

APA Style Guide Citations

Examples for printed and electronic resources

Books, Periodicals, Electronic Sources, Personal Communications

The following examples illustrate the style used by the American Psychological Association to cite sources.

Important: Effective immediately, APA style guidelines for electronic resources have changed.

Referencing articles has changed to emphasizing using an assigned DOI (digital object identifier). Other materials have also changed.

For more detailed information on citing *print* sources see:

Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association 5th ed. 2001, Washington, DC: American Psychological Assoc, c2001 (Ref. BF 76.7 P83 2001 - Reference Desk). [Text in green on this page refers to the entry in the manual. Our examples were updated and corrected on 4/26/2007.](#)

For more detailed information on citing *electronic sources* see:

NEW! See [APA Style Guide to Electronic References](#) for details on citing electronic sources (29 page pdf document).

Reference Citations in Text - Parenthetical references

Reference citations in the text of your paper (instead of footnotes or end notes) cite the **author** and **date** of the works you used in your research. These references are brief but should give enough information to enable the reader to find the full citation in the references list at the end of the paper. [See section 3.94 - 3.103 for details on citations in text.](#)

I The 5th edition of the publication manual no longer requires page and paragraph numbers in citations in text. The full citation for each parenthetical reference must be documented in the references list at the end of your paper.

Examples of parenthetical citations:

The most pressing issue threatening gorilla survival is the lack of support for gorilla conservation among government officials and local resident groups (Garen, 2000).

Schaller (1963) stresses that rotational agriculture, which promotes the growth of secondary forest, is strong factor in providing favorable habitat for gorillas.

List of References: The list of "References" identifies and makes it possible for the reader to retrieve all of the sources you have referred to in the body of your paper.

I Each entry in the reference list must also be cited in text.

Basic Elements: There are several basic elements that are usually included in each citation, including author, title of article or book chapter, title of book or journal, date of publication, publisher, place of publication, volume, issue number, etc. Not all of these elements are present for each item; use only what is appropriate.

Format: "The reference list must be double-spaced, and entries should have a hanging indent." Here is an example of a correctly formatted entry:

Garen, E. (2000). Appraising ecotourism in conserving biodiversity. In Clark T.W., Willard A. R. & Cromley, C. M. (Eds.). *Foundations of natural resources policy and management* (pp. 221 - 251). New Haven: Yale University Press.

For items that are neither a book nor periodical, consult *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* for required elements (Available at the 1st floor Reference Desk - Call number: Ref BF76.7 P83 2001).

Examples - Based on the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 5th ed. and updates.*

Books and documents

No Author:

World development report.(1989). New York: Oxford University Press.

See section 4.14 for details on documenting publisher information.

One Author:

Weil, D. (2006). *The corporate blogging book: Absolutely everything you need to know to get it right.* New York: Portfolio.

Note on capitalization: Capitalize only the first word of the title and of the subtitle, if any, and any proper noun..See 4.10 for more information.

Two or More Authors:

Agnew, C. & Anderson, E.W. (1992). *Water resources in the arid realm.* New York: Routledge.

Corporate Author:

Association of College and Research Libraries. National Conference (13th: 2007: Baltimore, Md.) (2007). *Sailing into the future: Charting our destiny: Proceedings of the Thirteenth National Conference of the Association of College and Research Libraries, March 29-April 1, 2007, Baltimore, Maryland.* Chicago: Association of College and Research Libraries.

Editor:

Rao, M. (2005). *Knowledge management tools and techniques : practitioners and experts evaluate KM solutions.* Boston: Elsevier Butterworth-Heinemann.

Two or More Editors:

Kraut, R., Brynin, M., & Kiesler, S. (Eds.). (2006). *Computers, phones, and the Internet : domesticating information technology.* New York: Oxford University Press.

Author and Translator:

Camara, L. (1984). *The guardian of the word = Kouma Lafôlô Kouma* (J. Kirkup. Trans.).
New York: Vintage Books. (Original work published 1980)

In text, cite the original publication date and the date of the translation: (Camara, 1980/1984).

Edition:

Ricklefs, R. E. (1990). *Ecology*.(3rd ed.). New York: W.H. Freeman.

Several Volumes:

Grzimek, B.(Ed.). (1972 -1975). *Grzimek's animal life encyclopedia*. (Vols. 1 - 13). New York,
Van Nostrand Reinhold Co.

In text, use the following format: (Grzimek, 1972 -1975).

Article in an Encyclopedia:

Old world porcupines, mole rats, rock rats, and African cane rats (1975). In *Grzimek's animal life encyclopedia*. (Vol. 11, pp. 407 - 419). New York, Van Nostrand Reinhold Co.

Essay or Article in a Collection:

Garen, E. (2000). Appraising ecotourism in conserving biodiversity. In Clark T.W., Willard A. R. &
Cromley, C. M. (Eds.). *Foundations of natural resources policy and management* (pp. 221 -
251). New Haven: Yale University Press.

Government Publications available from GPO:

U.S. Dept. of Labor. Bureau of Statistics. (1977). *Dictionary of occupational titles* (4th ed.).
Washington, DC: US Government Printing Office.

Government Publications not available from GPO:

US Fish and Wildlife Service. (1992). *Known distribution of the Barton Springs salamander*.
Austin, Texas: US Fish and Wildlife Service.

Government Report:

United States Environmental Protection Agency. (1986). *Air quality criteria for ozone and related
photochemical oxidants* (EPA Office of Health and Environmental Assessment, report
#EPA/600884020). Research Triangle Park, North Carolina: Author.

See section 4.16, section C. Technical and Research Reports for additional information.

Signed Encyclopedia Article:

Peavy, H. (1987). Environmental Engineering. In *Encyclopedia of physical science and technology*
(vol. 5, pp. 210 - 243). Orlando: Academic Press.

Periodicals / articles from print sources (magazines, journals, newspapers, newsletters)

Scholarly Journal:

Note on capitalization: Capitalize on the first word of the [article] title and of the subtitle, if any, and any proper nouns; do not italicize the title or place quotation marks around it. Give the periodical title in full, in uppercase and lowercase letters. Italicize the name of the periodical and the volume number.

UPDATE (7/26/2007) For journal articles, always include the journal issue number (if available) along with the volume number, regardless of whether the journal is paginated separately by issue or continuously by volume.

Augustine, S., & Greene, C. (2002). Discovering how students search a library web site:

A usability case study. *College & Research Libraries*, 63 (4), 354 - 365.

Turner, J. (1997). Forum: Grizzly bear number 209. *Wild Duck Review*, 3 (1), 11 - 14.

Weaver, J. (1996). John and Frank Craighead. *Wildlife Society Bulletin*, 24 (4), 767 - 769.

Magazine Article, Signed:

Padgett, T., & Begley, S. (1996, February 5). Beware of the humans. *Newsweek*, 127 (6), 52 - 54.

Magazine Article, Unsigned:

A river runs through it, tearing down the water walls: 75,000 dams were built. Now a few are coming down., This year, dams will come down from Maine to California. In August, tourists will even be able to watch the demolition of the Cascade Dam in Yosemite Valley. (1999, July 12). *Newsweek*, 134 (2), 46.

Newspaper Article, Unsigned:

Man is the mane meal (2003, February 13). *Scottish Daily Record & Sunday Mail Ltd. Daily Record*, p. 15. Note: use p. or pp. before the page numbers in references to newspapers.

Book Review:

Bird, M. (2002, August 26). Ecotourism or egotourism: A critic of "green" travel finds it as hazardous to ecosystems and cultures as conventional vacations. [Review of the book *A Trip too far: Ecotourism, politics and exploitation*]. *Time International* 160 (9) 62.

Electronic Sources

New (June 2007) style guidelines use the DOI (Digital Object Identifier) as assigned. This alpha-numeric code usually appears on the article or in the database record. [More information on DOI](#)

If the DOI is not provided on the article or in the database record, enter the citation information using [DOI Lookup](#).

If the work does not have a DOI assigned, see additional examples below.

Always provide issue number (if available) following volume number.

Include author first & middle initials, and issue number if provided. Note that works with a DOI no longer need a database name. Also, because they are final versions of articles, do not include date of retrieval, and the URL is not included. Since DOI numbers are complex, we suggest copying and pasting the DOI into your reference.

Note: About retrieval dates: "The date an electronic source was retrieved is important if the content you are citing is likely to be changed or updated....No retrieval date is necessary for content that is not likely to be changed or updated a, such as a journal article or book." See the [See APA Style Guide to Electronic References](#) (p. 2) for a complete discussion on this.

Internet articles based on a print source:

Stoinski T.S., Hoff M.P., & Maple T.L. (2002, July 1). The Effect of structural preferences, temperature, and social factors on visibility in western lowland gorillas: (gorilla g. gorilla) [Electronic version]. *Environment & Behavior*, 34 (4), 493-507.

Article in an Internet-only journal:

Magliocca, F. (1999, May). 1998 Update on the gorillas of the Odzala National Park, Popular Republic of Congo. *Gorilla conservation news*, 13, Retrieved February 23, 2003, from <http://www.anthro.ucdavis.edu/gcn/g13congo.htm>

Electronic copy of a journal article, retrieved from database: with DOI assigned:

Scholze, M., Knorr, W., Arneill, N. W., & Prentice, I. C. (August 29, 2006). A climate-change risk analysis for world ecosystems. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America*, 103, 13116-13120.10.1073/pnas.0601816103

Web Sites/ Pages

Entire web sites (as opposed to specific documents or sections of the web site) are not cited in the reference list, but are cited within text as shown in the following sample sentence:

David Rumsey Historical Maps Collection web site has over 15,800 maps online as well as other visual arts collections (<http://www.davidrumsey.com/>).

Note: This may be confusing (*If in doubt, consult with your instructor* as to how they prefer citations to *entire web sites*). Here is the guideline from the [FAQ on the APA website](http://www.apastyle.org/faqs.html#3) (<http://www.apastyle.org/faqs.html#3>).

Q: How do I cite an entire Web site (but not a specific document on that site)?

A: When citing an entire Web site, it is sufficient to give the address of the site in just the text. For example, Kidspsych is a wonderful interactive web site for children (<http://www.kidspsych.org>).

Individual web page with personal author

Fine, D. (1995). *The Misty future of Rwanda's mountain gorillas* Retrieved February 23, 2003, from <http://www.well.com/user/fine/rwandan.html>.

Document available on large Web site (like university or government sites):

US Department of State, Bureau of Consular Affairs Travel Warnings & Consular Information Sheets (2002). *Consular information sheet, Rwanda*. Retrieved February 23, 2003 from <http://travel.state.gov/rwanda.html>.

ERIC Documents:

Allen, C. N. (1989). *Gorilla creativity: A Study unit To promote critical and creative thinking*. (ERIC Document Reproduction Service No. ED405277).

Online Abstract:

Mcneilage, A., Plumptre, J.A., Brock-Doyle, A., & Vedder, A. (2001, January). Bwindil Impenetrable National Park, Uganda: gorilla census 1997. *Oryx*. 35(1) 39 - 47. Jan 2001. Abstract retrieved February 23, 2003, from Cambridge Scientific Abstracts, Accession Number 4865597.

"In scholarly research, it is preferable to read and cite primary sources [entire articles] whenever possible." 4:16, p. 245.

Aggregator databases (EBSCOhost, JSTOR etc.):

"...when referencing material obtained by searching an aggregated database, follow the format appropriate to the work retrieved [as demonstrated in the examples on this page for print and electronic formats] **New:** "No retrieval date is necessary for content that is not likely to be changed or updated, such as a journal article or book." (APA - [Electronic Media and URLs](#)).

New: 7/26/2007 - If a DOI (Digital Object Identifier) is not available, add a statement that gives the proper name of the database.
See examples below.

Article with no DOI assigned; content retrieved from an online database.

Dearstyne, B. (2007, July). Blogs, Mashups, & Wikis Oh, My!. *Information Management Journal*, 41(4), 24-33. Retrieved from EBSCOHost Academic Search Premier database.

Article with DOI assigned ; content retrieved from an online database.

Dean, P. (2007, May). DVDs Add-Ons or Bygones?. *Convergence: The Journal of Research into New Media Technologies*, 13(2), 119-128. 10.1177/1354856507075239

Article with DOI assigned (another example); content retrieved from an online database.

Kamel Boulos, M., & Wheeler, S. (2007, March). The emerging Web 2.0 social software: an enabling suite of sociable technologies in health and health care education. *Health Information & Libraries Journal*, 24(1), 2-23.10.1111/j.1471-1842.2007.00701.x

Article with DOI assigned; content retrieved from journal freely available on the Web.

Giustini,D. (2006, December). How Web 2.0 is changing medicine. *BMJ* 2006, 333 (7582), 1283-1284. 10.1136/bmj.39062.555405.80

Note: the issue number for this article was not available on the web version. We had to go to *Pubmed* database to get a complete citation.

LexisNexis:

Von Radowitz, J. (2003, February 13). Man-eating lions dine on ecotourists a la carte. *The Evening Standard (London)*. Retrieved from LexisNexis Academic database.

LexisNexis - Transcript of radio news program: This article has a very long title.

Edwards, B., & Kaste, M. (2000, November 29). Local Galapagos Island fishermen resort to violence in protest of fishing regulations there, causing concern about conservation efforts and tourism on the islands. *National Public Radio: Morning Edition* [Radio broadcast]. Retrieved from LexisNexis Academic database.

Personal Communications

Includes: letters, memos, e-mail, personal interviews, telephone conversations, and the like.

“Because they do not provide recoverable data, personal communications are not included in the reference list. [Italics added]. Cite personal communications in text only. Give the initials as well as the surname of the communicator, and provide as exact a date as possible” .

Examples:

Place this type of citation within the text:

J. M. Welch (personal communication, June 26, 2007)...or (Welch, J. M., personal communication, June 26, 2007)

Place this type of citation at the end of your cited passage:

T.K. Lutes (personal communication, April 18, 2001)

Note: Some instructors will require you to include personal communications in your works cited. In this case – give as much information as you can. When in doubt, always consult with your instructor.

Need more help? Ask a Librarian.

Comments and suggestions to
Judith Van Noate, Humanities Librarian
updated April 9, 2008.