Citing Sources: APA Style

This condensed guide will help you with basic APA Style rules for in-text citations and reference lists. You must attribute other people’s ideas, research, and quotes within the body of your paper. You can be charged with plagiarism if you don’t indicate from where you found your ideas and information. If you are unsure of what to cite, cite everything, or ask your instructor for advice.

In-text Citations

The APA Style uses a combination of author and date for in-text citations. There are slightly different rules for quotes and paraphrasing, however, following are basic in-text examples:

Shiva (2002) stated that denying poor people access to water is terrorism. Denying poor people access to water is tantamount to terrorism (Shiva, 2002).

In general, everything in your reference list should have an in-text citation, and vice versa. Keep in mind the following rules when formatting your reference list:

- The bibliography should be arranged alphabetically by author or by title (if author is not present).
- Second lines of the citation should be arranged by hanging indents of 5 spaces.
- Be sure to use proper punctuation.

Books

Print
Author, Initial. (year). Title. Location: Publisher.


Article or Chapter in an Edited Book

Electronic
Author, Initial. (year). Title. Retrieved from URL


Periodicals (journals, magazines, and newspapers)

Print


Electronic
Many publishers assign a Digital Object Identifier (DOI) to journal articles and other documents. If available, use the DOI as in the example below:

Author, Initials. (year). Title of article. Title of periodical, vol. #(#issue#), pages. doi:

If there is no DOI assigned, give the URL of the journal’s homepage as in the example below:


Print newspaper

Electronic Newspaper

**Government Report**

Print

Eric Document

Electronic

Hearing
Events surrounding the Branch Davidian cult standoff in Waco, Texas: Hearing before The Committee on the Judiciary, House of Representatives, 103d Cong., 1 (1993).

**Motion Picture**


**Electronic Document from an Organization**


For further help please consult:

* The Libraries’ web guide, Citing Internet and Other Electronic Resources (http://library.lib.binghamton.edu/research-guides/citationhelp.html), links to electronic style guides.

* The American Psychological Association site (http://www.apastyle.org/) has examples of both print and electronic citations. The FAQ's under “Learning APA Style” are particularly useful.