APA (7th edition) Referencing Style

This referencing style sheet is to be used in conjunction with the Library’s general Guide to Citing & Referencing. The information is based on the following publications from the American Psychological Association (APA):


For help with referencing items not covered in this guide:

You should refer to either the Publication manual of the American Psychological Association (7th ed.) or the more compact version, Concise guide to APA style: The official APA style guide for students (7th ed.). The Library has copies of both books which (when they are not on loan) can be found on Level 3, at shelf mark 808.06615 AME.

Currently, the Library is also providing access to the e-version of each book, on the BibliU platform: http://libproxy.bath.ac.uk/login?url=https://bibliu.com/users/saml/samlBath.

BibliU provides a video playlist on YouTube that offers an overview of all the key aspects of using a BibliU e-book, including accessibility features, annotation options, and downloading the BibliU app for offline reading of e-books: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xdurhZuogXU&list=PLXTIiw7kQ0518yrXGOWUxMEz9jKXpUdUl.

Citation

The APA uses an author-date style of referencing with details entered in round brackets, for example:

The traditional approach to human cognition is over-simplified in assuming that processing is typically serial (Eysenck & Keane, 2010).

If a publication date is not provided, insert n.d. in round brackets to signify ‘no date’, thus: (n.d.).

Treatment of multiple authors: When a work has two authors, cite both authors’ surnames every time.

When a work has three or more authors, cite the surname of the first author only, followed by et al., in every citation, including the first:

Kisangua et al. (2007) found that … [first and subsequent citations]

Reference list

The reference list must have the title word References, which should capitalised, in bold and centred. The reference list should contain full details of all the sources mentioned in your text, arranged alphabetically by surname of first author. List entries should be double-spaced (both within and between entries), and the first line of each reference is flush left with subsequent lines indented 0.5 inches (1.27 centimetres) from the left margin.
Reference examples

Below are some examples of the more common types of document you might want to reference. Each gives the APA 7th ed. format for the reference, followed by an example. Treatment of multiple authors within a reference list: when authors number twenty-one or more, include the first nineteen authors’ names then insert an ellipsis (...) and add the last author’s name. For example:


1. Print version of a journal article

Author surname, Initials. (Year of publication). Title of article. *Title of journal, Volume number* (issue number), pages xx - xx.


In-text citation

Parenthetical:

(Nevin, 1990)

Narrative

Nevin (1990) outlined...

2. Electronic version of a journal article without a Digital Object Identifier (DOI)

Author surname, Initials. (Year of publication). Title of article. *Title of journal, Volume number* (issue number), page numbers xx-xx. URL

**In-text citation**

**Parenthetical**

(Marion et al., 2018)

**Narrative**

In research by Marion et al. (2018)...

3. **Electronic version of a journal article with a DOI**

Author’s surname, Initials. (Year of publication). *Title of article. Title of journal, Volume number(issue number), page numbers xx-xx*. http://doi.org/xxxx


4. **Print version of a book**

Author’s surname, initials. (Year of publication). *Title (xx ed. if not the first). Publisher.*


**In-text citation**

It is not required to provide a page or paragraph number in the citation for a paraphrase, but you may include one if it would help your reader to locate the relevant passage in a lengthy work, such as a book.

**Parenthetical**

(Tseris, 2018, p. 12)

**Narrative**

According to Tseris (2018)…(p. 12).

5. **Electronic version of a print book**

Identifying the format, platform, or device (e.g., eBook, Kindle book, etc.) of an authored eBook is no longer needed. An authored eBook from an academic collection should be treated as an authored print book with the reference ending with the publisher.

If you wish to quote or paraphrase from an e-book that has no page numbers, you must devise an alternative means of identifying the relevant passage. In the case of a Kindle book that has no page numbers, do not provide the location number. The recommended alternative is to include the heading or section name, the paragraph number (count the paragraphs yourself, if they are not already numbered), or a combination of the heading or section name and the paragraph number.

Author surname, Initials. (Year of publication). *Title. Publisher. URL [if available]*.

**In-text citation**

*Parenthetical*

(Moore, 2012)

*Narrative*

Moore (2012) presented...

6. **Republished electronic version of a book**

*Author surname, Initials. (Year of release in electronic format). Title. Publisher. URL (Original year work published xxxx).*


**In-text citation**

*Parenthetical*

(Hooke, 1664/2005)

*Narrative*

Hooke (1664/2005) addressed...

7. **Book with two authors/editors**

*Authors’ surnames, initials. (Year of publication). Title (xx ed. if not the first). Publisher.*


**In-text citation**

*Parenthetical*

(Rutter & Brown, 2020)

*Narrative*

Rutter and Brown (2020) posited...

8. **Book with three or more authors up to and including 20 authors**

*Authors’ surnames, initials. (Year of publication). Title (xx ed. if not the first). Publisher.*


Provide surnames and initials for up to and including 20 authors. The last author’s surname should be preceded by an ampersand (&).
In-text citation
Parenthetical

(Haugtvedt et al., 2008)

Narrative

Haugtvedt et al. (2008) stated...

According to the 7th edition, up to 20 authors should now be included in a reference list entry.

For sources with 21 or more authors, include the first 19 authors’ names, insert an ellipsis (…) and then add the final author’s name. Do not place an ampersand (&) before the final author’s name.

9. Book with editor(s) instead of author(s)
Editor’s surnames, initials. (Year of publication). Title (xx ed. if not the first). Publisher.


In-text citation
Parenthetical

(Palmer, 2011)

Narrative

Palmer (2011) believed that...

10. Book with group author
Group author. (Year of publication). Title (xx ed. if not the first). Publisher [If different from the group author].


In-text citation
Parenthetical

(British Broadcasting Corporation, 2005)

Narrative

In its review, the British Broadcasting Corporation (2015) noted...

You need not abbreviate the name of a group author in a citation, but you can if the abbreviation is well-known or if you will cite the group author at least three times. You must provide the full name of the group author in the first mention, with the abbreviation.
11. **One chapter / paper from a collection in a book**

Author of chapter’s surname, Initials. (Year of publication). Title of chapter. In: Initials of first editor, Surname of first editor & Initials of second editor, Surname of second editor (Eds.), *Title of book* (pp. xx-xx). Publisher.


**In-text citation**

Parenthetical

(Martin, 2006).

Narrative

Martin (2006) challenged…

12. **Newspaper article**

Author’s surname, Initials. (Year of publication, Month of publication, Day of publication). Title of article. *Title/Name of newspaper*, pp. xx-xx.


**In-text citation**

Parenthetical

(Bowcott, 2020)

Narrative

Bowcott (2020) said…

13. **Thesis/dissertation**

The APA makes a distinction between theses/dissertations available in print form only (‘unpublished’) and those available online (‘published’), and it makes further distinctions according to the type of online publisher. The APA also uses American terminology to describe a thesis/dissertation: ‘doctoral dissertation’ and ‘master’s thesis’. Please refer to the Publication Manual for detailed guidance.

**Doctoral dissertation published online, but not in a database**

Author surname, Initials. (Year of award). *Title of dissertation* (Level of award, Awarding institution). Archive name. URL

14. **Government publication**
Name of government department. (Date of publication). *Title of report*. Publisher [If different from the group author].


**In-text citation**
Parenthetical

(Public Health England, 2020)

Narrative

Public Health England (2020) outlined...

15. **Television broadcast**
Writer’s surname, Initials. (Writer), & Director’s surname, Initials. (Director). (Year, Month Day). Title of episode (Season x, Episode y) [TV series episode]. In Executive Producer’s Initial. Executive Producer’s surname (Executive Producer), *Title of TV series*. Broadcasting company.

Kripke, E. (Writer), & Trachtenberg, D. (Director). (2020, July 26). The Name of the Game (Season 1, Episode 1) [TV series episode]. In H. Gorenstein (Executive Producer), *The Boys*. Sony Pictures Television; Kripke Enterprises; Point Grey Pictures; Original Film; Kickstart Entertainment; Kickstart Entertainment; Amazon Studios.

**In-text citation**
Parenthetical

(Kripke & Trachtenberg, 2020)

Narrative

Kripke and Trachtenberg (2020) averred...

16. **Web pages**
Some online sources are designed to change over time and will not have an archive of earlier versions, e.g. Google Maps, a web page, or a dictionary entry. If an online source includes a date when it was last updated, provide a retrieval date in the reference, as well as the date of update as the date of publication. In this way, you are informing your reader that they may retrieve a newer version of the source. The retrieval date should be inserted before the URL in the reference.

If you wish to quote or paraphrase from a web page that has no page numbers, you must devise an alternative means of identifying the relevant passage. The recommended alternative is to include the heading or section name, the paragraph number (count the paragraphs yourself, if they are not already numbered), or a combination of the heading or section name and the paragraph number.
Author's surname, Initials. (Year, Month Day site/document was published online: be as specific as is possible). Title. Retrieved Month Day, Year, from URL.

Note: if there is no individual author, use the group author (organisation), e.g. British Broadcasting Corporation. If neither is available, move the title to the author position, before a full stop and the date of publication.


In-text citation
Parenthetical

(National Health Service, 2020, Babies and children section, para. 3)

Narrative

The National Health Service (2020) advised…(Babies and children section, para. 3).

This guide offers a basic template for APA referencing. For help with referencing sources that are not included in this guide, please refer to the APA publications that we recommend on page 1.