



APA CITATION GUIDE

(All the information contained in this handout is based on American Psychological Association (2001).
Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (5th Ed.). Washington, DC: APA.)

When doing research, you must use a standard citation format to identify the information you have used and give credit to its creator. Consistency is crucial.

The American Psychological Association (APA) style is used mostly in social sciences such as anthropology, the biological sciences, business, economics, linguistics and political science. It is an author-date system, recommending in-text citations that refer the reader to a list of references (References).

IN-TEXT CITATIONS

When citing a summary or paraphrase...

(*Please note: The example citations below are fictitious).

One author:

- ***Citing a summary or paraphrase:***
A recent exploratory study (Smith, 2000) uncovered several examples...
- ***With the author's name in-text:***
Smith (2000) found several examples of this...

Two authors: Both names must be cited every time the reference takes place in the text.

A recent exploratory study (Smith & Jones, 2000) uncovered several examples...
Smith and Jones (2000) found several examples of this...

Three to five authors: Cite all authors for the first reference only; for additional references cite the first author along with et al. and the year.

- ***1st citation:***
Olsen, Smith, Jones & Atkins (1992) proved that...
In a recent study about academic writing (Olsen, Smith, Jones & Atkins, 1992) it was shown that...
- ***Subsequent citations:***
Olsen et al. (1993) also stated that...
A statement about academic writing (Olsen et al., 1993) emphasize the importance...

Six or more authors: Only the first author is required along with et al. and the year.

Miller et al. (2005) explained that...
This explanation (Miller et al., 2005) helps...

No author: Cite the beginning of the title (two or three words) followed by the year. Titles of books, periodicals, brochures and reports should be written in italics. Titles of articles or chapters should be enclosed in quotation marks.

The book *Gender and Learning* (2000)...
("Diet low in antioxidants," 2004)...

The work's author is designated as "Anonymous":

(Anonymous, 1972)...

The author is designated as a government organization, corporation, study group or association: Cite the organization and the year.

(Writing Tutorial Centre, 2001)...

Citation of a work discussed in a secondary source: Refer to the original in your text and provide a citation for the secondary source preceded by as cited in.

According to Smith (as cited in Olsen, Jones & Atkins, 1992)...

No publication date: Cite the author, comma and n.d. for "no date".

(Smith, n.d.)...

Electronic sources: Cite electronic sources in text in the same manner as the documents listed above.

When citing a quotation or specific reference:

(*Please note: Example quotations are taken from the sources indicated in the citations provided.)

Short quotations (40 words or less): For print sources, provide the author, year and page number in the citation. Short quotations can be integrated into your text.

In spite of changes in size and scope, the Centre remains true to its original theoretical underpinnings which view writing itself as "intimately connected with learning and thinking" (Freedman, 1984, p.84).

For electronic sources without pagination, include a paragraph number (if paragraphs are visibly numbered), or the section heading of the document and the paragraph number if paragraphs are not visibly numbered.

The Writing Tutorial Service can help you to "develop your ability to express ideas clearly and concisely" (Writing Tutorial Service, 2005, Why use the WTS?, para. 1).

Longer quotations (more than 40 words): Longer quotations need to be presented in an indented (five spaces) block, double-spaced.

As Bruce (2005) observes:

However, the crucial issue (and one that gives rise to much confusion) is the discourse entity that should provide the basic unit of a genre-based, analytic syllabus, such as the one designed for an academic writing course. (p. 242)

REFERENCES

The reference page is organized alphabetically by authors' surnames. Double space unless otherwise indicated.

(*Please note: Example references provided below are actual published documents.)

Book

Bakan, J. (2004). *The Corporation: the pathological pursuit of profit and power*. Toronto, ON: Penguin Group.

Book article or chapter in an edited book

Matsuda, P. K. & Cox, M. (2004). Reading an ESL writer's text. In S. Bruce & B. Rafoth (Eds.), *ESL writers: A guide for writing center tutors* (pp. 39-47). Portsmouth, NH: Boynton / Cook Publishers Inc.

Journal article

Peirce, B. N. (1995). Social identity, investment and language learning. *TESOL Quarterly* 29(1), 9-31.

Newspaper article (no author)

Brady's super again. (2004, February 2). *The Ottawa Sun*. p.43.

Magazine article

Wentworth, A. (2004, October). The dos & don'ts of having a job—and a baby. *Glamour*, 138.

Document retrieved from an online database

Harrington, N. (2005). It's too difficult! Frustration intolerance beliefs and procrastination. *Personality and Individual Differences*, 39(5), 873-883. Retrieved June 7, 2006, from PsycINFO database.

Online journal

Offner, M. D. (1995, November). Communicating in English: Flexibility within a norm. *The Internet TESL Journal*, 1(1). Retrieved June 7, 2006, from <http://iteslj.org/Articles/Offner-Communicating.html>.

Online document (no date)

White, D. (n.d.). *The Nile River*. Retrieved June 7, 2006 from <http://www.socialstudiesforkids.com/articles/geography/nileriver.htm>.

References:

American Psychological Association (2001). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (5th ed.). (2001). Washington,DC: American Psychological Association.

Texts used in referencing examples:

Bruce, I. (2005). Syllabus design for general EAP writing courses: A cognitive approach. *Journal of English for Academic Purposes*, 4, 239-256.

Freedman, A. (1984). The Carleton University Writing Tutorial Service. *Carleton Papers in Applied Language Studies*, 1, 77-100.

Writing Tutorial Service, Carleton University (2005). *Why use the WTS?* Retrieved on June 7, 2006, from <http://www.carleton.ca/wts/student/writing/tutoring.html#whywts>

A Useful link:

<http://www.apastyle.org/faqs.html>