

# 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
- 12pt Font (Times New Roman or Courier) , Double-Spaced
- Title page with your title, name, and college, centered upper-half
- In your header, insert "Running head: TITLE OF YOUR PAPER", and the page number on the right margin. Omit "Running head" and only use title after title page.
- 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. (Not Shown)

## REFERENCE LIST EXAMPLES

### Book

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

Calfee, R. C., & Valencia, R. R. (1991). *APA guide to preparing manuscripts for journal publication*. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

### Journal Article (Electronic)

Author, A. A., & Author, B. B. (Date of publication). Title of article. *Title of Journal, volume number*(issue number if available), page range. DOI or Retrieved from <http://www.someaddress.com/url/>

Brownlie, D. (2007). Toward effective poster presentations: An annotated bibliography. *European Journal of Marketing, 41*, 1245-1283. doi:10.1108/03090560710821161

English, A. S., Allison, J., & Ma, J. H. (2016). Understanding western students: Motivations and benefits for studying in China. *Journal of Education and Training Studies, 4*, 44-55. Retrieved from <http://www.eric.ed.gov/contentdelivery/ERICServlet?accno=EJ1100355>

### Webpage\*

Author, A. A., & Author, B. B. (Date of publication). Title of document. Retrieved from <http://www.someaddress.com/url/>

Angeli, E., Lawrick, E., Anderson, M., Soderland, L., & Brizee, A. (2010, May 5). *General format*. Retrieved from <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>

\*APA does not provide a specific format for citing webpages. Instead, there are guidelines for how to cite various sources in online formats.



## 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 when you paraphrase or reference someone's work 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 to Five authors?**

(Kernis, Cornell, Sun, Berry, & Harlow, 1993)

### **Six or more authors?**

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

If the work does **not** have an author, cite the source by its title in the signal phrase or use the first word or two in the parentheses. Titles of books and reports are italicized; titles of articles, chapters, and web pages are in quotes.

## REMEMBER!

When you include a quote or borrowed idea in your paper, introduce it with a **signal phrase!** This provides context for source material.



## ADDITIONAL HELP

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*, (6th ed., 4th printing).

### **Citing Subject Guide**

<http://guides.mga.edu/citations>

### **The Purdue OWL: APA Style**

[owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/10/](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/10/)

### **APA Style Blog**

[blog.apastyle.org](http://blog.apastyle.org)



Adapted from a guide created by Autumn Johnson at Savannah State University



Middle Georgia  
State University

<https://www.mga.edu/library/>