APA Style

The main scholarly association for academic psychologists in the United States, the American Psychological Association (APA) has developed standardized methods for citing print and electronic sources used in research.

Note: These are only basic examples of the APA style. More detailed information is available through the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (6th edition) and http://www.apastyle.org/. In addition, a variety of third-party style guides and web sites can provide further assistance.

Always consult your library resources for the exact formatting and punctuation guidelines.

Instructions

Alphabetize each entry in a works cited list by the first letter, ignoring the articles A, An, and The. Indent subsequent lines of entries one-half inch.

Names: Use initials for first and middle names.

Titles: For articles, chapters and books, capitalize only the first word of the title and subtitle and proper nouns. Fully capitalize periodical titles.

Dates: Publication dates use the order year, month day. The access date uses the order month day year. If no publication date is available, use "n.d." in place of date.

The following examples are citations from EBSCO databases. If you cannot find some of this information, cite what is available. Different styles may apply when citing print and other sources.

JOURNAL ARTICLE

Pattern:

[Author last name], [First initial]. [Middle initial]. ([Publication year]). [Title of article]. [Title of journal], [Volume number][[Issue number]], [Page number starts]-[ends]. [Document Object Identifier]

Example:

JOURNAL ARTICLE W/ NO AUTHOR

Pattern:

[Title of article]. ([Publication year]). [Title of journal], [Volume number][Issue number], [Page number starts]-[ends]. [Document Object Identifier]

Example:


ONLINE MAGAZINE ARTICLE

Pattern:

[Author last name], [First initial]. ([Year, [Month]]. [Article Title] [Title of magazine], [Volume number] ([Issue Number]).

Example:


MAGAZINE ARTICLE W/ NO AUTHOR

Pattern:

[Title of article]. ([Year, [Month]). [Title of magazine], [Volume number] ([Issue Number]).

Example:


ONLINE NEWSPAPER ARTICLE

Pattern:

[Author last name], [First initial]. [Middle initial]. ([Year, [Month] [Day]]. [Title of article]. [Title of newspaper].

Example:

ONLINE NEWSPAPER ARTICLE W/ NO AUTHOR

Pattern:

[Title of article]. ([Year], [Month] [Day]]) [Title of newspaper].

Example:


BOOK

Pattern:

[Author last name], [First initial]. [Middle initial]. ([Publication year]). [Title of work]. [Location]: [Publisher].

Example:


ONLINE BOOK CHAPTER

Pattern:

[Author last name], [First initial]. [Middle initial]. ([Publication year]). [Title of chapter]. In, [Title of book] (pp. [Page number starts]-[ends]). [Location]: [Publisher].

Example:


ERIC DOCUMENT

Pattern:

[Author last name], [First initial]. [Middle initial]. [Publication year]. [Title of Document][(Document or Report number)]. [Place of Publication]: [Publishing Agency Name] (ERIC Document Reproduction Service No. [ED# or EJ#]).

Example:

ELECTRONIC BOOKS

Pattern:

[Author Last Name]' [Author first name initials]. ([Date]). [Book Title] Retrieved from [URL]

Example:


ELECTRONIC BOOK-CHAPTER

Pattern:

[Author Last Name]' [Author first name initials]. ([Date]). [Title of Chapter] In [Book Title] (Chapter or Section number) Retrieved from [URL]

Example:


WEBSITE

Pattern:

[Author Last Name], [Author First Name Initial]. ([Date of publication]). [Title of document]. Retrieved from [http://Web address]

Example: