USC Libraries

APA Style 7th Edition Quick Guide

APA Style

The *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 7th edition* is used by social science disciplines. The APA manual sets the rules on how to format a research paper, formatting of the sources used, and how information should be presented.

In-Text Citations

Appear in the body of your paper, and identify the source of an idea or quotation. In-text citations typically include WHO (author) and WHEN (publication year).

If a source doesn't have a publication date, use "n.d." for "no date."

Direct quotes also include the specific location of the quote. Typically it's "p. #" for page number, but may deviate based on source type.

In-text citations have two style options. **Narrative citations** include the author as part of the narrative but place the year of publication in parentheses next to the author and page number at the end of a direct quote in it's own set of parentheses. **Parenthetical citations** place author, year and page number (where applicable) at the end of a idea or quote within parentheses.

In-Text Citations Quick View

Type of Citation	Narrative Citations, First Citation in Text	Narrative Citations, Subsequent Citations in Text	Parenthetical Format, First Citation in Text	Parenthetical Format, Subsequent Citations in Text
1 work by 1 author	Siegel (2004)	Siegel (2004)	(Siegel, 2004)	(Siegel, 2004)
1 work by 2 authors	Hunt and Wilkins (2007)	Hunt and Wilkins (2007)	(Hunt & Wilkins, 2007)	(Hunt & Wilkins, 2007)
1 work by 3 or more authors	Baxter et al. (2005)	Baxter et al. (2005)	(Baxter et al., 2005)	(Baxter et al., 2005)
Groups (readily identified through abbreviations) as authors	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC, 2007)	CDC (2007)	(Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC], 2007)	(CDC, 2007)
Groups (no abbreviation) as authors	University of Southern California (2010)	University of Southern California (2010)	(University of Southern California, 2010)	(University of Southern California, 2010)
2 or more works	Harlow (1999) and Smith (2001)	Harlow (1999) and Smith (2001)	(Harlow, 1999; Smith, 2001)	(Harlow, 1999; Smith, 2001)
2 or more works by 1 author in the same year	Jones (2009a) Jones (2009b)	Jones (2009a) Jones (2009b)	(Jones, 2009a) (Jones, 2009b)	(Jones, 2009a) (Jones, 2009b)
Work with no author	"Understanding information overload" (n.d.)	"Understanding information overload" (n.d.)	("Understanding information overload," n.d.)	("Understanding information overload," n.d.)
Secondary Source with year of primary source	Freud (1916) ... (as cited in Jones, 2003)	Freud (1916) ... (as cited in Jones, 2003)	(Freud, 1916, as cited in Jones, 2003)	(Freud, 1916, as cited in Jones, 2003)
Secondary Source without year of primary source	Freud (as cited in Jones, 2003)	Freud (as cited in Jones, 2003)	(Freud, as cited in Jones, 2003)	(Freud, as cited in Jones, 2003)
Personal Communication (Do not include in Reference page)	J.Smith (personal communication, March 19, 2016)	J.Smith (personal communication, March 19, 2016)	(J. Smith, personal communication, March 19, 2016)	(J. Smith, personal communication, March 19, 2016)
Court Decision	Brown v. Board of Education (1954)	Brown v. Board of Education (1954)	(Brown v. Board of Education, 1954)	(Brown v. Board of Education, 1954)
Federal Statue	Violence Against Women (1994)	Violence Against Women (1994)	(Violence Against Women, 1994)	(Violence Against Women, 1994)

Reference Examples

Source Type	In-text Citation	Reference List
Book with one author	(Richardson, 1999).	Richardson, V. (1999). *Teaching gerontological social work: A compendium of model syllabi.* Council on Social Work Education.
Chapter from an edited book	(Rappaport, 1999).	Rappaport, B. A. (1999). On-site school-based mental health clinics: 15 years of experience in Orange County, California. In A.H. Esman, & L. T. Flaherty, (Eds.), *Adolescent psychiatry: Development and clinical studies*, (pp. 91-100). The Analytic Press.
Organization/corporation as author	(American Psychological Association [APA], 2020).	American Psychological Association. (2020). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th ed.). https://doi.org/10.1037/0000165-000
Journal article with doi	(Fink & Hummel, 2015).	Fink, J., & Hummel, M. (2015). With educational benefits for all: Campus inclusion through learning communities designed for underserved student populations. *New Directions for Student Services*, *2015*(149), 29–40. https://doi.org/10.1002/ss.20115
Online newspaper article	(Logan, 2014).	Logan, T. (2014, December 21). Highland Park residents feel the squeeze of gentrification. *The Los Angeles Times*. http://www.latimes.com/business/realestate/la-fi-highland-park-renters-20141221-story.html
Thesis, from a commercial database	(Nicometo, 2015).	Nicometo, D. N. (2015). *Increasing international education to develop culturally competent social workers: Social media recommendations for social work abroad program 501(c)3* (Order No. 1597712). Retrieved from ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Global. (1717577238).
Multiple pages from the same website, organization as author	(American Psychological Association [APA], 2019a) (APA, 2019b). (APA, 2019c).	American Psychological Association. (2019a). *Careers in psychology.* https://www.apa.org/careers/index American Psychological Association. (2019b). *Psychology topics.* Retrieved from https://www.apa.org/topics/index American Psychological Association. (2019c). *About APA.* https://www.apa.org/about/index

Additional Resources from USC Libraries

- APA Publication Manual, 7th edition. Doheny Memorial Library BOOKSTACKS BF76.7 .P83
- APA Style Guide, 7th edition: https://libguides.usc.edu/APA7th

Academic Integrity

Academic honesty is essential to an university community's purpose and pursuits. Thus, academic integrity is expected of all USC students. A student's academic work and conduct should always represent the student's personal effort and thus be above reproach. Those who are dishonest impair their own intellectual and personal growth and development and undermine the integrity of the community that nurtures them.

Reference List

- Starts on a new page after the body of your paper titled References (before appendix)

- References follow a Who, When, What and Where format.

- Includes ALL sources cited and quoted within your paper (except personal communication or interviews)

- Listed alphabetically by first author

- Only authors last name and initials are provided

- Pay attention to capitalization and proper use of ¡Italics.