

# McHenry County College Library: CITING SOURCES in APA STYLE

This guide has been prepared to help students use the documentation style recommended by the American Psychological Association. The APA style is used for scholarly articles and for professional publication in the fields of psychology, science, education, and the other social sciences. *For more details and samples of other types of source citations, see Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, Sixth Edition, in Reference.* As always, ask a librarian if you need assistance.

## GENERAL GUIDELINES

**MARGINS** Use uniform margins, a minimum of 1 inch margins, and indent paragraphs 5-7 spaces.

**LINE SPACING** Double line space throughout, even References and Endnotes.

**GENERAL RULES FOR REFERENCE LIST** (There are *many* more rules; consult the APA manual for guidance.)

1. Spacing within a reference citation

One space after periods that separate parts of a reference citation.

2. Publishers

Give the name of the publisher in as brief a form as is intelligible. Spell out the names of associations and university presses, but omit terms such as Publishers, Co., or Inc. Retain the words "Books" and "Press".

3. Cities of publication

Use only the first listed city. If city is well known, eliminate state. If city is little known, add state. Use U.S. Postal service abbreviations e.g. IL for Illinois.

4. Author's name(s)

The names of all authors are inverted in order. Give last names and initials (first and middle if given) only. One space between first and middle initial. With two or more authors, use an ampersand (&) before the last author. e.g. Lee, J., Smith, M., & Wilbur, R. B.

5. Months

Spell out all months. Do not abbreviate.

6. Alphabetical listing of References page.

Alphabetize by author's last name. If no author is listed, alphabetize by first significant word in book title or article title. If there is the same author for two works, alphabetize first by author and then chronologically by date of publication, the earliest first. Repeat author's name:

Jones, L. P. (1979). Psychology.

Jones, L. P. (1981). Experimental Psychology.

7. Pages

If pages are not consecutive in an article from a newspaper or magazine, give all page numbers and separate the numbers with a comma. EX: pp. 1, 25. Journal references do not use p. or pp.

8. Encyclopedia articles

Follow the title of the article by the title of the encyclopedia and the volume number, page numbers of the article, city of publication, and then publisher.

9. *Italics* may be used instead of underlining.

10. Capitalize only the first word of a title and of the subtitle, if any, and any proper nouns.

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## **BOOK (section 7.02.18 in APA Handbook)**

*Format:* Author's Name (Last name, initials). (Year). *Title of Work*. Place of Publication: Publisher.

*Example:* Franklin, J. H. (1985). *George Washington Williams: A biography*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

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## **ELECTRONIC VERSION OF A PRINT BOOK (7.02.19) and ELECTRONIC-ONLY BOOK (section 7.02.20 in APA Handbook)**

*Format:* Author's Name, (Last name, initials). (Year). *Title of Work* [version]. DOI or Retrieved from URL

**\*note: DOI (digital object identifier) is a unique number assigned to some electronic materials. URL is the uniform resource locator (the Internet or web address, EX: <http://xxx.xxx> or [www.xxx.xxx](http://www.xxx.xxx) )**

*Example:* Schiraldi, G. R. (2001). *The post-traumatic stress disorder sourcebook: A guide to healing, recovery, and growth* [Adobe Digital Editions version]. doi:10.1036/0071393722

*Example:* O'Keefe, E. (n.d.). *Egoism & the crisis in Western values*. Retrieved from <http://www.onlineoriginals.com/showitem.asp?itemID=135> (\*\*NOTE: n.d. =no publication date)

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**ENTRY, SIGNED, IN EDITED REFERENCE BOOK (section 7.02 in APA Handbook)**

*Format:* Author's Name (Last name, initials). (Date). Article title. In Editor or Editors Name(s) (Initials, Last name). (Ed.). *Title of Work*. (pp. xxx-xxx). Place of Publication: Publisher.

*Example:* Oldham, J. (1999). Angela Davis. In J. Scanlon (Ed.). *Significant contemporary American feminists: A biographical sourcebook*. (pp. 86-92). Westport: CT: Greenwood Press.

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**MAGAZINE ARTICLE (section 7.01.7 in APA Handbook) print and (section 7.01.8 in APA Handbook) online**

*Format:* Author's Name (Last name, initials). (Date). Title of the Article. *Magazine Title, Volume(Issue)*, Pages.

*Print Example:* Smith, S. (1984, July 30). Making of a candidate for president. *Time*, 135, 40.

*Online Example:* Clary, R. (2008, June). Science vs. ideology: Psychologists fight back about the misuse of research. *Monitor on Psychology*, 39(6). Retrieved from <http://www.apa.org/monitor>

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**NEWSPAPER ARTICLE (section 7.01.10 print, and section 7.01.11 online, in APA Handbook)**

*Format:* Author's Name (Last name, initials). (Date). Title of Article. *Name of Newspaper*, Pages.

*Print Example:* Camille, A. (1984, March 27). Deciding who gets dibs on health-care dollars. *The Wall Street Journal*, pp. 30-31. (\*\*\*) *NOTE: precede page numbers with p. or pp.*

*Online Example:* Brody, J. E. (2007, December 11). Mental reserves keep brain agile. *The New York Times*. Retrieved from <http://www.nytimes.com>

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**PRINT JOURNAL ARTICLE (section 7.01 in APA Handbook)**

*Format:* Author's Name (Last name, initials). (Date). Title of Article. *Journal Title, Volume(Issue#)*, Pages. (\*\*\*) *NOTE: Include issue number if journal is paginated by issue & begins on page 1.*

*Example:* Jones, M. (1987). Urban poetry. *American Review*, 13(2), 66-75.

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**ELECTRONIC JOURNAL ARTICLE (sections 7.01.1-7.01.5 in APA Handbook)**

*Format:* Regular citation for article following format above plus DOI or Retrieved from URL.

*\*note: DOIs and URLs can be located on the citation page of the database. No database information or retrieval date is needed unless required by instructor.*

*Example:* Trout, J. & Brett, C. (2007). Interactive video games in physical education. *Journal of Physical Education, Recreation & Dance*, 78(5), 29-34, 45. Retrieved from <http://proquest.umi.com/pqdweb?did=1326854711&sid=1&Fmt=3&clientId=24644&QT=309&VName=PQD>

*Example:* Herbst-Damm, K. L., & Kulik, J. A. (2005). Volunteer support, marital status, and the survival times of terminally ill patients. *Health Psychology*, 24, 225-229. doi:10.1037/0278-6133.24.2.225

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**JOURNAL ARTICLE FOUND ON FREE WEB (section 7.01.3 in APA Handbook)**

*Format:* First Author's Name (Last name, initials). (Date). Title of Article. *Journal Title, Volume(Issue#)*, Pages. Retrieved from URL

*Example:* Sillick, T. J., & Schutte, N. S. (2006). Emotional intelligence and self-esteem mediate between perceived early parental love and adult happiness. *E-Journal of Applied Psychology*, 2(2), 38-48. Retrieved from <http://ojs.lib.swin.edu.au/index.php/ejap>