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

One author

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

Two authors

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

Multiple editions

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

Editors

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

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

E-book

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

Articles

E-journal

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

Print journal

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

Magazine article

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

Newspaper article in print
In-text: (Gagnon, 2012, p. A11)

**Newspaper article online**

In-text: ("Mental," 2007, para. 3)

**Web Pages**

**Entire website**

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


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

**Web page, authored**

In-text: *(Létourneau, 2007)*

**Encyclopedias**

**Print**

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

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


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

**Film & Media**

**Film**


In-text: (Tuffard & Gunnarson, 2011)

**TV**


In-text: (Butt, 2005)

**Government Documents**

**Authored, digital**


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

**Corporate author, government report, digital**


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: