APA CITATION STYLE
Prepared from the 5th edition of Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association

Two aspects of citing

In text citing (in the body of your paper)

Reference List (at the end of your paper)

Examples

Citation in text:

Sittel (1990) has presented poignant data from 150 interviews.

Reference List:


Citing in the text

Each time you cite a source you must include:
1. Author(s) last name(s)
2. Date of publication
3. *Include the page number only when you quote directly

Examples

Rogers (1994) compared reaction times in a recent study of reaction times (Rogers, 1994).

The Buddhist calendar has been the official calendar in Sri Lanka since 1966 (Far East, 1990).

Quotations

Use "double quotation" marks for quotations in text. Do not use quotation marks to enclose block quotations (quotations of 40 or more words).

Example

An inaccurate or incomplete reference will "stand in print as an annoyance to future investigators and a monument to the writer’s carelessness" (Bruner, 1942, p. 68).

A work with two or more authors

If a work has two authors always cite both names in all citations.

When a work has 3-5 authors use all authors in the first citation. In subsequent citations, include only the surname of the first author followed by et al.

Examples - Two authors

Bright and McGрегor (1970) offer a trenchant criticism of...

It has even been pointed out that ETS cites research studies in a selective, almost biased way (Slack & Porter, 1980).

Examples - Three to five authors

Wasserman, Zapuntula, Rosen, Gerstman, and Rock (1994) found that... [first citation in text]

Wasserman et al. (1994) define this concept as... [subsequent citation per paragraph]

Personal Communication

Personal Communications include letters, personal interviews and e-mail messages.

Personal communications should be cited only in the text.

Example

L. A. Chavez (personal communication, March 28, 1997) [author's name in sentence]

L. A. Chavez, personal communication, March 28, 1997) [authors name not in the sentence]

A web site

To direct readers to an entire web site (but not a specific document on the site) it is sufficient to give the address of the site in the text.

Part of a web document

Follow the author/date format. To cite specific parts of a web document, indicate the chapter, figure or table as appropriate. For quotations give page numbers (or paragraph numbers) if available.

Reference List

Citing a book

A citation for a book takes the following format:-


Example


Book with no author named


Chapter in a reference source


Chapter in an edited work


A Periodical Article

A citation for a periodical article takes the following format:

Author (Year of publication). Title of article. Title of Periodical, vol. no, pp. pages.

If the journal is paginated by issue, include the issue number in brackets before the page numbers.

Example


Electronic Publications

A citation for an online text usually contains 2 dates

- the date of the electronic publication
- the latest update

- the date on which you accessed the document.

It should also include the web address or URL eg. http://historychannel.com

An article from an online Journal


Web site (no author identified)

Electronic reference formats recommended by the American Psychological Association.


Chapter or section in an Internet document


Example


Example of a Reference List

Reference List


For further details please consult the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association. RBC BF76.7 P63 2001

Prepared by Mona Information Literacy Unit (MILU), UWI Mona Library, 2005