

APA Quick Bits



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APA formatting is a way to cite sources of information both within your text and on a separate references page at the end of the document. The following is based on the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 7th edition and shows rules for various source types and situations.

Basic APA Format for References:

Who. (when). What it’s called. Where it’s published.

Who. = Last name, Initial. The last name and first initial of the author. If no human author is named, use the name of the organization or company as author (ex. World Health Organization). When the author is not known, use following order: Title. (Date). Publisher.

(when). = The date of publication. The year alone is usually fine but this part can also include month, day, or season. If no date is clearly stated, use (n.d.).

What it’s called. = The title of the source. This could be in two parts such as when an article or chapter in a larger publication is used; in these cases, the formatting and punctuation changes from this basic format (see below for examples). If there is no author or organization named, then the title goes before the date. When the title is not known, describe the source in brackets instead of the title, i.e. [Description].

Where it’s published. = Name of Publisher. “Publisher” means the name of the publishing company, the URL, the DOI, or the name of the periodical; note that the name of the periodical has different formatting and is usually followed by numbers for volume, issue, and pages. Sometimes both a DOI and the periodical name and volume, etc. will be used.

In all cases, pay close attention to punctuation, capitalization, spacing, and italicization.

Source Type	In-Text Citation	Reference/Notes
Newspaper, online, two authors	(Broadbent & Rake, 2014)	Broadbent, V. & Rake, A. (2014, November 19). Sessional instructors on the fringes of UFV priorities, despite impact in classrooms. <i>The Cascade</i> . http://ufvcascade.ca/2014/11/19/sessional-instructors-on-the-fringes-of-ufv-priorities-despiteimpact-in-classrooms/
Journal, online with DOI	(Piché, 2015)	Piché, P. G. (2015). Institutional diversity and funding universities in Ontario: Is there a link?. <i>Journal of Higher Education Policy & Management</i> , 37(1), 52-68. https://doi.org/10.1080/1360080X.2014.991537
Book with one author, 2nd edition, subtitle	(Aldwin, 2007)	Aldwin, C.M. (2007). <i>Stress, coping, and development: An integrative perspective</i> (2nd ed.). Guildford Press.
E-Book with three to five editors	(Singer et al., 2006)	Singer, D. G., Golinkoff, R. M., & Hirsh-Pasek, K. (Eds.). (2006). <i>Play = learning: How play motivates and enhances children's cognitive and social-emotional growth</i> . Oxford University Press. https://doi.org/10.1093/acprof:oso/9780195304381.001.0001 Note: If there are more than two editors, the first and subsequent in-text citations follow the format: (First Editor’s Name et al., year). The remaining editors’ names are provided in the full reference. If there are only two editors, include both names in every in-text citation.

Source Type	In-Text Citation	Reference/Notes
Two Journal articles with the same authors & same publication date	(Kensinger & Schacter, 2005a) (Kensinger & Schacter, 2005b)	Kensinger, E., & Schacter, D. (2005a). Emotional content and reality monitoring ability: fMRI evidence for the influences of encoding processes. <i>Neuropsychologia</i> , 43, 1429-1443. Kensinger, E. & Schacter, D. (2005b). Retrieving accurate and distorted memories: Neuroimaging evidence for the effects of emotion. <i>NeuroImage</i> , 27, 167-177. Note: You must add the "a," "b" tag to the end of the date of publication to create a distinction between the sources and maintain alphabetical order.
Journal article, online, three or more authors	(Bombay et al., 2009)	Bombay, A., Matheson, K., & Anisman, H. (2009). Intergenerational trauma: Convergence of multiple processes among First Nations peoples in Canada. <i>Journal of Aboriginal Health</i> , 5(3), 6-47. https://jps.library.utoronto.ca/index.php/ijih/article/view/28987/23916 Note: When an article has three or more authors, the abbreviated 'et al.' after the first author's name in the in-text citation can be used every time the source is cited, including the first time. The remaining authors' names (up to 20) are included on the References page.
Journal article, source-in-source	(Funder, 1997; as cited in Triandis & Suh, 2002) Note: Triandis & Suh is the source you have in hand. Funder is one of their sources.	Triandis, H.C. & Suh, E.M. (2002). Cultural influences on personality. <i>Annual Review of Psychology</i> , 53, 133-160. https://www.annualreviews.org/doi/pdf/10.1146/annurev.psych.53.100901.135200 Note: Use "source-in-source" to show that you are using a source you found in one of your secondary sources but you have not seen the original. Use this sparingly; make an effort to find original sources.
Web page, no date	(UFV Faculty of Science, n.d.)	UFV Faculty of Science. (n.d.). <i>Science rocks</i> . https://www.ufv.ca/faculty_of_science/science-in-the-community/sciencerocks/
Government website, PDF document, sub-title	(BC Ministry of Education, 2006)	BC Ministry of Education. (2006). <i>English language arts kindergarten to Grade 7: Integrated resource package 2006 Grade 7</i> . http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/irp//pdfs/english_language_arts/2006el_a_k7.pdf
PDF document	(Vancouver Public Library, 2015)	Vancouver Public Library. (2015, March 13). <i>IT project managers: A guide for newcomers to British Columbia</i> . https://pwp.vpl.ca/siic/files/2015/04/IT_Project_Managers.pdf
YouTube video	(goUFV, 2016)	goUFV. (2016, July 21). <i>Meet Jack — Academic Integrity</i> [Video]. Youtube. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=59d1bJkU0&feature=youtu.be
Twitter post (Tweet)	(Fioraso, 2016)	Fioraso, R. [RemingtonFD]. (2016, November 3). #Why social media management is much more than just posting: http://snip.ly/hctk7 via @socialmedia2day #ChoiceContent [Tweet]. Twitter. https://twitter.com/hootsuite/status/794196296567496704
Lecture notes, Email, Letter, Personal interview, Conversation, class Course handout not available publically, Phone call, etc.	(B. McGregor, personal communication, September 12, 2016)	Note: Class notes and other sources that the reader can not retrieve themselves do not have an item on the References page. Treat all of these kinds of sources as personal communication when using APA style.

Figure (chart, diagram, map, photo, etc.)	Caption below figure: Figure 1: 2016 KIN Cup tug of war-5 (Sept. 27, 2016)	University of the Fraser Valley. (2016, Sept. 27). 2016 KIN Cup tug of war- 5 [Photograph]. https://www.flickr.com/photos/ufv/29346459694/in/album-72157674382301186/ Note 1: The example given here assumes that permission to copy is not needed. See Notes 1, 2, and 3 on page 9 of the Academic Success Centre’s longer APA Style Guide “Music, Video, Software, & Images” about securing copyright. Note 2: The caption includes the Figure number in your document, a title, and explanation of symbols if relevant.
Indigenous Elders & Knowledge Keepers	(Cardinal, 2004)	Cardinal, D., Goodfish Lake Cree Nation. Treaty 6. Lives in Edmonton. Oral teaching. personal communication. April 4, 2004. Note 1: The “p” in “personal communication is lower case, following APA style guidelines. Note 2: The order and type of elements differ from other sources, particularly the date.

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