APA Quick Guide

Resources

Book

APA Style Blog
http://blog.apastyle.org/

OWL: Purdue Online Writing Lab
https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style

In-text Citation

Use the author's last name followed by publication date and page number if available. Here, the author is Ben Chau and the page number is 123. In-text citation always relates to entries in a reference list. Use only the first element of that list (usually the author) in the citation. The examples here key to the “Chau” entry in our References samples.

For a Quote

Chau (2017) said, “APA style is great” (p. 123).

For a Paraphrase

(a page number is encouraged but not required)

Chau (2017) praised APA style.
The scholarly article praises APA style (Chau, 2017).

*For something cited in your source*
Iironically, Abraham Lincoln (as cited in Statton & Gomez, 2003) wrote in his diary, “attending a theater performance is an excellent way to relax” (p. 145). Statton and Gomez appear in the references list because you read their textbook, not Lincoln’s diary.

*Multiple authors*
For two authors, use both names every time you cite. For three to five authors, list each author the first time, but for subsequent citations, use the first author’s name and et al. which means “and others” in Latin. For six or more authors, use the first author’s name and et al. for every in-text citation.

*Interviews*
Something not recoverable by a reader should be cited in the paper but not in the references (APA, p. 179). Provide the initials and last name of the person, and the full date of the interview. B.Chau noted writing requires attention to detail (personal communication, May 4, 2017).

*No publication date or page*
For no date use n.d., for no page use n.p.: Fisher (n.d.) advises writers to plan ahead. "APA style is great" (Chau, 2017, n.p.).

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Reference Page

References

Use a separate page at the end of the paper titled References, centered in normal text on the first line. List sources alphabetically by author’s last name. Double space, if an entry takes more than one line, the second line is indented one half inch.

Basic format


For a print book


For more than seven authors with a doi


An online journal article


For a government report


For web pages


For unusual situations use square brackets for explanation or parentheses for additional publishing information


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