The Writing Center
Formatting a References Page in APA Style—7th Edition

APA style provides a set of rules for citing the sources you use when researching and writing essays. This ensures that readers will be able to easily retrace where you found information and will help you to avoid plagiarism. This handout gives some basic guidelines for constructing a References page in APA style. Note that your References page should list every source you consulted in alphabetical order by the last name of the author. If you are uncertain about how to cite a particular source, consult your handbook, your instructor, or a writing center tutor.

* The APA replaced its sixth edition guidelines with its seventh edition guidelines in October 2019. The following examples reflect the seventh edition changes. For more information, see https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_style_introduction.html

Citing Books

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

A book with a single author

A book with two authors
List by their last names and initials. Separate author names with a comma. Use the ampersand instead of "and."


Three to twenty authors
List by last names and initials; commas separate author names, while the last author name is preceded again by ampersand. This is a departure from APA 6, which only required listing the first six authors before an ellipsis and the final author's name.


An edited collection or anthology

Citing Periodicals

Scholarly journal article
All Authors: Last name, Initial(s). (Year). Title of article. Title of Journal, vol., no., pages.


Magazine article
All Authors: last name, Initial(s). (Year, Month). Title of article. Title of Magazine, Volume(issue), pages.


Newspaper article
All Authors: last name, Initial(s). (year +, month + day). Title of article. Title of Newspaper, pp. pages.

Citing Electronic Sources

An entire website
Do not include an entire website in the reference list.

Webpage or piece of online content
If the page names an individual author, cite their name first:


Article from an online scholarly journal


Citing Interviews

Interviews fall into three categories: published interviews, personal interviews, and research participant interviews. However, only published interviews require a formal citation in your reference list.

If the interview transcript is published in an online periodical, like a magazine, cite the interview the same way you would cite the medium where it is published, as shown below:


If it is an audio file or transcript published in a database, credit the interviewee as the author and use the following model: