

Using ASA Format

Creating a reference page using the American Sociological Association guidelines

The *American Sociological Association Style Guide* (5th ed.) provides guidelines, loosely based on *The Chicago Manual of Style* (16th ed.), for formatting your research paper.

In-text citations

ASA parenthetical in-text citations include the last name of the author(s) and the year of publication. Examples:

When author's name is mentioned in the text:

As Kelly noted (2008) . . .

When authors' names are not mentioned in text, and for two authors:

. . . the study concluded (Bursick and Grasmick 1993).

Include page numbers only for direct quotes or when referring to a specific passage:

The social construction of ideas was a key theme in the teaching of a number of instructors of sociology (Persell, Pfeiffer, and Syed 2008:117).

For more than three authors, or after the first citation of a three-author work:

. . . preferred to engage students in research (Persell et al. 2008).

References

At the end of a research paper, you need to provide a list of the works you've cited. This should be done on a separate page with the word References left-justified at the top, and the citations listed below in alphabetical order, double-spaced, with a hanging indent. If there is more than one entry by an author in the same year, then distinguish them by adding a letter after the year.

Below are examples of some of the most commonly cited sources. For more information, check the *Style Guide*, visit the library reference desk, or consult Purdue's OWL website at <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/583/1/> (use the menu on the left to navigate). You may also contact the Metro State Writing Center at (651) 793-1460 or centerfolk@metrostate.edu.

Model for a book citation

Author1 Lastname, Firstname, Author2 Firstname Lastname, and Author3 Firstname Lastname.

Year. *Name of Publication*. Location of publisher: Publisher's Name.

Examples of book citations

Bursik, Robert J., Jr. and Harold G. Grasmick. 1993. *Neighborhoods and Crime: The Dimensions of Effective Community Control*. New York: Lexington Books.

Willis, Evan. 2004. *The Sociological Quest: An Introduction to the Study of Social Life*. 4th ed.

Crows Nest NSW, Australia: Allen & Unwin. Retrieved April 5, 2018

(<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=1741143365>).

****NOTE: State abbreviation is not required if the location of the city is well-known, or when the state is embedded in the publisher name.**

Model for a citation of a chapter or article from a book

Author1 Lastname, Firstname, Author2 Firstname Lastname, and Author3 Firstname Lastname.

Year. "Title of article." Pp. xxx-xx in *Title of Publication*, edited by F. M. Editor1, F. M.

Editor2, and F. M. Editor3. Location of publisher: Publisher's Name.

Examples of citations of chapters or articles from books

Kelly, John. 2008. "Cultural Relativism." Pp. 193-96 in *International Encyclopedia of the Social Sciences*. 2nd ed., Vol. 2, edited by William A. Darity, Jr. Detroit, MI: Macmillan Reference.

Retrieved April 5, 2018

(<http://link.galegroup.com/apps/doc/CX3045300498/GVRL?u=mnamsu&sid=GVRL&xid=6e18bef1>).

Zatz, Marjorie S. and Richard P. Krecker, Jr. 2003. "Anti-gang Initiatives as Racialized Policy."
Pp. 173-96 in *Crime Control and Social Justice: The Delicate Balance*, edited by D. F.
Hawkins, S. L. Myers, Jr., and R. N. Stone. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press.

Model for a journal article citation

Author1 Lastname, Firstname, Author2 Firstname Lastname, and Author3 Firstname Lastname.
Year. "Title of Article." *Title of Publication* Volume Number(Issue Number):page number
range.

****NOTE: For periodicals published in both online and print form, which includes most
articles available in library databases, follow the basic periodical pattern, above.**

****NOTE: For periodicals published in online form only, append the DOI, retrieval date and
URL, or database information (with accession number, if available) as in the examples
below. You may drop page number information if it is not available in the online form.**

Examples of journal article citations

Logan, John R. 2005. "Re-placing Whiteness: Where's the Beef?" *City & Community* 4(2):137-
42.

Persell, Caroline Hodges, Kathryn M. Pfeiffer, and Ali Syed. 2008. "How Sociological Leaders
Teach: Some Key Principles." *Teaching Sociology* 36(2):108-24.
doi:10.1177/0092055X0803600202.

Schafer, Daniel W. and Fred L. Ramsey. 2003. "Teaching the Craft of Data Analysis." *Journal
of Statistics Education* 11(1). Retrieved February 28, 2011
(<http://www.amstat.org/publications/jse/v11n1/schafer.html>).

Audiovisual resources

Films for the Humanities and Sciences. 2005. *The America of the Amish*. Video file. Films on
Demand. Retrieved April 11, 2011
(<http://digital.films.com/PortalPlaylists.aspx?aid=11689&xtid=36205>).

Holmqvist, Stig. 1998. *Chronicle of a Savannah Marriage*. DVD. New York: Filmmakers Library.

“Tom Lehrer on Sociology.” N.d. YouTube website. Retrieved April 1, 2011

(<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wX5II-BJ8hI>).

Website citation examples

****NOTE: For unsigned articles, use the authoring organization or publication in the place of the author. If there is none, place the title first.**

****NOTE: Include publisher name and city if the document is retrieved from an institution with a known location.**

Al Jazeera News. 2018. “Deadly blast hits Afghanistan’s Herat province.” *Al Jazeera*, April 9.

Retrieved April 9, 2018 (<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2018/04/deadly-blast-hits-afghanistan-herat-province-180409151500975.html>).

American Sociological Association. 2015. “2015 Annual Report.” Washington, DC: American

Sociological Association. Retrieved April 9, 2018

(http://www.asanet.org/sites/default/files/2015_asa_annual_report.pdf).

Flagg, Anna. 2018. “The Myth of the Criminal Immigrant.” New York Times. *Economix* Blogs.

Retrieved April 9, 2018 (<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2018/03/30/upshot/crime-immigration-myth.html>).

Available in alternative formats for people with disabilities.
Call Center for Accessibility Resources at 651.793.1540.

