Learning, Liking, and Loving

APA Style

The AUM Learning Center’s Guide to the Sixth Edition
Overview

• Paper Layout and Organization
• In-Text Citations
• Reference List
Paper Layout and Organization

Getting with the flow of things
Organization

- Cover Page
- Abstract
- Essay
  - Introduction
  - Method
  - Results
  - Discussion
- References
Cover Page
Using APA Successfully in College Classes

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Abstract
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Keywords: APA style, citations, reference page
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Beginning
the Essay
Using APA Successfully in College Classes

Frequently, college students are surprised to find out how important it is to learn and be comfortable using APA citation. Whether they are in science, psychology, or health classes, students are bound to encounter APA style at least once in their college careers. Depending on their educational background, students may or may not be familiar with the formatting requirements of this style.

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# Headings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>APA Headings</th>
<th>Format</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Level 1</td>
<td>Centered, boldface, title capitalization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 2</td>
<td>Left-aligned, boldface, title capitalization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 3</td>
<td>Indented, boldface, only first letter capitalized (sentence case), ends with a period. Begin body text after the period.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 4</td>
<td>Indented, boldface, italicized, sentence case, ends with a period. Begin body text after the period.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 5</td>
<td>Indented, italicized, sentence case, ends with a period. Begin body text after the period.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Level One Heading**

**Level Two Heading**

*Level three heading.*  

*Level four heading.*  

*Level five heading.*
References Page
References

Angeli, E., Wagner, J., Lawrick, E., Moore, K., Anderson, M.,
Retrieved from http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource

Duncan, G. J., & Brooks-Gunn, J. (Eds.). (1997). *Consequences of

Entries
(alphabetically
organized)

References

In-Text Citations
giving credit where credit is due
a.k.a. parenthetical citations,
’cause they’re in parentheses
Direct Citation (Quote)  
• Author’s Last Name  
• Year of Publication  
• Page Number

Paraphrase and Summary  
• Author’s Last Name  
• Year of Publication

(Smith, 2012, p. 267)  
(Gonzales, 2003)
Studies show that APA really can be fun if students are familiar with the rules that govern its use; Johnson (1998) found that “9 out of 10 students admitted that their unfamiliarity with APA is directly related with their antipathy towards it” (p. 29). Another study also concluded that “students who learn to understand APA are five times more confident about their reports” (Lee, 2001, p. 561). While Roberts and Wilson (1981) contest that the rules of APA are “too complex” (p. 57), many other scientists, scholars and teachers believe that students are up to the challenge.
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Dotting your i’s, crossing your t’s, and italicizing your titles

Reference Page Entries
Books

Author, A. A. (Year of publication). *Title of work: Capital letter also for subtitle*. Location: Publisher.

Online Journal Articles


Articles From a Database


Nonperiodical Web Page


General Format

Summary:
APA (American Psychological Association) style is most commonly used to cite sources within the social sciences. This resource, revised according to the 6th edition, second printing of the APA manual, offers examples for the general format of APA research papers, in-text citations, and notes/footnotes, and the reference page. For more information, please consult the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, (6th ed., 2nd printing).

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Please use the example at the bottom of this page to cite the Purdue OWL in APA.

To see a side-by-side comparison of the three most widely used citation styles, including a chart of all APA citation guidelines, see the Citation Style Chart.

You can also watch our APA video series on the Purdue OWL YouTube Channel.

General APA Guidelines

Your essay should be typed, double-spaced on standard-sized paper (8.5” x 11”) with 1” margins on all sides. You should use a clear font that is highly readable. APA recommends using 12 pt. Times New Roman font.

Include a page header (also known as the “running head”) at the top of every page. To create a page header/running head, insert page numbers flush right. Then type “TITLE OF YOUR PAPER” in the header flush left using all capital letters. The running head is a shortened version of your paper's title and cannot exceed 50 characters including spacing and punctuation.

Major Paper Sections

Your essay should include four major sections: the Title Page, Abstract, Main Body, and...
Questions?