
GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS .................................................. 10
INDIRECT QUOTES ..................................................................... 10
APA Style 6th edition

Commonly used in the social sciences, APA style requires that you acknowledge in two places the authors whose words or ideas you have used in your essay: in the ‘References’ section and in the body of the essay via in-text citations. APA style emphasizes the year of publication, which is placed immediately after the author’s name in both locations. To introduce your bibliography at the end of the paper, the word ‘References’ should be centered (not in bold or underlined) at the top of the page.

Formatting Checklist (References)

- 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)

Three to Seven authors


In-text: (Lusk, Hendricks, & Ewen, 2017, 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: (“Mental,” 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)

Capitalize first and subsequent words of newspaper titles (except articles and short prepositions).
Abbreviate the article title. Many electronic sources do not provide page numbers. If paragraph numbers are visible, use them with the abbreviation para.
Encyclopedias

Print


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

Digital


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


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

Film & Media

Film


In-text: (Tuffard & Gunnarson, 2011)

TV


In-text: (Butt, 2005)
Government Documents

Author, digital


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

Corporate author, government report, digital


In-text: (Office of the Auditor General of Canada, 2011, para. 1)

Indirect Citation

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.

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

https://ocul-yor.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01OCUL_YOR/vg268k/alma991004603049705164
APA Style 7th edition

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APA 7th edition was introduced in October of 2019. For the first time, there are different formatting conventions for student and professional papers (i.e., papers written for credit in a course and papers intended for publication). These differences mostly extend to the title page and running head. Crucially, citation practices do not differ between the two styles of paper.

Most Notable Changes for References and In-Text Citations:

- Publisher’s location is no longer included for books.
- In-text citations of works with more than two authors are shortened to the first author’s name, then “et al.”
- Up to 20 authors of a work are listed in the reference section.
- DOIs are formatted as URLS (https://doi.org/10.7202/301385ar).
- URLS are no longer preceded by “retrieved from”.
- The format of a book (e-book, kindle book, etc) is no longer included in the reference, while the publishers name is.
- E-books are treated the same as print books. You do not include the format of the book (e-book, Kindle), and do include the publisher name. You still provide a DOI or link to the work.

Formatting Checklist (References & In-text Citations)

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Magazine article


In-text: (Gladwell, 2011, p. 35)

Newspaper article in print


Newspaper article online


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

Web Pages

Entire website

In-text: The homeless hub (http://www.homelesshub.ca).

Web page, no author

Occupy Toronto. (n.d.). *Everyone is affected by debt.* http://occupyto.org

In-text: (Occupy Toronto, n.d.)

Web page, authored


http://www.isr.yorku.ca/projects/pasts

In-text: (Létourneau, 2007)
Encyclopedias

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Digital


http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/1472176/Elizabeth-May

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


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

Film & Media

Film


In-text: (Gunnarson, 2011)

TV Series


In-text: (Butt, 2005)

TV Series Episode

Government Documents

Authored, digital


http://publications.gc.ca/site/eng/299876/publication.html

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

Corporate author, government report, digital


http://celarc.ca/cppc/229/229940.pdf

In-text: (Office of the Auditor General of Canada, 2011, para. 1)

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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:


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