

## APA Parenthetical Citation Examples (Citing an author in the text of your paper)

APA style uses parenthetical in-text citations to tell readers where you obtained your information or ideas. **You must credit any information you get from another source**, including paraphrased text, direct quotations, and original ideas.

In-text citations usually contain the author's last name and the date of publication, and are usually placed at the end of the sentence or paragraph that refers to the source.

**Example:** A journal article written by John Smith, published in 2005, would be cited like this in the text of the paper.

Many students have difficulty learning APA style at first (Smith, 2005).

**or**  
Smith (2005) stated that many students have difficulty learning APA style.

If there is no author, use the first few words in the title of the source in quotes. If there is no publication date, use the initials n.d.

**Example:** A Web page called "Student Guide to Using APA," with no publication date would be cited like this in the text of the paper.

It is important to use APA correctly so that others can verify your research ("Student Guide," n.d.).

**Note:** Do not include the URL of a website you cite in the body of your paper. The URL will be included in your reference page at the end of the paper.

If you are quoting directly from a source, you must include the page number the quote is found on.

**Example:** A quote by John Smith, published in a book in 2002 would be cited like this in the text of the paper.

Smith (2002) stated, "Quite a few students encounter difficulties whenever they attempt to learn APA for the first time" (p. 122).

**or**  
"Quite a few students encounter difficulties whenever they attempt to learn APA for the first time" (Smith, 2002, p. 122).

If you are quoting from a quote within a source (secondary work), you reference the source you are using, not the source of the quote.

**Example:** A study by Seidenberg and McClelland cited in an article by Coltheart, Curtis, Atkins, & Haller in 1993 would be cited like this in the text of the paper.

"Seidenberg and McClelland's study (as cited in Coltheart, Curtis, Atkins, & Haller, 1993, p. 53) fills a major gap in previous research."

**or**  
Coltheart (1993, p. 53) cited the study by Seidenberg and McClelland, "fills a major gap in precious research."

**Note:** Whenever possible, use the primary source. Avoid using secondary sources in your paper.

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# APA Reference Guide



## What is APA format?



The American Psychological Association (APA), both a professional association and a publisher, has since 1929 established style rules or procedures to encourage ease of reading, accuracy, and respect in scholarly communication. In July, 2009, the **6th edition** of the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* was published.

In addition to updating reference citation examples to include new media, the editors focused on key research issues of handling metadata, conducting research, and ethical issues.

## New changes with the 6<sup>th</sup> edition

- **Manual:** Reorganized chapters to better follow flow of publishing
  - Sample paper moved to Chapter 2
  - Reference citations examples part of Chapter 7 (more examples online)
- **Format:** Now use double space following periods within the text for ease of reading. Reference lists still use single space following all punctuation.
- **DOI:** If a Digital Object Identifier (DOI) is available, you do not need to cite the URL or the database from which the information is retrieved (see examples in this guide).
- **No DOI:** If no DOI is available for content retrieved online, use the publication home page URL instead of listing the database. Follow this example: Retrieved from <http://www.xxxxxxx>. No retrieval date is needed.



Be sure to check out the APA Style website <http://www.apastyle.org/learn/> with tutorials and other resources for learning APA style.

## How do I get help?

- Always check with your Instructor. He or she is the final authority on what your paper should look like, even if his or her requirements differ from the guidelines outlined in the APA manual!
- Online Writing Center consultants are available.
  - Visit their webpage: <http://www.nu.edu/OurPrograms/StudentServices/writingcenter.html>
  - Make an appointment for an online consultation: <http://tutor.nu.edu/>
- Librarians are available for reference assistance.
  - Call **1-866-NU-ACCESS (x7900 or "Library")**
  - Send an e-mail [refdesk@nu.edu](mailto:refdesk@nu.edu)

**Library**  
refdesk@nu.edu  
To ask for reference assistance

**Writing Center**  
http://tutor.nu.edu  
To schedule a consultation

## APA Reference Citation Examples

<b>Book</b>	Beck, C. J. A., & Sales, B. D. (2001). <i>Family mediation: Facts, myths, and future prospects</i> . Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.
<b>Chapter in an edited book</b>	Bjork, R. A. (1989). Retrieval inhibitions as an adaptive mechanism in human memory. In H. L. Roediger III & F. I. M. Craik (Eds.). <i>Varieties of memory &amp; consciousness</i> (pp. 309-330). Hillsdale, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum.
<b>Online Publication: DOI</b>	Brown, A., & Campione, J. (1986, October). Psychological theory and the study of learning disabilities. <i>American Psychologist</i> , <i>41</i> (10), 1059-1068. doi:10.1037/0003-066X.41.10.1059
<b>Online Publication: No DOI</b> Provide exact URL if article is freely available	Campbell, A., & Ntobedzi, A. (2007, December 17). Emotional intelligence, coping and psychological distress: A partial least squares approach to developing a predictive model. <i>E-Journal of Applied Psychology</i> , <i>3</i> (2), 39-54. Retrieved from <a href="http://ojs.lib.swin.edu.au/index.php/ejap/article/view/91">http://ojs.lib.swin.edu.au/index.php/ejap/article/view/91</a>
<b>Online Publication: No DOI</b> Provide journal home page URL even if retrieved from an article database	Couillard, D., Garnett, J., Hutchins, A., Fawcett, M., & Maycock, G. (2006, December). Student risk factors identified by school counselors and student achievement. <i>Alberta Journal of Educational Research</i> , <i>52</i> (4), 277-288. Available from <a href="http://www.education.ualberta.ca/educ/journals/ajer.html">http://www.education.ualberta.ca/educ/journals/ajer.html</a>
<b>Newspaper</b>	Davis, J. (1993, July 15). Drug cuts heart failure risk. <i>The New York Times</i> , p. A12.
<b>Edited book</b>	Gibbs, J. T., & Huang, L. N. (Eds.). (1991). <i>Children of color: Psychological interventions with minority youth</i> . San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.
<b>Multi-page Internet document created by a private organization</b>	Greater New Milford (CT) Area Healthy Community 2000, Task Force on Teen and Adolescent Issues. (n.d.). <i>Who has time for a family meal? You do!</i> Retrieved October 5, 2000, from <a href="http://www.familymealtime.org">http://www.familymealtime.org</a>
<b>Online stand-alone document, no author, no date</b> only include retrieved dates if source material may change over time	<i>GVU's 8th WWW user survey</i> . (n.d.). Retrieved from <a href="http://www.cc.gatech.edu/gvu/user_surveys/survey-1997-10">http://www.cc.gatech.edu/gvu/user_surveys/survey-1997-10</a>

**Note:** Reference entries are double-spaced with a hanging indent. One space follows all punctuation. Give the author's last name and first initials. Place parentheses around the publication date. Capitalize the first word of the title, subtitle, and proper nouns (if any). Italicize the title of the work and volume number (if any).

## APA Reference Citation Examples

<b>Daily newspaper article, online version, available by search</b>	Hilts, P. J. (1999, February 16). In forecasting their emotions, most people flunk out. <i>The New York Times</i> . Retrieved from <a href="http://www.nytimes.com">http://www.nytimes.com</a>
<b>Magazine article</b>	Kandel, E. R., & Squire, L. R. (2000, November 10). Neuroscience: Breaking down scientific barriers to the study of the brain and mind. <i>Science</i> , <i>290</i> (5494), 1113-1120. doi:10.1126/science.290.5494.1113
<b>Journal article</b>	Klimoski, R., & Palmer, S. (1993). The ADA and the hiring process in organizations. <i>Consulting Psychology Journal: Practice and Research</i> , <i>45</i> (2), 10-36. doi:10.1037/1061-4087.45.2.10
<b>Legal case</b>	Lessard v. Schmidt, 349 F. Supp. 1078 (E.D. Wis. 1972).
<b>Thesis retrieved from database</b>	McNiel, D. S. (2006). Meaning through narrative: A personal narrative discussing growing up with an alcoholic mother. Retrieved from ProQuest Dissertations and Theses database. (UMI No. 1434728).
<b>ERIC document</b>	Mead, J. V. (1992). <i>Looking at old photographs: Investigating the teacher tales that novice teachers bring with them</i> (National Center for Research on Teacher Learning Report No. NCRTL-RR-92-4). Retrieved from ERIC database. (ED 346082).
<b>Book: no author</b>	<i>Merriam-Webster's collegiate dictionary</i> (10th ed.). (1993). Springfield, MA: Merriam-Webster.
<b>Electronic book</b>	Rothstein-Fisch, C. (2003). <i>Bridging cultures: Teacher education module</i> . Mahwah, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates. Available from <a href="http://www.netlibrary.com">http://www.netlibrary.com</a>
<b>Motion picture</b>	Scorsese, M. (Producer), & Lonergan, K. (Writer/Director). (2000). <i>You can count on me</i> [Motion picture]. United States: Paramount Pictures.
<b>Internet article based on a print source</b>	VandenBos, G., Knapp, S., & Doe, J. (2001). Role of reference elements in the selection of resources by psychology undergraduates [Electronic version]. <i>Journal of Bibliographic Research</i> , <i>5</i> , 117-123.

*If you cannot find an example for your citation, follow the closest model in the APA manual:* American Psychological Association. (2010). *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.). Washington, DC: Author.