



Graduate Online Writing Studio

APA Citation Examples

The most common sources you will be citing in APA format will include journal articles, well-chosen web-based sources, and books or pieces from edited books. The examples below explain how to create the references for these commonly used sources, and the chart at the bottom of the second page explains how to cite these references in your paper.

References

Capitalization Rules for Titles in APA References

Sentence-Case Capitalization – Capitalize like you would a sentence (only the first word, proper nouns, acronyms, and the first word after a colon capitalized)

Title-Case Capitalization – Capitalize the first word as well as all “major” words (nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, and pronouns) in the title/heading, including the second part of hyphenated major words/all words over four letters in length.

Citing Articles from Academic Journals

Format: List authors last name first followed by a comma and the first initial and middle initial if listed. Retain source order of authors' names. Article title should be in sentence case capitalization. Journal title should be in title case capitalization, and journal title and volume number should be italicized.

Author, A. A., & Author, B. B. (Year). Title of article. *Title of Journal*, volume #(issue #), page range #-#.

<http://doi.org/xxxx> Include the DOI in the form of a URL if available. DOI URL may appear as an active hyperlink. Do not place a period after the DOI. Issue number should not be italicized.

Example:

Hunt, L. A., Brown, A. E., & Gilman, I. P. (2010). Drivers with dementia and outcomes of becoming lost while driving. *American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 64(2), 225-232.

<https://doi.org/10.5014/ajot.64.2.225>

Citing a Reliable Web Sites

Format: The author name can also be the name of the authoring organization if no specific person's name is listed. Page title should be in sentence case capitalization and italicized. Site name should be in title case capitalization. Also, do not include the site name if it is the same as the author organization.

Author, A. A. (Date of publication). *Title of page*. Site Name. <http://www.entireurl.com>

Provide as much publication date information as possible with year first, then month and/or day if available. Include the entire URL of the page. URL may appear as an active hyperlink. Do not place a period after URL.

Example:

Avramova, N. (2019, January 3). *The secret to a long, happy, healthy life? Think age-positive*. CNN.

<https://www.cnn.com/2019/01/03/health/respect-toward-elderly-leads-to-long-life-intl/index.html>

Citing Books

Format:

Book title should be in sentence case capitalization and italicized.

If the book has an edition number, place it in parentheses after the book title before the period. See correct formatting in example below.

Author, A. A., & Author, B. B. (Year). *Title of book* (edition). Publisher.

Example:

Cronin, A., & Mandich, M. B. (2015). *Human development and performance throughout the lifespan* (2nd ed.). Cengage Learning.

Citing Authored Pieces from Edited Books

This type of source includes articles, stories, poems, or other written pieces that appear in edited books/textbooks.

Format:

Author of piece should be listed last name first followed by a comma and the first initial and middle initial if listed.

Piece title should be in sentence case capitalization and not italicized.

Editors' names should be listed with first initial and middle initial (if listed) first followed by last name and should be followed by (Eds.) in parentheses.

Author of piece. (Year piece was published). Title of piece. In A. A. Editor & B. B. Editor (Eds.), *Title of book* (edition, pp. #–#). Publisher.

Book title should be in sentence case capitalization and italicized.

Example:

This page range should show where the piece begins and ends in the book. Include edition number of book if listed with comma before the page range.

Carr, N. (2008). Is Google making us stupid? In R. Bullock & M. D. Goggin (Eds.), *The Norton field guide to writing with readings* (5th ed., pp. 789–802). W. W. Norton & Company.

In-text Citations

Author Type	Parenthetical Citation	Narrative Citation
One Author	(Avramova, 2019).	Avramova (2019) states,
Two Authors	(Cronin & Mandich, 2015).	Cronin and Mandich (2015) suggest,
Three or More Authors ¹	(Hunt et al., 2010).	According to Hunt et al. (2010),
Group Author with Abbreviation ²		
First Citation of Source in the Paper	(National Institute of Mental Health [NIMH], 2020).	The National Institute of Mental Health (HIMH, 2020) explains,
All Other Citations of Source in the Paper	(NIMH, 2020).	NIMH (2020) stresses,
Group Author – No Abbreviation	(Mayo Clinic, 2019).	Mayo Clinic (2019) points out,

1. For sources with three or more authors, use the last name of the first author listed on the source followed by et al. in all in-text citations.
2. Define the abbreviation for a group author only once in the text, choosing either the parenthetical or the narrative format. Thereafter, use the abbreviation for all mentions of the group in the text.

This brief guide covers only the basics of APA documentation. For more information, refer to the 7th edition of the *APA Publication Manual*.