APA Style Basics
Resources to help with APA citations

Publication Manual of the APA
Purdue OWL APA Style Guide
APA Style

Citation generators:
Library online databases
KnightCite

Librarians and Writing Center tutors
Learning Objectives

Understand why and when to cite research sources

Create in-text citations in APA format to cite sources in your paper

Create citations in APA format to cite sources in your References list
Why should you cite your sources?

Make your work more persuasive
  ● Citations show the reader you are informed and have research to back up your ideas

Make your work stand out
  ● Citations help separate your original work from others’ work

Be honest
  ● Avoid plagiarism

Give credit to others
  ● Recognize their hard work
How should you cite your sources?

Different professions use different formats to format papers and credit sources.

Two most common formats: APA and MLA.

APA = American Psychological Association

MLA = Modern Language Association
When should you cite your sources?

Direct quotes
- Using exact words the source
- Put quotation marks around the quote

Indirect quotes
- Summarizing or paraphrasing the source in your own words
- Even though you’re using your own words, you still have to cite the original source!
When should you cite your sources?

Direct quotes

The American Society of Health-System Pharmacists and the American Pharmacists Association support “a single standard for pharmacy technician education, training, and certification throughout the country” (Menasse & Menighan, 2011, p. 870).

Indirect quotes

Both the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists and the American Pharmacists Association are in favor of a national, standardized program to prepare pharmacy technicians for certification and career (Menasse & Menighan, 2011, p. 870).
How should you cite your sources?

You’ll describe a source you use twice:

- **In-text citation:** A little information about the source when you directly or indirectly quote it in your paper

- **References list:** Complete information about the source on a separate sheet at the end of your paper
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Essential elements of in-text citations in APA format

• Author(s)

• Year of publication

• Page numbers (omit if source isn’t paginated)
Two variations of in-text citations in APA:

1. The American Society of Health-System Pharmacists and the American Pharmacists Association support “a single standard for pharmacy technician education, training, and certification throughout the country” (Menasse & Menighan, 2011, p. 870).
Two variations of in-text citations in APA:

1 The American Society of Health-System Pharmacists and the American Pharmacists Association support “a single standard for pharmacy technician education, training, and certification throughout the country” (Menasse & Menighan, 2011, p. 870).

Authors’ names are separated by &
Two variations of in-text citations in APA:

1. The American Society of Health-System Pharmacists and the American Pharmacists Association support “a single standard for pharmacy technician education, training, and certification throughout the country” (Menasse & Menighan, 2011, p. 870).
Two variations of in-text citations in APA:

1. The American Society of Health-System Pharmacists and the American Pharmacists Association support “a single standard for pharmacy technician education, training, and certification throughout the country” (Menasse & Menighan, 2011, p. 870).

2. According to Menasse and Menighan (2011), both the ASHSP and the APA support “a single standard for pharmacy technician education, training, and certification throughout the country” (p. 870).
The American Society of Health-System Pharmacists and the American Pharmacists Association support “a single standard for pharmacy technician education, training, and certification throughout the country” (Menasse & Menighan, 2011, p. 870).

Let’s practice!

If this is your References list citation, and you’re directly quoting something on page 53, what would the in-text citation look like?

Let’s practice!

If this is your References list citation, and you’re directly quoting something on page 53, what would the in-text citation look like?


(Minnick & Leahey, 2013, p. 53).

or

According to Minnick & Leahey (2013), ... (p. 53).
Let’s practice!

If this is your References list citation, and you were paraphrasing statistics you found on this website, what would the in-text citation look like?


“n.d.” stands for “Not Dated.” Use it when you have a source without a published date.
Let’s practice!

If this is your References list citation, and you were paraphrasing statistics you found on this website, what would the in-text citation look like?


(“Childhood obesity facts,” n.d.).

or

According to “Childhood obesity facts” (n.d.), … .
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Essential elements in APA References citations:

Author
Date of publication
Title of article, book, or webpage
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Author
Date of publication
Title of article, book, or webpage

If citing a book, add:
Edition (if applicable)
Location
Publisher

If citing a journal, add:
Journal title
Journal volume and issue number
Page numbers of article
doi (if available)

If citing a website, add:
Retrieval date
URL
Journal

Book

Website


**Edition:** if citing a book with an edition number, place that in parentheses after the book title with a period after the parentheses


**doi** = digital object identifier

If you see one on the first page of the journal article, include it at the end of the citation.

“doi” is not capitalized. NOT followed by a period.

**Location:** City, State Abbreviation:

Followed by a colon.

**Retrieval date:** “Retrieved Month Day, Year,”

Followed by a comma.
Website


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http://sanjac.edu/library

This guide was originally created by Jane Stimpson, MLS for San Jacinto College