

APA Style Overview

A short guide to citing sources using APA style (6th edition)

Commonly used in the social sciences, APA style requires that you acknowledge in two places the authors whose words or ideas you have used in your essay: in the 'References' section and in the body of the essay via in-text citations. APA style emphasizes the year of publication, which is placed immediately after the author's name in both locations. To introduce your bibliography at the end of the paper, the word 'References' should be centered (not in bold or underlined) at the top of the page

Formatting Checklist (References)

- ✓ Double-space entries
- ✓ Indent the second and subsequent lines of each reference (hanging indent)
- ✓ In reference entries, invert all authors' names; give last names and initials for up to and including 7 authors

Books

Capitalize only the first word of a book title and the first word of the subtitle, as well as any proper nouns.

One author

Horn, M. (2009). *York University: The way must be tried*. Montreal, Québec: McGill-Queen's University Press.

In-text: (Horn, 2009, p. 50)

When quoting word for word, always provide the author(s), year, and specific page number.

Two authors

Coates, C. M. & Ewen, G. (2012). *Introduction aux études canadiennes: Histoires, identités et cultures*. Ottawa, Ontario: Presses de l'Université d'Ottawa.

Hanging indent

In-text: (Coates & Ewen, 2012, p. 30)

When paraphrasing, it is recommended to provide a page number.

Multiple editions

Dickason, O. P. (2006). *A concise history of Canada's First Nations* (Rev. ed.). Toronto, Ontario: Oxford University Press.

Revised edition

In-text: (Dickason, 2006, p. 42)

Editors

Edited book

Hird, M. J. & Pavlich, G. (Eds.). (2012). *Questioning sociology: Canadian perspectives* (2nd ed.). Don Mills, Ontario: Oxford University Press.

In-text: (Hird & Pavlich, 2012, p. 65)

Book chapter

Won, K. H. (2011). A gay actor with multiple scripts: Impression management strategies to comply with traditional Chinese family norms. In A. Se'ver & J. Trost. (Eds.), *Skeletons in the closet* (pp. 121-138). Waterloo, Ontario: Wilfred Laurier University Press.

Chapter author

Book editors: Note that initials come first for book editors.

Book title

In-text: (Won, 2011, p. 28)

E-book

Fallis, G. (2007). *Multiversities, ideas and democracy*. [Ebrary Reader Version]. Retrieved from

<http://www.library.yorku.ca/e/resolver/id/1836818>

Identify electronic format

In-text: (Fallis, 2007, p. 33)

No period after URL; No access dates

Articles

One author

E-journal

Turcotte, Y. (1997). L'immigration et l'intégration des immigrants au Québec au cours des quinze dernières années. *Nouvelles Pratiques Sociales*, 10(1), 53-57. doi: [10.7202/301385ar](https://doi.org/10.7202/301385ar)

Capitalize first and subsequent words of journal titles (except articles and short prepositions).

Italicize journal title and volume

Cite the DOI (Digital Object Identifier) for e-journal articles. If the DOI is unavailable, cite the journal URL.

In-text: (Turcotte, 1997, p. 55)

Two authors

Print journal

Pigott, B. S. & Kalbach, M. A. (2005). Language effects on ethnic identity in Canada. *Canadian Ethnic Studies* 37(2), 3-18.

In-text: (Pigott & Kalbach, 2005, p. 12)

Magazine article

Gladwell, M. (2011, November 14). The tweaker. *The New Yorker*, 87(36), 32-35.

In-text: (Gladwell, 2011, p. 35)

Capitalize first and subsequent words of newspaper titles (except articles and short prepositions).

Newspaper article in print

Gagnon, L. (2012, May 21). The protesters' fellow travellers. *The Globe & Mail*, p. A11.



In-text: (Gagnon, 2012, p. A11)

Newspaper article online

Brody, J. E. (2007, December 11). Mental reserves keep brain agile. *The New York Times*. Retrieved from

<http://www.nytimes.com>

In-text: (“Mental,” 2007, para. 3)

Abbreviate the article title. Many electronic sources do not provide page numbers. If paragraph numbers are visible, use them with the abbreviation para.

Web Pages

Entire website

Occupy Toronto (2012). *Everyone is affected by debt*. Retrieved from <http://occupyto.org>

No author

In-text: (*Occupy Toronto*, 2012)

The homeless hub (n.d.). Retrieved from <http://www.homelesshub.ca>

No author

No date

In-text: (*Homeless hub*, n.d.)

Web page, authored

Létourneau, J. (Prin. Investigator). (2007). *Canadians and their pasts / Les Canadiens et leurs passés*. Retrieved

from <http://www.isr.yorku.ca/projects/pasts>

In-text: (Létourneau, 2007)

Encyclopedias

Print

Peters, C.J. (2010). Aboriginal mothering. In A. O'Reilly (Ed.), *Encyclopedia of motherhood* (Vol. 1, pp. 1-

3). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

In-text: (Peters, 2010, para.2)

Signed entry

Digital

Pallardy, R. (2012). Elizabeth May. In *Encyclopaedia britannica online* (Academic ed.). Retrieved from

<http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/1472176/Elizabeth-May>

In-text: (Pallardy, 2012, para. 2)

Lester B. Pearson. (n.d.). In *Wikipedia*. Retrieved May 24, 2012, from

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lester_b_pearson

Include access dates for sources updated often.

In-text: ("Lester B. Pearson," n.d., para. 4)

Unsigned, undated entry

Film & Media

Film

Tuffard, J. & Gunnarson, S. (Producers), & Gunnarson, S. (Director). (2011). *Force of nature: The David Suzuki movie* [DVD]. Canada: Entertainment One/ National Film Board of Canada.

In-text: (Tuffard & Gunnarson, 2011)

Director, year, title, country of origin & studio are required.
Actors, producers, etc. are optional.

TV

Butt, B. (Creator). (2005). *Corner gas: Season two* [Television series]. Toronto, Ontario: Prairie Pants Productions.

In-text: (Butt, 2005)

Government Documents

Authored, digital

Hurley, M.C. & Wherrett, J. (2000). In *Brief: The Report of the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples*. (Report No. PRB99-24E). Retrieved from <http://publications.gc.ca/site/eng/299876/publication.html>

In-text: (Hurley & Wherrett, 2000, p. 2)

Corporate author, government report, digital

Office of the Auditor General of Canada. (2011). *Report of the Auditor General of Canada to the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut – 2011 Children, youth and family programs and services in Nunavut*. (2011). Retrieved from <http://celarc.ca/cppc/229/229940.pdf>

In-text: (Office of the Auditor General of Canada, 2011, para. 1)

Secondary Sources

One author quotes another

e.g. In a 2010 book by K. Anderson, you find a quote taken from Karl Marx' *Collected Works* (1975).

In the body of your essay, cite both authors, indicating the author of the original quote (Marx) in your sentence, and the author in whose work you found the quote (Anderson), in an in-text citation.

In the Reference list, cite only the author in whose secondary source you found the quote.

Marx astutely predicted that the railroad would “become the forerunner of modern industry.” (as cited in Anderson, 2010, p. 5).

For more information on how to cite all types of sources using APA style, see:

Complete style guide: *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association, 6th ed, 2010.*
<https://www.library.yorku.ca/find/Record/2323290>