

APA Basics



*Two Locations: In the Lyman Beecher Brooks Library, First Floor
and Madison 109*

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In this workshop, you will learn how to correctly use APA style, including the preparation of References and conventions of APA format.



What is APA?

The **A**merican **P**sychological **A**ssociation is used for the behavioral and social sciences (e.g., psychology, sociology, economics, and political science).

Just as MLA (Modern Language Association) has its methods of citation, APA has a distinct style for creating a reference page and in-text citations.

Formatting guidelines help standardize academic writing, fighting against plagiarism and encouraging the use of authoritative sources.

This presentation covers the 7th Edition of the APA handbook.

Title Page

or

Cover Page

Title of Paper

Subtitle

Author

Norfolk State University

English 101

Dr. John Smith

April 13, 2021

In-text citations: Books & Periodicals

In-text citations credit sources within the paper itself. In-text citations are distinct from bibliographical entries; whereas in-text citations come within a paragraph, bibliographical entries come at the end of the paper in the References page.

For books and periodicals, place the year of publication in parenthesis. If using a direct quote, include the page number.

EXAMPLE:

According to Franklin (2019), lacrosse is one of the most popular high school sports in northeastern states.

OR

Franklin (2019) writes that “lacrosse is by far one of the most popular sports played in high schools located in the northeastern region of the US” (p.112).

In-text citations: Books & Periodicals

Electronic sources are cited the same way as books and journals are, except many of them will not have page numbers. If they do not have page numbers, it is acceptable to exclude them.

A CNN nationwide study found that 83% of Americans break their New Year's resolution by March (Adams, 2020).

OR

CNN reports "83% of Americans break their New Year's resolution by the first day of spring" (Adams, 2020).

In-text citations: Organizations (Electronic Source)

If you are using the entire organization as the author, then cite it the way you would cite just one author.

EXAMPLE:

The 100 Black Men of America (2018) found that Black males perform better in school when they have easy access to proper Black male role models.

OR

The 100 Black Men of America (2018) concluded that “Black males are less likely to drop out of school and are less likely to get involved in the criminal justice system if they have a positive Black male role model.”

Citing with multiple authors

Two authors

Greene and Taylor (2019) write there are around 45,000 African elephants in the wild.

Research shows that “Since there are approximately 45,000 elephants in the wild, they are classified as endangered” (Greene & Taylor, 2019).

Citing with multiple authors

Three or more authors

Williams et al., (2021) reported that texting while driving is the leading cause of car accidents for teenagers.

A recent study from the Department of Motor Vehicles found that “Over half of drivers between the ages of 16-25 reported their first car accident occurred while they were texting” (Williams et al., 2021).

et = and
alia = other

et al. = and other

Writing with multiple references

Consecutive citation

Greene and Taylor (2019) concluded that there are around 45,000 African elephants in the wild. Most remaining elephants live in central Africa along the Atlantic coast and extend east to the middle of the continent. Ivory poachers mainly contribute to the decrease in elephant population. The illegal ivory trade is a lucrative business in Africa, and China is one of its biggest clients **(2019)**.



Writing with multiple references

Non-consecutive citation

Greene and Taylor (2019) write there are around 45,000 African elephants in the wild. The loss of habitat is a contributing factor to the dwindling numbers. **According to the World Wildlife Fund (2021)**, elephants often retaliate against humans when their homes are destroyed due to infrastructure construction. Humans then retaliate against the elephants by seriously injuring or killing them. Another cause for extinction is the international ivory trade. Incidentally, “China is one of the largest consumers of ivory products. This desire has increased significantly since China has become involved with many African nations on a business level” (**Greene and Taylor, 2019**).



Unlike MLA, APA only capitalizes proper nouns on the References page. The titles of books are lower-case, but the title of periodicals (journals, magazines, and newspapers) are capitalized.

PERIODICALS:

The New York Times

New England Journal of Medicine

Washington Post

Journal of Abnormal Psychology

Architectural Digest

Accounts of Chemical Research

BOOKS:

Reporting for the media

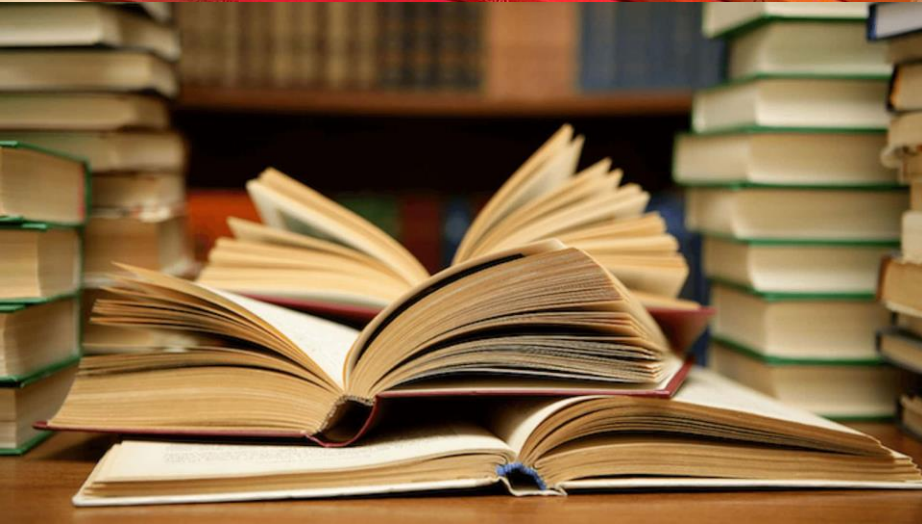
Molecular biology of the cell

Principles of economics

Military law: Criminal justice and administration

Fundamentals of aerodynamics





References

Your References page is a compilation of your sources. It must have its own page. It must be titled References, and the sources must be in alphabetical order by the author's last name.

There are ways to list your references if certain elements are missing.

NOTE: The second line and subsequent lines should be indented for every reference.

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OXFORD
UNIVERSITY PRESS

JOURNAL OF
COMPETITION LAW &
ECONOMICS

VOL 14 | NO 2 | JUNE 2018



Academic journal in APA format

Author's last name, first initial. Title of article.
Title of Journal, Volume (Issue), page numbers.

McLean, A.P. (2021). A financial capitalism perspective on start-up acquisitions: Introducing the economic goodwill test. *Journal of Competition Law & Economics*, 14 (2), 141-167.



Infective endocarditis and orthodontic implications
in children: A review of the literature



Dentistry's
First Specialty

Official Publication of the
American Association of Orthodontists, its constituent societies, the American Board of Orthodontics,
and the College of Diplomates of the American Board of Orthodontics

Published by Elsevier, Inc. | www.ajodo.org

ISSN 0889-5406

Write the reference for this academic journal
using the following information:

Author's last name, first initial. Title of article.
Title of Journal, Volume (Issue), page numbers.

**American Journal of Orthodontics & Dental
Orthopedics**

**“The Role of Orthodontics in the Repair of
Gingival Recessions” by Morten Godtfredsen,
Mette Rylev, and Birte Melsen**

Published in January, 2020

Volume 157

Issue 1

Page numbers 29-34

5:00

In-text citations with missing information

No author: Title (year) or (Title, year)

According to Endangered (2020), there are approximately 45,000 wild elephants.
“There are approximately 45,000 wild elephants” (Endangered, 2020).

No date: Author (n.d.) or (Author, n.d.)

John Smith (n.d.) writes there are approximately 45,000 wild elephants.
“There are approximately 45,000 wild elephants” (Smith, n.d.).

No date or author: Title (n.d.) or (Title, n.d.)

According to Endangered (n.d.), there are approximately 45,000 wild elephants.
“There are approximately 45,000 wild elephants” (Endangered, n.d.).

References with missing information

No author: *Title.* (year). URL.

African elephants are endangered. (2018). ASPCA. www.aspca.com/afrele

No date: Author. (n.d.) *Title.* URL.

Smith, J. (n.d.) *African elephants are endangered.* ASPCA. www.aspca.com/afrele

No title: Author. (year). [brief description of work]. URL.

Smith, J. (2018). [African elephants are currently on the brink of extinction]. ASPCA. www.aspca.com/afrele

No date or author: *Title.* (n.d.) URL.

African elephants are endangered. (n.d.). ASPCA. www.aspca.com/afrele

Numbers and Percentages

Use words to express numbers less than 10. Use numerals for 10 and above.

Five employees in the company left after three years.

Per the Governor's order, 14 public schools have removed soft drinks.

Use % after a numeral. Use “percent” after a word or number that begins a sentence or title.

Anderson (2019) writes “Around 90% of airlines require pilots to pass an aerodynamics course.”

Seven percent of American universities offer astrobiology as an undergraduate major (Hayes, 2019).

Race and Ethnicity

A person's race is mostly made up of their phenotype and ethnicity. Phenotype is defined by that person's physical attributes. Ethnicity is defined by their cultural heritage. In APA format, race is capitalized, and ethnicities are not hyphenated.

Michael Washington is a young **Black** man. He was born and raised in New Jersey, so he is **African American**. His roommate, Luke, was born and raised in California. He is **Korean American**. Javier, their friend from Texas, is **Mexican American**. This summer, Michael's cousin, Abraham, is visiting from Nigeria. They are looking forward to learning about Abraham's **Igbo Nigerian** background.

Abbreviations

APA does not use periods in abbreviations, nor does it add an s at the end of plural measurements for distance or time.

When using a country's name as an adjective, periods are necessary. Also use periods in name abbreviations.

Sarah J. Walker, who is 5 ft tall, graduated from an HBCU. She joined the U.S. Army and is living in the UK. Yesterday, she told me she works out for three hr at home every other day.

Correct to APA format

Correct the passage below to APA format.

Simon V Mwangi, a young black student attending an H.B.C.U., was born and raised in the U.S. His parents are Bantu-Kenyan, but since he has always lived in this country, he is African-American. Simon spends 2 hours reading per day, and he dreams of joining the C.I.A. after earning his B.A. in criminal justice.

Corrected:

Simon V. Mwangi, a young Black student attending an HBCU, was born and raised in the US. His parents are Bantu Kenyan, but since he has always lived in this country, he is African American. Simon spends two hours reading per day, and he dreams of joining the CIA after earning his BA in criminal justice.

Review

APA is usually used for behavioral and social sciences. It is distinct from MLA in title page, in-text citations, and a reference page.

APA has a method to overcome missing information.

When using numbers, percentages, race, ethnicity, and abbreviations, there is a strict APA guideline.



Reflection

Workshop Evaluation
for students



Workshop Evaluation
for faculty



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