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)
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**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)

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)

Film & Media

Film

In-text: (Tuffard & Gunnarson, 2011)

TV

In-text: (Butt, 2005)

Government Documents

Author ed, 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)
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).

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