



# Goldstein Library

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## APA Documentation

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This is a brief guide to the American Psychological Association (APA) rules for documentation (used in the social sciences). It covers only some commonly cited materials. For additional information please consult:

American Psychological Association. (2010). *Publication Manual for the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.). Washington, DC: American Psychology Association.

**OR** Ask at The Desk. Call Number is **REF BF76.7 P83 2010**.  
You can also visit APA online at [www.apastyle.org](http://www.apastyle.org).

### When to Cite

Whenever you draw from another's work you must provide documentation. APA recommends a system of in-text citations that refer to a list of references at the end of the paper. You must provide documentation for: direct quotes, paraphrases of someone else's words or ideas, and facts and figures. Not citing is plagiarism which is a direct violation of the Academic Honor Code with severe implications and penalties.

### In-text Citation Basics

APA in-text citations give the author's last name and the date of publication. Multiple works by the same author will need additional information. **Direct quotes need to have the page number as well as the author's name and date.**

#### Basic format for a summary or paraphrase

If you use the author's name in the sentence:

According to Davis (1978), when they learned of an ape's ability to use sign language...

OR

... both linguists and animal behaviorists were taken by surprise (Davis, 1978).

#### Basic format for quotes

Short quotes of 40 or less words are incorporated into the text and enclosed by double quotation marks.

... "startling news for animal behaviorists" (Davis, 1978, p. 26).

OR

As Davis (1978) reports, "if the existence of a signing ape was unsettling for..." (p. 26).

Quotations of more than 40 words are displayed in a free standing block of typewritten lines and the quotation marks are omitted. Start the quote on a new line and indent five spaces. Type subsequent lines flush with the indent and double space.

## **Bibliographic Citations**

Note: In APA format only the first word of the title and proper nouns are capitalized.

### **Books**

Last name, First initial. Middle initial. (Year). *Title*. Place of publication, State: Publisher.

Single author example:

Keeley, M.C. (1998). *A social-contract theory of organization*. Notre Dame, IN: University of Notre Dame Press.

### **Periodicals**

Last name, First initial. Middle initial. (Year). Article title. *Journal title*, volume number (issue number), page range.

Example:

Bekerian, D.A. (1993). In search of the typical eyewitness. *American Psychologist*, 48(3), 574-576.

### **Electronic Publications:**

#### **APA Style Guide to Electronic References: PROF BF 76.7 P832 2007**

Scholarly Journal Article from a Database

Last name, First initial. Middle initial. (Date of publication). Article title. *Journal title*, *Volume number* (issue number), page range. Retrieved Month Day, Year, from Name of database.

Eid, M., & Langeheine, R. (1999). The measurement of consistency and occasion specificity with latent class models: A new model and its application to the measurement of affect. *Psychological Methods*, 4, 100-116. Retrieved November 19, 2000, from the PsychARTICLES database.

## **Online Resources for more information about APA style**

Long Island University links to citation styles:

<http://www2.liu.edu/cwis/cwp/library/workshop/citation.htm>

The OWL (Online Writing Lab) at Purdue APA formatting and style guide:

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>

FSU Library's links to style help:

<http://guides.lib.fsu.edu/content.php?pid=82097&sid=609200>