APA Citation Guide

IN-TEXT CITATION
APA style uses signal phrases and parentheticals to mark in-text citations. Include the author’s last name, the year of publication, and (if using a direct quotation or paraphrase) a page number. For example: Godde and X (2012) report that “medical care made headway” (p. 52). Scholarship shows treatment improved (Godde & X, 2012, p. 52).

PRINT SOURCES
Books: One Author
Last name, initial(s). (Year). Title of book. Place of Publication: Publisher.

Books: Multiple Authors
Last name, initial(s) & Last name, initial(s). (Year). Title of book. Place of Publication: Publisher.

Books: Edited Edition or Anthology
Last name, initial(s). (Year). Title of book. (Edition number). Place of Publication: Publisher.

Academic Articles (print)
Last name, initial(s). (Year). Article title. Journal Title, Volume(Issue), page range.

PRIMARY SOURCES
Interview
Under APA guidelines, unpublished interviews are not necessary on a reference page. However, they should be cited in the text, as follows: (Initial. Last name, interview, Month Day, Year).
(C. Goble, interview, January 10, 2012).

Survey
Under APA guidelines, unpublished surveys are not necessary on a reference page. However, they should be cited in the text, as follows: (Initial. Last name, interview, Month Day, Year).

Academic Articles (online)
Last name, initial(s). (Year). Article title. Journal Title, Volume(Issue), page range. DOI
[S available if there is no DOI available, include the URL of the article.]

Newspapers (online)
Last name, initial(s). (Year, Month Day). Article title. Newspaper Title. Retrieved from URL.

Websites
Author/organization. (Year, Month Day of publication/update). Title of document. Retrieved from URL. [if there isn’t a date available for the document use (n.d.) for no date.]

Films
Last name, Initial. (Director), & Last name, Initial. (Producer). (Year). Film title [media]. Country: Studio.

DIGITAL AND MULTIMEDIA SOURCES
Academic Articles (online)
Last name, initial(s). (Year). Article title. Journal Title, Volume(Issue), page range.
DO
[S available if there is no DOI available, include the URL of the article.]

Newspapers (online)
Last name, initial(s). (Year, Month Day). Article title. Newspaper Title. Retrieved from URL.

Websites
Author/organization. (Year, Month Day of publication/update). Title of document. Retrieved from URL. [if there isn’t a date available for the document use (n.d.) for no date.]

Films
Last name, Initial. (Director), & Last name, Initial. (Producer). (Year). Film title [media]. Country: Studio.

How to Evaluate Sources

Authority / Credibility: Determining the author for a source is important in deciding whether information is credible. The author should show some evidence of being knowledgeable, reliable and truthful.
• Who is the author (person, company, or organization)? If it is a website, who is the sponsor?
• Does the source provide any information that leads you to believe the author is an expert on the topic?
• Can you describe the author’s background (experience, education, knowledge)?
• Does the author provide citations? Do you think they are reputable?
• If it is a website, is the URL .edu, .gov, or .org?

Accuracy: The source should contain accurate and up-to-date information that can be verified by other sources.
• Can facts or statistics be verified through another source?
• Based on your knowledge, does the information seem accurate? Does it match the information found in other sources?
• Are there spelling or grammatical errors?

Scope / Relevance: It is important that the source meets the information needs and requirements of your research assignment.
• To what extent does the source fit your research question?
• Is the source considered popular or scholarly?
• If the resource uses specialized terminology and language, are able to interpret it correctly?

Date: Some written works are ageless (e.g., classic literature) while others (e.g., technological news) become outdated quickly. It is important to determine if your source is up-to-date, if necessary.
• When was the source written and published?
• Has the information been updated recently?
• Is the source current and pertinent to your research?

Objectivity / Bias: Every author has an opinion. Recognizing this fact is instrumental in determining if the information presented is objective or biased.
• What is the purpose or motive of the source (educational, commercial, entertainment, promotional, etc.)?
• Who is the intended audience?
• Is the author trying to persuade, promote or sell something?

Style / Functionality: If the source is not professionally written, its value and credibility may be diminished.
• Is the source well-written and organized?
• To what extent does it appear professionally visually?
• If it is a website, can you navigate it easily? are links broken?