HELP! HOW DO I CITE A PAPER ACCORDING TO APA

### EASY AS 1-2-3

1. Identify your source type.
2. Find an example. (May not be on this handout!)
3. Mirror the example.

### FORMAT YOUR PAPER

- **1” Margins**
- **Font Options:** Times New Roman (12pt), Calibri (11pt), Arial (11pt), Georgia (11pt), or Lucida Sans Unicode (10pt). Double-Spaced
- **Title page with your title, name, and college, centered upper-half**
- **In your header, insert the page number on the right margin. Running head is optional based on professor’s requirements.**
- **Prepare abstract on the next page (Consult instructor)**
- **Create the Main Body (text) of your paper on a new page**
- **Separate reference list follows main body. References should be double-spaced and listed alphabetically by author last name. Use hanging indentation.**

### IN-TEXT CITATIONS

In addition to a list of references at the end of your paper, you need to cite your sources in the text of your paper. In-text citations should include the last name of the author(s) and publication year.

#### With author in sentence

According to Jones (1998), APA style is a difficult citation format for first-time learners.

#### Without author in sentence

APA style is a difficult citation format for first-time learners (Jones, 1998).

*Include page numbers only when quoting or referring to a specific passage.* Pagination includes the author, year, and page number for the reference (preceded by "p.").

#### With author in sentence, using direct quote

According to Jones (1998), "Students often had difficulty using APA style, especially when it was their first time" (p. 199).

#### Without author in sentence, using direct quote

She stated, "Students often had difficulty using APA style" (Jones, 1998, p. 199), but she did not offer an explanation as to why.

#### Two authors?

(Wegener & Petty, 1994) -OR- Research by Wegener and Petty (1994) supports...

#### Three or more authors?

(Harris et al., 2001) -OR- Harris et al. (2001) argued...

#### Unknown or anonymous author

Cite the source by its title in the signal phrase or use the title in the parenthetical citation in place of the author’s name. Examples:

- **Book with no author:** *(Interpersonal Skills, 2019)*
- **Article with no author:** *(“Understanding Sensory Memory,” 2018)*

##### Works with the same author and date

Include a lowercase letter after the year (Smith 2017a) or Smith (2017b). This will be used in the in-text citation and the reference list entry.
When you include a quote or borrowed idea in your paper, introduce it with a **signal phrase**! This provides context for source material.

**REMEMBER!**

This handout is only a sample of basic APA formatting. If you have questions, talk to a librarian or consult the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, (7th ed.) which is available at the library front desk.

**Citing Subject Guide**
http://guides.mga.edu/citations

**The Purdue OWL:**
APA Style
owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/10/

**APA Style Blog**
blog.apastyle.org

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**REFERENCE LIST EXAMPLES**

APA Reference List entries contain the following four components:
*Author. (Date). Title. Source*

Below are examples of types of sources often cited in a Reference List.

**Book**

*Author, A. A. (Year of publication). Title of work: Capital letter also for subtitle. Publisher Name.*


**Journal Article**

*Author, A. A., & Author, B. B. (Date of publication). Title of article. Title of Journal, volume number(issue number), page range. DOI (if available).*


**Webpage***

*Author, A. A., & Author, B. B. (Date of publication). Title of document. URL*


*Include a retrieval date following the URL only if the website’s content is designed to change over time.*

**Webpage on a News Website**

*Author, A. A. (Year, Month Day). Title of Article. News Site name. URL*


**Newspaper Article**

*Author, A. A. (Year, Month Day). Title of Article. Title of Newspaper. URL*


**Tweet**

*Author, A. A. [@username]. Date. Content of the post up to the first 20 words. Site Name. URL*

Example: APA Education [@APAEducation]. (2018, June 29). *College students are forming mental health clubs—and they’re making a difference @Washington post* [Thumbnail with link attached] [Tweet]. Twitter. https://twitter.com/apaeducation/status/101281049053014161