APA Style References

FORMATTING A REFERENCE PAGE

Your references page(s) (which should be clearly titled “References”) is the last page(s) in your paper. It lists the full bibliographic information for all the works you quote, paraphrase, or cite in the body of your essay or report. Entries should be arranged alphabetically by first word – usually, this is the author’s last name. The references page should be double-spaced (unlike on this handout), and entries that take up more than one line should have a hanging indent (as modeled on this handout).

A few particularities to notice in APA style: APA always refers to authors by their last name, and lists only their last name and first initials in the bibliography. APA uses the abbreviation “p.” (for a single page) or “pp.” (for multiple pages) before all page numbers. APA does not capitalize all the words in titles; only the first word of the title (and subtitle, if applicable) and proper nouns are capitalized.

Formatting URLs: APA citation style will often ask you to list the URL for online sources, which can cause formatting issues. Microsoft Word may automatically format the URL as a hyperlink; unless a hyperlink will be useful to your reader (for instance, if you are publishing a reference page online), you can remove the hyperlink by right clicking on it and selecting “remove hyperlink.” You may also break up URLs over multiple lines by placing a space (no hyphen) after a convenient mark of punctuation. Bibliographic entries that do not end in a URL should end in a period, those that do end in a URL should be left as-is.

DOIs: DOI stands for “digital object identifier.” Because URLs are often impermanent and unstable, most academic publishers now assign DOIs to each article they publish. For articles that have DOIs assigned, APA Style lists the DOI in lieu of a URL or database information.

COMMON BIBLIOGRAPHIC ENTRIES

Below are the APA formatting standards for some of the most common bibliographic citations. For more on APA citation style, see the 6th edition of the APA Publication Manual or the UMC Library website.

Books

Last name, first initial(s). (date). Title of book. Location: Publisher.


Multiple authors:

Corporate author:

Article in an edited book

Last name, first initial. (date). Title of article. In [editor last name, first initial], (Ed), Title of book (page numbers). Location: Publisher

Journal articles

*With a doi:*

Last name, first initial. (date). Title of article. *Name of journal, volume* (issue), page range. doi: [doi].


*Without a doi:*

Last name, first initial. (date). Title of article. *Name of journal, volume* (issue), page range. Retrieved from [journal homepage url]


Web pages and articles on websites

Last name, first initial(s). (date). Title of page/article. *Name of website*. Retrieved from [url]


If there is no author, use the page/article title in place of the author:


Articles from online newspapers/magazines

Last name, first initial(s). (date). Title of article. *Name of newspaper/magazine*. Retrieved from [url]


Wikis

Title of page/entry. (date – if available). Retrieved [date of retrieval] from [name of wiki]: [url]


Online reference sources

Title of entry. (date – if available). In *Name of online reference source*. Retrieved from [url]