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APA Style 7th Edition Guide

Commonly used in the social sciences, APA style emphasizes the year of publication, which is placed immediately after the author. To introduce the bibliography page, the word ‘References’ should be centred and bolded. Acknowledge authors, whose words or ideas you have used, in two places in your essay: the ‘References’ section, and in the body of the essay via in-text citations.

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

- Publisher’s location is no longer included for books.
- Shorten in-text citations of works with 3 authors or more to the first author’s name, then “et al.”
- Up to 20 authors of a work can be listed in the reference section.
- DOIs are formatted as URLs (<https://doi.org/10.7202/301385ar>). The label ‘DOI’ is not used.
- URLs are no longer preceded by “Retrieved from,” unless the work is unarchived and designed to change over time.
- E-books are treated the same as print books. You do not include the format of the book (e-book, Kindle, etc.), but do include the publisher’s name. You still provide a stable URL to the work.

Formatting Checklist (References & In-text Citations)

- Cite works in-text using both the author’s last name and the date of publication in parentheses, separated by a comma.
- Include a page or paragraph number if directly quoting from a work (p. for single page; pp. for multiple pages; para. for paragraph).
- Double-space citation entries in the References list.
- Indent the second and subsequent lines of each reference (hanging indent).
- In reference entries, invert all authors’ names and capitalize titles in sentence case style, with only the first word in the title capitalized, as well as the first word after a colon or dash.
- Italicize the titles of standalone works (books, webpages, reports, etc.). Do not italicize the titles or use quotation marks around other works (journal articles, book chapters, etc.).

Books & E-books

Capitalize only the first word of book titles and subtitles and any proper nouns. When quoting directly, always provide the author(s), year of publication, and specific page number(s). When summarizing, page numbers are optional. **Include a stable URL if the book has one, otherwise cite online and print books the same.**

E-book

Muller, L. (2014). *A theory for Indigenous Australian health and human service work: Connecting Indigenous knowledge and practice*. Routledge. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003114802>

In-text: (Muller, 2014, pp. 66-68)

One author

Horn, M. (2009). *York University: The way must be tried*. McGill-Queen's University Press.
<http://www.jstor.org/stable/j.ctt80266>

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

Two authors

Ewen, G., & Coates, C. M. (2012). *Introduction aux études canadiennes: Histoires, identités et cultures*. Presses de l'Université d'Ottawa.

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

Three or more authors

Gray, M., Coates, J., Yellow Bird, M., & Hetherington, T. (2013). *Decolonizing social work*. Routledge.
<https://doi.org/10.4324/9781315576206>

In-text: (Gray et al., 2013, p. 295)

Multiple editions

Dickason, O. P. (with Newbigging, W.). (2010). *A concise history of Canada's First Nations* (2nd ed.). Oxford University Press. (Original work published 2006)

In-text: (Dickason, 2010, p. 42)

Chapter in authored book (cite whole book)

If you would like to reference a chapter from an authored book, simply cite the entire book in your reference list in the same manner as the **E-book** and **One Author** examples above. For citing a chapter in an edited book, use the examples below.

Edited book

Hird, M. J., & Pavlich, G. (Eds.). (2012). *Questioning sociology: Canadian perspectives* (2nd ed.). Oxford University Press.

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

Chapter in edited book (cite specific chapter)

The chapter author and title are listed first, then the editors and title of the book. Note that the book chapter is not italicized and that the initials come first for book editors' names. Include the pages for the entire chapter in your full citation.

Won, K. H. (2011). A gay actor with multiple scripts: Impression management strategies to comply with traditional Chinese family norms. In A. Se'ver & J.E. Trost (Eds.), *Skeletons in the closet: A sociological analysis of family conflicts* (pp. 121–138). Wilfrid Laurier University Press.

In-text: (Won, 2011, p. 128)

Articles

Italicize the journal title and volume, but not the issue. Include a stable URL for online articles.

Journal article, print & online (with DOI)

APA 7 advises writers to include a DOI (if available), even when using the print source. Otherwise, i.e. for articles from library databases without a DOI, do not include the URL or name of the library database you retrieved the article from, unless your professor asks you to.

Joseph, M., Spake, D. F., & Finney, Z. (2008). Consumer attitudes toward pharmaceutical direct-to-consumer advertising: An empirical study and the role of income. *International Journal of Pharmaceutical and Healthcare Marketing*, 2(2), 117–133.

<https://doi.org/10.1108/17506120810887916>

In-text: (Joseph et al., 2008, p. 122)

Journal article, more than twenty authors

Include the first 19 authors' names, then use an ellipsis and add the final author's name.

Aad, G., Abajyan, T., Abbott, B., Abdallah, J., Abdel Khalek, S., Abdelalim, A. A., Abdinov, O., Aben, R., Abi, B., Abolins, M., AbouZeid, O. S., Abramowicz, H., Abreu, H., Acharya, B. S., Adamczyk, L., Adams, D. L., Addy, T. N., Adelman, J., Adomeit, S., ...Zwalinski, L. (2012). Observation of a new

particle in the search for the Standard Model Higgs boson with the ATLAS detector at the LHC.
Physics Letters B, 716(1), 1–29. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.physletb.2012.08.020>

In-text: (Aad et al., 2012, p. 12)

Magazine article, print & online

Note that when you find a magazine article online in a library database, do not include the URL or the name of the library database you retrieved the article from, unless your professor asks you to.

Gladwell, M. (2011, November 14). The tweaker. *The New Yorker*, 87(36), 32–35.

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

Newspaper article, print

Gagnon, L. (2012, May 21). The protesters' fellow travellers. *The Globe & Mail*, A11.

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

Newspaper article, online

Brody, J. E. (2007, December 11). Mental reserves keep brain agile. *The New York Times*.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2007/12/11/health/11iht-11brod.8685746.html>

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

Course Materials

Online lecture slides (eClass, Canvas, etc.)

If the slides are available online to anyone, provide a URL. If the slides come from a classroom website, provide a URL if your audience has access. If your audience does not have access, then cite as personal communication instead.

Sloniowski, L. (2020, January 11). *Lecture 1. EN 1950: Beyond Google: Research methods in English studies* [PowerPoint slides]. York University eClass. York University.

https://eclass.yorku.ca/pluginfile.php/1811393/mod_page/content/18/EN%201902%20Week%201%202021.pptx

In-text: (Sloniowski, 2020)

Course kit

References follow the same format for chapters in edited books. Instead of a publication date, provide the course pack year. If the course instructor is also the author, their name will appear twice.

Vernon, K. (Winter 2020). Black civility: Black grammars of protest on the Canadian Prairies 1905-1950. In A. Medovarski (Ed.), *Course kit for HUMA 3315: Black Literatures and Cultures in Canada* (pp. 131-144). York University Bookstore.

In-text: (Vernon, 2020, p. 137)

Web Pages

Entire website

If you are citing an entire website, you do not create an entry in your reference page, you just mention the website in-text and provide the URL in parentheses.

In-text: The Homeless Hub (<http://www.homelesshub.ca>)

Web page, authored

Italicize the title of the webpage. Use (n.d.) if there is no date for the content. Include the website title after the webpage title.

Safai, P. (2021, August 19). *York University launches new YU Screen tool*. York University.

<https://www.yorku.ca/bettertogether/2021/08/19/york-university-launches-new-yu-screen-tool/>

In text: (Safai, 2021)

Blog post

These posts follow the same format as journal articles. Italicize the title of the blog as you would a journal title.

Geist, M. (2021, March 17). Blocking is back: Why internet blocking is the next big Canadian policy battle. *Michael Geist*. <https://www.michaelgeist.ca/2021/03/blocking-is-back>

In-text: (Geist, 2021, para. 2)

Generative AI

When citing generative AI content, describe how the tool was used in the introduction or methodology section and share your prompts and the generated text. Treat the AI's response as an algorithm software's output, credit the company that produced the model as the author and the name of the AI as the title. Be sure to also include the version number and a descriptor like "large language model" in the citation.

Text Generation

OpenAI. (2024). ChatGPT (Feb 13 version) [Large language model]. <https://chat.openai.com/>

In-text: (OpenAI, 2024)

Image Generation

Microsoft. (2024). Bing Image Creator (DALL-E 3) [Generative AI]. <https://www.bing.com/images/create>

In-text: (Microsoft, 2024)

Encyclopedias

Cite encyclopedia entries in the same way as chapters in edited books. Include a stable URL if available, or include the page numbers for print resources.

Print or online

Peters, C.J. (2010). Aboriginal mothering. In A. O'Reilly (Ed.), *Encyclopedia of motherhood*. Sage.
<https://sk.sagepub.com/reference/motherhood/n1.xml>

In-text: (Peters, 2010, para. 4)

Wikipedia

For Wikipedia entries, use the URL for the archived version of the page. You can find it by selecting the “View history” tab and clicking on the most recent date.

Lester B. Pearson. (2020, February 18). In *Wikipedia*.

https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Lester_B._Pearson&oldid=941354416

In-text: (“Lester B. Pearson,” 2020)

Film & Media

In general, the citation style for audiovisual media varies depending on whether the piece stands alone or is part of a larger work. Note the descriptor used in square brackets after the title to describe audiovisual media type.

Film

Use the director’s name as the author and the production company or companies as the source. If needed, separate multiple companies with a semicolon.

Gunnarson, S. (Director). (2011). *Force of nature: The David Suzuki movie* [Film]. Entertainment One; National Film Board of Canada.

In-text: (Gunnarson, 2011)

TV series

Use the executive producer(s) as the author. Use the year(s) when the series aired for the date. If the series is currently on air, use the word 'present' to indicate (2020–present).

Butt, B., Storey, D., & Thompson, V. (Executive Producers). (2004-2009). *Corner gas* [TV series].
PrairiePants Productions.

In-text: (Butt et al., 2004)

TV series episode

Include the writer(s) and director(s) for the episode as the author. Use the season and episode number in parentheses after the title.

Butt, B. (Writer), & Storey, D. (Director). (2004, February 25). World's biggest thing (Season 1, Episode 6) [TV series episode]. In B. Butt, D. Storey & V. Thompson (Executive Producers), *Corner gas*.
PrairiePants Productions.

In-text: (Butt & Storey, 2004)

YouTube video

Use the name of the account that uploaded the video as the author. If the account did not create the work, APA encourages that you explain this in text, or locate the original. Italicize the title of the video and provide the site name and the URL.

Justin Trudeau – Prime Minister of Canada. (2019, December 5) *Speech from the Throne 2019* [Video].
YouTube. <https://youtu.be/KLHQAi36sZk>

In-Text: (Justin Trudeau-Prime Minister of Canada, 2019)

Podcast episode

List the host(s) of the podcast as the author(s) or provide the executive producers. Include their role in parentheses. Provide the title of the episode and episode number and put the podcast title in italics.

Ball, T., Laroque, S., & Lar-Son, K. (Hosts). (2019, October 2). Storytelling and cultural protocol with Joshua Littlechild. (Season 1, no. 12). [Audio podcast episode]. In *masinahikan iskwêwak – Book Women Podcast*. <https://anchor.fm/bookwomenpodcast/episodes/Episode-12-Storytelling-and-Cultural-Protocol-with-Joshua-Littlechild-e5p5sd/a-apg7vm>

In text: (Ball et al., 2019)

Digital image

List the photographer or creator as the author. If the image does not have a title, then provide a description in square brackets in place of the title.

Morey, H. (1930) *Sun beams into Grand Central Station* [Photograph]. Getty Images Gallery.

<https://gettyimagesgallery.com/images/sun-beams-into-grand-central-station>

In-text: (Morey, 1930)

Government Documents

- For a government document without individual authors, use the specific agency responsible for the publication as the author.
- The names of parent agencies appear in the source/publisher element.
- Provide as specific a date as possible. Some online works note when the work was last updated. If this date is clearly attributable to the specific content you are citing rather than the overall website, use the updated date in the reference. If a date of last review is noted on a work, ignore it for the purposes of the reference.
- Italicize the title of the webpage.
- End the reference with the URL if accessed online.

Authored report

If the report has a number, list it in parentheses after the title of the report.

Hurley, M.C., & Wherrett, J. (2000, August 2). *In brief: The report of the Royal Commission on Aboriginal peoples*. (PRB99- 24E). Parliamentary Research Branch, Library of Parliament.

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

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

Government agency report

List the specific agency responsible for the report as the author. Provide the report title in italics and list any parent agencies, if applicable, as source/publisher.

Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation. (2010). *New relationships with Aboriginal people and communities in B.C.: Annual report on progress, 2009-2010*. Government of British Columbia.

https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/consulting-with-first-nations/first-nations/report_aboriginal_annual_progress_20092010.pdf

In-text: (Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation, 2010, p.9)

Legislative bill or statute

Begin with the name of the act and its title. Following the date, provide as much additional information as possible, such as the number, session of Parliament, and chamber.

Bill C-6: An act respecting the safety of consumer products. (2009). 1st Reading Feb. 5, 2009, 40th Parliament, 2nd session. House of Commons. <https://parl.ca/DocumentViewer/en/40-2/bill/C-6/first-reading>

In-text: (Bill C-6, 2009)

Indirect Quotes

One author quotes another

e.g. In a 2010 book by K. Anderson, you find a quote taken from Karl Marx's *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. 22).

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

Other APA Citation Resources

Publication manual of the American Psychological Association, 7th ed, 2020.

https://ocul-yor.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01OCUL_YOR/1bn3h4b/alma991036242796005164%20

APA Style Blog

<https://apastyle.apa.org/style-grammar-guidelines/references>