

# APA Citation Style Guide

Based on the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 7<sup>th</sup> ed., 2020.*

Current edition located in the CGTC Libraries  
Ref BF 76.7. P83 2020

Citations are used to give credit to the person who originally wrote the information you are using and to provide readers with references to locate additional information on your topic. If you use any information from your research, such as facts and ideas as well as quotations, you must cite or note the sources in which you found the material. When you use information, ideas or expressions without acknowledging the person who originally wrote it, you are plagiarizing.

Below are some of the basic formats for the APA (American Psychological Association) citation style that you can follow for your References page. Follow the format and punctuation exactly as they appear and provide as much of the information as available.

DOIs and URLs: Online journal, newspaper and encyclopedia articles, eBooks, web pages, and even print publications may require a unique identifier in the citation. Acceptable unique identifiers include URLs and Digital Object Identifiers (DOI). DOI or URL shorteners may be used, if desired. Refer to *Section 9.34-9.36* of the APA manual for additional information.

Database Information: Journals articles, magazines, eBooks, newspaper articles and other sources of information obtained through academic research databases do not require a URL or any database information in the citation. Refer to *Section 9.30* of the APA manual for more information about database and archive sources.

## Author Formats and Examples

### Single Author

Author's last name, First initials separated by periods and spaces.

Hawthorne, N. (2014). *The scarlet letter*. First Avenue Editions.

### Two Authors

Author's last name, First initials., & Author's last name, First initials.

Reyhle, N. L., & Prescott, J. A. (2014). *Retail 101: The guide to managing and marketing your retail business*. McGraw-Hill Education.

### **Three to Twenty Authors**

Author's last name, First initials., Author's last name, First initials., & Author's last name, First initials.

Pratt, K., Griffith, T. D., & Bankman, J. (2019). *Federal income tax* (8th ed.). Wolters Kluwer.

### **Twenty-one or More Authors**

Include the first 19 authors' names, followed by an ellipsis and the last author's name. Refer to *Section 10.1* (example 4) of the APA manual to see an example citation.

### **No Author, Only Editor(s) Credited**

Follow the editor's last name and first initials with (Ed.). For more than one editor, follow with (Eds.).

Ackly, B. J., Ladwig, G. B., & Makic, M. B. F. (Eds.) (2017). *Nursing diagnosis handbook: An evidence-based guide to planning care* (11th ed.). Elsevier.

Snyder, T. (Ed.) (2020). *The essential wood book: The woodworker's guide to choosing and using lumber*. Cedar Lane Press.

### **Group Author**

Spell out the entire name of the group author, followed by a period. Agencies listed as a group author are not included in the citation again as a source (i.e. publisher.)

American Psychological Association. (2020). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th ed.). <https://doi.org/10.1037/0000165-000>

### **Unknown Author**

Move the title of the work to the beginning of the citation, followed by a period and the date of publication. See *Section 9.12* of the APA manual for more information.

## Reference Source Formats and Examples

### Book/eBook

Author(s). (Publication year). *Title in italics: Subtitle with capital letter* (edition, Volume). Publisher. DOI or URL

Garrett, B. (2018). *Empirical nursing: The art of evidence-based care*. Emerald Publishing Limited.

Penner, S. J. (2016). *Economics and financial management for nurses and nurse leaders* (3rd ed.). Springer Publishing Company. <https://doi.org/10.1891/9780826160027>

Todd, J. W. (2018). *Todd's cardio-vascular review book* (6th ed., Vol. 2). Cardiac Self Assessment.

### Entry in a Dictionary, Thesaurus, or Encyclopedia with a Group Author

NOTE: The 7<sup>th</sup> edition of the APA manual does not provide guidance on how to cite physical dictionaries, thesauruses, or encyclopedias. The below examples are for electronic resources. Guidance for citing physical sources can be found in the APA Guide at the Purdue Online Writing Lab: <https://owl.purdue.edu>.

Include (n.d.) for the publication date if the source is continually updated and not archived. Also, include the retrieval date in the citation. If an entry is archived, include the publication year and do not include the retrieval date in the citation.

Author(s). (Publication year). Title of entry. In *Title of reference work*. Retrieved Month Day, Year, from URL.

Merriam-Webster. (n.d.). Onomatopoeia. In *Merriam-Webster.com dictionary*. Retrieved October 12, 2020, from <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/onomatopoeia>

### **Entry in a Dictionary, Thesaurus, or Encyclopedia with an Individual Author**

Author(s). (Publication year). Title of entry. In Editor(s) first initials followed by last

name (Ed.), *Title of reference work*. (edition.) Publisher. URL or DOI

Parker, W. (2018). Climate science. In E. N. Zalta (Ed.), *The Stanford encyclopedia of philosophy* (Summer 2018 ed.). Stanford University.

<https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/climate-science/>

### **Work in an Anthology / Chapter in an Edited Book**

Author(s). (Publication year). Title of work or chapter. In Editor's first initials followed

by last name (Ed.), *Title of Anthology or Book* (edition, page numbers). Publisher.

DOI or URL (Original work published year.)

Elicker, J., & McMullen, M. B. (2018). Appropriate and meaningful assessment in family-centered programs. In H. Bohart & R. Procopio (Eds.), *Spotlight on young children: Observation and assessment* (pp. 21-30). National Association for the Education of Young Children.

Joyce, J. (2017). Araby. In J. E. Gardner, B. Lawn, J. Ridl, P. Schakel, & J. Diaz (Eds.), *Literature: A portable anthology* (4th ed., pp. 85-89). Bedford/St. Martin's.

(Original work published 1914).

### **Newspaper Article**

Author(s). (Year, Month Day of issue). Article title. *Newspaper Title*, page numbers.

URL

Dana, R. (2008, May 30). National Spelling Bee brings out protesters who r thru with through. *Wall Street Journal*. pp. A1, A12.

Churchill, T. (2010, April 13). Preschoolers thrive on self-directed, in-depth learning.

*Herald & Review*. [https://herald-review.com/news/local/preschoolers-thrive-on-self-directed-in-depth-learning/article\\_bfee4ebb-2d7d-5ec3-8e34-5f3520406260.html](https://herald-review.com/news/local/preschoolers-thrive-on-self-directed-in-depth-learning/article_bfee4ebb-2d7d-5ec3-8e34-5f3520406260.html)

### **Magazine Article**

Author(s). (Year, Month Day of issue). Article title. *Magazine Title*, volume(issue), page numbers. DOI or URL

Piore, A. (2020, November). Bacteria and the brain. *Discover*, 41(7), pp. 31-39.

### **Journal Article**

Author(s). (Publication year). Article title. *Title of Journal*, volume(issue), page numbers.

DOI or URL

Hybels, C. F., Wu, B., Landerman, L. R., Liang, J., Bennet, J. M., & Plassman, B. L. (2016). Trends in decayed teeth among middle-aged and older adults in the United States: Socioeconomic disparities persist over time. *Journal of Public Health Dentistry*, 76(4), pp. 287-294. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jphd.12153>

### **Entire Website**

When citing an entire website and not a specific page, no reference list entry is needed. The URL for the website is included in the text of the paper, by placing the URL in parenthesis at the end of the sentence. For example:

USAJOBS is an online listing of current federal job opportunities  
(<http://www.usajobs.com/>).

### **Webpage on a News Website**

Author(s). (Year, Month Day of publication). *Article title*. News Source. URL

Brown, N. (2020, October 13). *How poor regions lose out because of U.S. census undercounts*. Reuters. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-census-undercounts-insight/how-poor-regions-lose-out-because-of-u-s-census-undercounts-idUSKBN26Y1GC>

### **Webpage on a Website with a Group Author**

Author. (Year, Month Day of publication or update). *Title of webpage*. URL

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2020, May 13). *Symptoms of coronavirus*. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>

### **Webpage on a Website with an Individual Author**

Author(s). (Year, Month Day of publication or update). *Title of webpage*. Website Name.  
URL

Smith, M., Robinson, L., & Segal, J. (2020 September). *Depression symptoms and warning signs*. HelpGuide. <https://tinyurl.com/yalat3rv>

### **Webpage on a Website with No Date**

If a date of publication or update is not available, include (n.d.) after the author(s).

National Association for the Education of Young Children. (n.d.). *What do children learn in a high-quality preschool program?* <https://www.naeyc.org/our-work/families/what-do-children-learn-preschool-program>

## Parenthetical Citations Information

In the APA style, sources are acknowledged by short parenthetical citations in the text instead of numbered footnotes. The parenthetical citation includes just enough information to point the reader to the complete information about the source in the References list. The parenthetical usually includes the author's last name and the publication date of the work cited. If the author's name is clearly stated in your sentence, use only the publication date.

Examples:

Work by one author: (Garrett, 2018)

Work by two authors: (Reyhle & Prescott, 2014)

Work by three or more authors: (Pratt et al., 2019)

Work by a group author: (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2020)

Work with no author listed:

If citing a work by an anonymous or unknown author, the title of the work should be included followed by the date. If the title is italicized in your reference list, then it should be italicized in the parenthetical citation. (*Title of Work*, Date). If the title is not italicized in your reference list, enclose it in quotation marks ("Title of Work," Date). Capitalize these titles using title case. Titles included in parenthetical citations may also be shortened if they are long.

## **Online resources for APA Style:**

APA Style: Style and Grammar Guidelines

<https://apastyle.apa.org/style-grammar-guidelines>

Purdue Online Writing Lab: APA Formatting and Style Guide

[https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research\\_and\\_citation/apa\\_style/apa\\_formatting\\_and\\_style\\_guide/general\\_format.html](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_formatting_and_style_guide/general_format.html)