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Sam Houston State University*

APA Format (6th Edition): **How to Cite Sources**

There are several different citation styles that you may use. This handout briefly explains how to cite sources using APA (American Psychological Association) style. APA style is frequently used for papers in the sciences, social sciences, and business. However, other subjects may use it as well. If you are unsure of which style to use, ask your instructor.

Cite all sources that you quote, paraphrase or refer to when writing a paper. If not, you may be guilty of plagiarism as defined in section 5.32 of the university's Code of Student Conduct and Discipline. Sources should be cited in the text of your paper as well as at the end in a reference list.

The following examples are simply provided as a guideline for citing sources using APA style. You are ultimately responsible for the content and organization of your citations. A full explanation on how to cite sources using APA style is available in the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, 5th ed., available at the Library Reference Desk.

IN-TEXT CITATION

When writing a paper, all sources should be cited in the text of the paper. Include the citation information in parentheses.

- Cite the author or editor's last name, year of publication and page number(s) that you are referring to. If citing an entire work, you may omit the page number(s).
- If a work has 2 authors or editors, cite both names every time you refer to it.
- If a work has 3-5 authors or editors, cite all authors or editors the first time and then include only the first author or editor's last name and add "et al." for subsequent citations.
- If a work has 6 or more authors or editors, only cite the first author or editor's last name and add "et al."
- If you refer to the author or editor's name in the text of your sentence, include only the publication year and page number(s) in parentheses. If citing an entire work, you may omit the page number(s).
- If the source does not have page numbers, include the section heading or paragraph number if provided.
- To quote something directly, remember to use quotation marks.
- Any of the following examples are acceptable formats:

<i>Type of citation</i>	<i>First citation in text</i>	<i>Subsequent citations in text</i>	<i>Parenthetical format, first citation in text</i>	<i>Parenthetical format, subsequent citations in text</i>
One work by one author	Reverte (2009)	Reverte (2009)	(Reverte, 2009)	(Reverte, 2009)
One work by two authors	Reverte and Irving (2009)	Reverte and Irving (2009)	(Reverte & Irving, 2009)	(Reverte & Irving, 2009)
One work by three authors	Chai, Matevana, and Rooibos (2009)	Chai et al. (2009)	(Chai, Matevana, & Rooibos, 2009)	(Chai et al., 2009)
One work by four authors	Poe, Dickens, Collins, and Hawthorne (2009)	Poe et al. (2009)	(Poe, Dickens, Collins, & Hawthorne, 2009)	(Poe et al., 2009)
One work by five authors	Doolittle, Joyce, Austen, Tennyson, and Baker (2009)	Doolittle et al. (2009)	(Doolittle, Joyce, Austen, Tennyson, & Baker, 2009)	(Doolittle et al., 2009)
One work by six or more authors	Stewart et al. (2009)	Stewart et al. (2009)	(Stewart et al., 2009)	(Stewart et al., 2009)
Groups (readily identified through abbreviation) as authors	American Library Association (ALA, 2009)	ALA (2009)	(American Library Association, 2009)	(ALA, 2009)
Groups (no abbreviation) as authors	Lord of the Rings Glee Club (2009)	Lord of the Rings Glee Club (2009)	(Lord of the Rings Glee Club, 2009)	(Lord of the Rings Glee Club, 2009)

Adapted from APA Manual, 6th ed.

REFERENCE LIST

At the end of your paper, include a reference list. This list documents all sources used in your paper.

- Double space the reference list, between and within citations.
- If a citation takes up more than one line, indent each other line.
- Arrange the list alphabetically by author or editor. If no author or editor is given, arrange by title of source.
- List the author or editor's last name, and initials.
- If a citation has 2-7 authors or editors, give surnames and initials.
- If a citation has 8 or more authors or editors, list the first six, then insert three ellipses (...) and then add the last author's or editor's name.
- *Italicizes* titles of books and periodicals.
- Capitalize only the first word of a title of an article or book, and the first word of a subtitle, and any other words that are normally capitalized. Capitalize all words in journal and periodical titles.
- Titles of articles or chapters **should not** be entered in quotation marks, underlined, or italicized.

- Provide a volume number for articles and an issue number if necessary.
- Italicize volume numbers when referring to periodicals.
- Citations to articles or chapters should include page numbers.
- If an article appears on discontinuous page numbers (i.e., an article starts on page one then skips to page six), list all page numbers that the article appears on.
- For place of publication, include state abbreviation (or country name, if outside U.S.) if the city is not well-known.
- When citing an article online, give the DOI. **IF there is no DOI** cite the URL for the **home page** of the journal, book, or report publisher.
- It is not necessary to always include database information.
- The following are examples to commonly cited types of items:

General format for a book	Author, A. B. (2000). <i>Title of work</i> . Location: Publisher.
General format for an article	Author, A. B. (2000). Title of article. <i>Title of Periodical</i> , volume number, pp-pp.
Book with one author	Ayers, E.L. (2003). <i>In the presence of mine enemies: War in the heart of America, 1859-1863</i> . New York: Norton.
Book with 2-7 authors	Prescott, R.I., & Kenyon, V. (2009). <i>Skills: A handbook for practice</i> . Gaithersburg, MD: Aspen.
Book with 8 or more authors	Hansten, R.I., Washburn, M.J., Kenyon, V., Rooibos, C., Blackguard, P., Wong, B.D., ... Nosotros, W. (2009). <i>Skills: A handbook for practice</i> . Gaithersburg, MD: Aspen.
Book with an editor	Cowan, J. (Ed.). (2003). <i>Modern Spain: A documentary history</i> . Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania.
Book with a corporate author	American Medical Association. (1997). <i>Caring for the country: A history and celebration of the first 150 years of the American Medical Association</i> . Chicago: author.
Book with an edition	Bongar, B. (2002). <i>The suicidal patient: Clinical and legal standards of care</i> (2nd ed.). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.
Electronic version of print book without a DOI	Fake, A. (2005). <i>Patrick Stewart: A complete study</i> . [Version of the digital Reader] London, England: Fake Publishers. Retrieved from http://the_homepage_URL.of.the.reader.asp
	Fake, A. (2005). <i>Patrick Stewart: A complete study</i> . [Version of the digital Reader] London,

Electronic version of print book with a DOI	England: Fake Publishers. doi: xx.xxx/xxxxxxx
Multivolume book	Phillips, R., & Rix, M. (2002). <i>The botanical garden</i> (Vols. 1-2). Buffalo, NY: Firefly.
English translation of a book	Garcia Marquez, G. (1970). <i>One hundred years of solitude</i> (G. Rabassa, Trans.). New York: Harper & Row. (Original work published 1967)

Book Review	Author, J.A. (2020, November 11). Into the future? [Review of the book <i>I am Nostradamus</i> , by I.M. Craze]. <i>Fake Magazine</i> , 365, 111.
Article or chapter in an edited book	Paauwe, J., & Dewe, P. (1995). Organizational structure of multinational corporations: Theories and models. In A.W. Harzing & J. Van Ruysseveldt (Eds.), <i>International human resource management: An integrated approach</i> (pp. 51-74). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.
Work in an anthology	Garvey, M. (1997). The future as I see it. In H.L. Gates, Jr. & N.Y. McKay (Eds.). <i>The Norton anthology of African American literature</i> (pp. 977-980). New York: Norton.
Excerpt from an article, reprinted in an anthology	McDermott, J. (1975). Julian's journey into hell: Flannery O'Connor's allegory of pride. <i>Mississippi Quarterly: A Journal of Southern Culture</i> , 28, 171-179. (Excerpted and reprinted in <i>Contemporary Literary Criticism</i> , Vol. 104, pp. 145-148, by D.A. Schmidt, Ed., 1998, Detroit: Gale)
Excerpt from a book, reprinted in an anthology	Rapone, A. (1973). The body is the role: Sylvia Plath. In A. Koedt, E. Levine, & A. Rapone (Eds.), <i>Radical Feminism</i> (pp. 407-412). New York: Quadrangle. (Excerpted and reprinted in <i>Poetry Criticism</i> , Vol. 1, pp. 393-395, by R.V. Young, Ed., 1991, Detroit: Gale)
Signed article in an encyclopedia	Harnish, D. (1998). Bali. In T.E. Miller & S. Williams (Eds.), <i>The Garland encyclopedia of world music</i> (Vol. 4, pp. 729-761). New York: Garland.
Unsigned article in an encyclopedia	Television. (2000). In <i>The world book encyclopedia</i> (Vol. 19, pp. 110-129). Chicago: World Book.
Journal article (hard-copy) paginated by issue	Terrill, W., & Reisig, M.D. (2003). Neighborhood context and police use of force. <i>Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency</i> , 40, 291-321.
Journal article paginated by issue and retrieved from a database with a DOI	Devine, P. G., & Sherman, S. J. (1992). Intuitive versus rational judgment and the role of stereotyping in the human condition: Kirk or Spock? <i>Psychological Inquiry</i> , 3(2), 153-159. doi:10.1207/s15327965pli0302_13

<p>Article from a journal that paginates each issue separately – DOI unavailable</p>	<p>Di Bona, J., Chaudhuri, R., Jean-Baptiste, J., Menachem, P., & Wurzburg, M. (2003). Commercialism in North Carolina high schools: A survey of principals' perceptions. <i>Peabody Journal of Education, 78</i> (2), 41-62. Retrieved from http://peabody.vanderbilt.edu/Peabody_Journal_of_Education.xml</p>
<p>Article from a journal that paginates each volume separately</p>	<p>Woods, T.P. (2002). Globalizing social violence: Race, gender, and the spatial politics of crisis. <i>American Studies, 43</i> (1), 127-153.</p>
<p>Article from a journal that paginates each volume separately retrieved from a database with a DOI</p>	<p>Kroon, L. (2007). Drug interactions with smoking. <i>American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy, 64</i> (18), 1917-1921. doi: 10.2146/ajhp060414</p>
<p>Magazine Article</p>	<p>Hirsh, M. (2003, May). Our new civil war. <i>Newsweek, 141</i>, 31-34.</p>
<p>Online Magazine Article</p>	<p>Make-believe, A. B. (2009, October). Robot Chicken. <i>Cartoon Network Magazine, 22</i>(3). Retrieved from http://bogus_url.com</p>
<p>Newspaper Article</p>	<p>Lacey, M. (2003, November 14). U.S. trade law gives Africa hope and hard jobs. <i>New York Times</i>, pp. A1, A12.</p>
<p>Online Newspaper Article</p>	<p>Hopper, L. (2003, August 7). West Nile virus cases in area rise to seven. <i>Houston Chronicle</i>. Retrieved from http://houstonchron.com</p>

Podcast	Erlauer, L. (Producer). (2111, December 21). <i>Shrinky-dinks radio</i> [Audio podcast]. Retrieved from http://shrinky_dinky_radio.com/
Music Recording	Canning, C. (2002). Not with chips. On <i>Salsas</i> [CD]. New York, NY: Pretend Records.
Paper Presentation or Poster Session	Presenter, A. (Year, Month). <i>Paper or Poster Title</i> . Paper or poster session title presented at the meeting of Organization Name, Location.
Corporate Author, Government Report	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute. (2003). <i>Managing asthma: A guide for schools</i> (NIH publication No. 02-2650). Retrieved from http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/prof/lung/asthma/asth_sch.pdf
Website	Epsicokhan, J. (2004, February 20). <i>Confessions of a closet trekkie</i> . Retrieved October 12, 2009, from Jammer's Reviews website: http://www.jammersreviews.com/articles/confessions.php
Website with corporate author and name of the website is the same as the name of the author	National Aeronautics and Space Administration. (2009, May 28). <i>NASA astronaut watches new Star trek movie in space</i> . Retrieved from http://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/station/behindscenes/star_trek.html
Page with a corporate author and the name of the website is different from the name of the author	National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Jet Propulsion Laboratory. (2007, May 10). <i>Mission could seek out Spock's home planet</i> . Retrieved from PlanetQuest: Exoplanet Exploration website: http://planetquest.jpl.nasa.gov/news/planetVulcan.cfm
Page with no author	<i>The Roddenberry legacy of human potential: If only, if only</i> . (2007, October 24). Retrieved January 7, 2009, from Star Trek Official Site website: http://www.startrek.com/startrek/view/news/editorials/article/2310913.html
Internet Message Boards, Electronic Mailing Lists, and Other Online Communities General Format	Author, B. (Year, Month Day). Title of Post [Description of form]. Retrieved from http://url.url

TIPS TO REMEMBER

- Always ask your instructor which citation style you should use and if he/she has any specific requirements for citing sources.
- For complete rules on using APA style, consult the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, 6th ed., available at the Library Reference Desk.
- The Library maintains links on it's website to show examples of how to cite sources from different style manuals:
 - Go the SHSU homepage at <http://www.shsu.edu/>
 - Under heading *Academics*, click on *Newton Gresham Library*
 - On the left side bar under *Research*
 - Click on *Citation Guides*
- For help, please visit the Library Reference Desk or call (936) 294-1599 or 1-866-NGL-INFO (toll-free).
- In-depth assistance is provided by the SHSU Writing Center. The website address is: <http://www.shsu.edu/~wctr/>. Call (936) 294-3680 or visit them in Farrington Building, room #111.

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<http://library.shsu.edu/>

