

# American Psychological Association, 7th edition

American Psychological Association (APA) is often used in physical, natural, and social sciences courses, as well as business courses. APA requires that essays are written with in-text citations. This guide provides examples of how to write in-text citations and proper references, while also providing some guidance concerning how to construct captions for figures, tables, and graphs.

According to the *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association (7th ed.)* (2020), it is important to “Cite the work of those individuals whose ideas, theories, or research have directly influenced your work. The works you cite provide key background information, support or dispute your thesis, or offer critical definitions and data. Cite only works that you have read and ideas that you have incorporated into your writing. Cite primary sources when possible and secondary sources sparingly. In addition to crediting the ideas of others that you used to develop your thesis, provide documentation for all facts and figures that are not common knowledge. Both paraphrases and direct quotations require citations” (APA, 2020, p. 253).

## Books and eBooks

Material Type	In-Text Citation	Reference Entry
Single author	(Greene, 2002, p. 45)	Greene, G. (2002). <i>The quiet American</i> . Penguin Books.
Two authors	(Ratner & Ratner, 2003, p. 99)	Ratner, M. A., & Ratner, D. (2003). <i>Nanotechnology: A gentle introduction to the next big idea</i> . Prentice Hall Professional.
Three authors	(Blake et al., 2019, p. 202)	Blake, L., Monnet, A. S., & Hughes, W. (2019). <i>Neoliberal gothic: International gothic in the neoliberal age</i> . Manchester University Press.
Three to twenty authors	(Starr et al., 2018, sect 7.3)	Starr, C., Taggart, R., Evers, C., & Starr, L. (2018). <i>Biology: The unity and diversity of life</i> (15th ed.). Cengage. <a href="https://www.cengage.com/">https://www.cengage.com/</a>  <b>Note:</b> For all sources with three to twenty authors, include all the authors on your reference page. For in-text citations, sources with three or more authors can be abbreviated to (Author, et al., Year).
Twenty-one or more authors	(Eves et al., 2009, p. 54)	Eves G., Dunaway, Z., Wilkins, R., Thompson, L., Martin, K., Corp, J., Leonard, F., Xi, F., Smith, S., Patel, S., Arnott, A., MacQuarrie, C., Stafa, A., Alam, J., Zuckerman, J., Brownlee, R., Lane, H., Goldman, H., Eamon, S., Ginter, T., ... Goulding, N. (2019). <i>How to succeed in university</i> . First Line Press.

		<b>Note:</b> For sources with twenty-one or more authors, write out the first twenty authors, add an ellipsis, and end with the last author.
One volume from multi-volume works	(Fiske et al., 2010, p. 100)	Fiske, S. T., Gilbert, D. T., & Lindzey, G. (2010). <i>Handbook of social psychology</i> (5th ed., Vol. 1). John Wiley & Sons. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1002/9780470561119">https://doi.org/10.1002/9780470561119</a>
Editor, translator, or compiler	(Smith, 2008, p. 202)	Smith, J. A. (Ed.). (2008). <i>Qualitative psychology: A practical guide to research methods</i> . Sage.
Author(s) with editor(s) or translator(s)	(Dali, 2012, p. 55)	Dali, Z. (2012). <i>A second history</i> (R. Shier & R. Bywater, Eds.). Bywater Bros.
Corporate or organization as author	<b>1<sup>st</sup> citation:</b> (National Fire Protection Association [NFPA], 2009)  <b>Subsequent citations:</b> (NFPA, 2009).	National Fire Protection Association. (2009). <i>Fundamentals of firefighting skills</i> (2nd ed.). Jones and Bartlett.
Government publication	(Ontario Ministry of Health, 1994, p. 7)	Ontario Ministry of Health. (1994). <i>Selected findings from the mental health supplement of the Ontario Health Survey</i> . Queen's Printer for Ontario.
Chapter of an edited book	(Dillard, 2020, p. 120).	Dillard, J. P. (2020). Currents in the study of persuasion. In M. B. Oliver, A. A. Raney, & J. Bryant (Eds.), <i>Media effects: Advances in theory and research</i> (4th ed., pp. 115–129). Routledge
Introduction, preface, foreword, or afterword	(Felder, 2005, p. xii)	Felder, D. G. (2005). Preface. In <i>A bookshelf of our own: Works that changed women's lives</i> (pp. xi–xv). Citadel Press.
Edition other than the first	(Harris, 2001, p. 331)	Harris, L. A. (2001). <i>Canadian copyright law</i> (3rd ed.). McGraw Hill Ryerson.
Reprint editions	(Lee, 2010)	Lee, H. (2010). <i>To kill a mockingbird: 50th anniversary edition</i> . Arrow. (Original work published 1960)

eBook	(Rhode, 2002, p. 53)  <b>Note:</b> If no fixed page numbers are available, you can include a section title or a chapter or other number.  Example: (Rhode, 2002, chapter 2)	Rhode, D. L. (2002). <i>Divorce, American style</i> . University of California Press. <a href="http://www.escholarship.org/editions/view?docId=kt9z09q84w;brand=ucpress">http://www.escholarship.org/editions/view?docId=kt9z09q84w;brand=ucpress</a> .
Dictionary	(American Heritage, 2011)	American Heritage. (2011). Noni. In <i>The American Heritage dictionary of the English language</i> (5th ed.). Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.
Encyclopedia from database: Known author	(Keränen, 2014, p. 115)	Keränen, L. (2014). <i>Biopreparedness and biosecurity</i> . In T. L. Thompson (Ed.), <i>Encyclopedia of health communication</i> (Vol. 1, pp. 113–116). SAGE Reference.
Encyclopedia from database: Unknown author	("Ethics," 2009, philosophy section, para. 5)	Ethics. (2009). In <i>Encyclopedia of management</i> (6th ed., pp. 273–278). Gale.
Encyclopedia from a website: Known author	(Graham, 2005)	Graham, G. (2005). Behaviorism. In E. N. Zalta (Ed.) <i>The Stanford encyclopedia of philosophy</i> (Fall 2007 ed.). <a href="https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/behaviorism/">https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/behaviorism/</a>
Wikipedia	("Veterinary Medicine," 2019)	Veterinary medicine. (2019, December 29). In Wikipedia. <a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Veterinary_medicine&amp;oldid=931891450">https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Veterinary_medicine&amp;oldid=931891450</a>
Bible	( <i>King James Bible</i> , 1769/2017, Ecclesiastes 12:12)	<i>King James Bible</i> . (2017). Cambridge University Press. (Original work published 1769)
Bible (online version)	(English Standard Version Bible, 2001, Josh. 2:7)	English Standard Version Bible. (2001). ESV Online. <a href="https://esv.literalword.com/">https://esv.literalword.com/</a>

Theses/ dissertations (e-copy)	(Lope, 2014, p. 78)	Lope, M. D. (2014). <i>Perceptions of global mindedness in the international baccalaureate middle years programme: The relationship to student academic performance and teacher characteristics</i> (Order No. 3682837) [Doctoral dissertation, University of Maryland]. ProQuest Dissertations and Theses Global.
<b>Journal Articles</b>		
<b>Material Type</b>	<b>Citation Example</b>	<b>Reference Entry</b>
Journal article online (with DOI) single author	(Albada, 2000, p. 81)	Albada, K. F. (2000). The public and private dialogue about the American family on television. <i>Journal of Communication</i> , 50(4), 79–110. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1460-2466.2000.tb02864.x">https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1460-2466.2000.tb02864.x</a>
Journal article online (with URL) single author	(Coleman, 2016, para. 15)  <b>Note:</b> When an electronic source lacks page numbers, try to include information that helps readers find the cited passage. Use the heading or section name, an abbreviated heading or section name, a paragraph number (para. 1), or a combination of these.  Example: According to Coleman (1997), . . . (para. 12)	Coleman, A. D. (2016). Ethics in photojournalism then and now: The case of Robert Cupa. <i>Media Ethics</i> , 27(2). <a href="https://www.mediaethicsmagazine.com/index.php/browse-back-issues/201-spring-2016-vol-27-no-2/3999107-ethics-in-photojournalism-then-and-now-the-case-of-robert-capa">https://www.mediaethicsmagazine.com/index.php/browse-back-issues/201-spring-2016-vol-27-no-2/3999107-ethics-in-photojournalism-then-and-now-the-case-of-robert-capa</a>
Journal article with two authors	(Meier & Welch, 2016, p. 470)	Meier, N. F., & Welch, A. S. (2016). Walking versus biofeedback: A comparison of acute interventions for stressed students. <i>Anxiety, Stress &amp; Coping: An International Journal</i> , 29(5), 463–478. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1080/10615806.2015.1085514">https://doi.org/10.1080/10615806.2015.1085514</a>
Journal articles with three to twenty authors	(Chandra et al., 2020, p. 5593)	Chandra, H., Singh, C., Kumari, P., Yadav, S., Mishra, A. P., Laishevtcev, A., Brisc, C., Brisc, Mihaela, C., Munteanu, M. A. & Bungau, S. (2020). Promising roles of alternative medicine and plant-based nanotechnology as remedies for urinary tract infections. <i>Molecules</i> , 25(23), 5593–5619. <a href="https://doi.org/10.3390/molecules25235593">https://doi.org/10.3390/molecules25235593</a>
Journal articles with twenty-one or more authors	(Kalnay et al., 1996, p. 438)	Kalnay, E., Kanamitsu, M., Kistler, R., Collins, W., Deaven, D., Gandin, L., Iredell, M., Saha, S., White, G., Woollen, J., Zhu, Y., Chelliah, M., Ebisuzaki, W., Higgins, W., Janowiak, J., Mo, K. C., Ropelewski, C., Wang, J., Leetmaa, A., . . . Joseph, D. (1999). The


		NCEP/NCAR 40-year reanalysis project. <i>Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society</i> , 77(3), 437–471. <a href="https://doi.org/fg6rf9">https://doi.org/fg6rf9</a>  <b>Note:</b> For sources with twenty-one or more authors, write out the first twenty authors, add an ellipsis [ . . . ], and end with the last author.
Conference proceeding paper: Electronic copy	(Chaudhuri & Biswas, 2017, p. 12).	Chaudhuri, S., & Biswas, A. (2017). External terms-of-trade and labor market imperfections in developing countries: Theory and evidence. <i>Proceedings of the Academy of Economics and Economic Education</i> , 20(1), 11-16. <a href="https://search-proquest-com.elibrary.jcu.edu.au/docview/1928612180?accountid=16285">https://search-proquest-com.elibrary.jcu.edu.au/docview/1928612180?accountid=16285</a>
<b>Newspapers, Magazines, Websites, Multimedia, Lectures</b>		
<b>Material Type</b>	<b>In-Text Citation</b>	<b>Reference Entry</b>
Newspaper/magazine article with one author (online)	(Brody, 2007, para. 7)  <b>Note:</b> For direct quotes, when no page numbers are written, use paragraph numbers. Paragraph numbers are unnecessary for indirect referencing and paraphrasing	Brody, J. E. (2007, December 11). Mental reserves keep brain agile. <i>The New York Times</i> . <a href="https://www.nytimes.com/2007/12/11/health/11iht-11brod.8685746.html">https://www.nytimes.com/2007/12/11/health/11iht-11brod.8685746.html</a>
Newspaper/magazine article with two or three authors (online)	(Kochhar & Sechopoulos, 2022)	Kochhar, R. & Sechopoulos, S. (2022, May 10). Black and Hispanic Americans, those with less education are more likely to fall out of the middle class each year. <i>Pew Research Center</i> . <a href="https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2022/05/10/black-and-hispanic-americans-those-with-less-education-are-more-likely-to-fall-out-of-the-middle-class-each-year/">https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2022/05/10/black-and-hispanic-americans-those-with-less-education-are-more-likely-to-fall-out-of-the-middle-class-each-year/</a>
Newspaper/magazine article with three or more authors (online)	(Pulver et al., 2021, para. 13)	Pulver, D. V., Bowman, S., Harvilla, B., & Wilson, J. (2021, August 10). Hundreds of U.S. cities adopted climate plans. Few have met the goals, but it's not too late. <i>USA Today</i> . <a href="https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/investigations/2021/08/10/hundreds-u-s-cities-already-adopted-climate-plans-what-happened/5541049001/">https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/investigations/2021/08/10/hundreds-u-s-cities-already-adopted-climate-plans-what-happened/5541049001/</a>
Newspaper/magazine with organization as author (online)	(Reuters, 2022, para. 3)	Reuters (2022, May 31). Russia eyes gas-for-rubles template for foreign Eurobond payments. <a href="https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/russia-service-foreign-debt-using-gas-for-roubles-type-scheme-vedomosti-2022-05-30/">https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/russia-service-foreign-debt-using-gas-for-roubles-type-scheme-vedomosti-2022-05-30/</a>

Online resource with no author or clear organization	("Science, Social Science, and Sociology," 2015)	<i>Science, social science, and sociology</i> . (2015). Open Textbooks for Hong Kong. <a href="https://www.opentextbooks.org.hk/ditatopic/28717">https://www.opentextbooks.org.hk/ditatopic/28717</a>
Online resource with no date	(Worland, n.d.)	Worland, J. (n.d.). U.S. flood risk could be worse than we thought. Time. <a href="http://time.com/3973256/flooding-risk-coastal-cities/">http://time.com/3973256/flooding-risk-coastal-cities/</a>
Blog entry	(Willoughby, 2022, para. 20)	Willoughby, S. (2022, May 27). Why teenagers need solitude (even extroverts). <i>The Reb</i> . <a href="https://www.therebelution.com/blog/2022/05/why-teenagers-need-solitude-even-extroverts/">https://www.therebelution.com/blog/2022/05/why-teenagers-need-solitude-even-extroverts/</a>
Government document from website: Author and publisher are the same	(Texas Health and Human Services, 2022, para. 8)	Texas Health and Human Services. (2022, May 27). HHSC urges long-term care facilities to update emergency preparedness plans before hurricane season. <a href="https://www.hhs.texas.gov/news/2022/05/hhsc-urges-long-term-care-facilities-update-emergency-preparedness-plans-hurricane-season">https://www.hhs.texas.gov/news/2022/05/hhsc-urges-long-term-care-facilities-update-emergency-preparedness-plans-hurricane-season</a>
Government document from website: Author and publisher differ	(United States Department of Children and Youth Services, 2010)	United States Department of Children and Youth Services. (2010, April 27). Your preschool child's speech and language development. United States Department of Health & Human Services. <a href="http://www.children.gov/htdocs/English/topics/earlychildhood/speechlanguage/brochure_preschool.aspx">http://www.children.gov/htdocs/English/topics/earlychildhood/speechlanguage/brochure_preschool.aspx</a>
Facebook post	(U.S. Department of the Interior, 2020)	U.S. Department of the Interior. (2020, January 10). Like frosting on a cake, snow coats and clings to the hoodoos at Bryce Canyon National Park in Utah [Image attached] [Status update]. Facebook. <a href="https://www.facebook.com/USInterior/photos/a.155163054537384/2586475451406120/?type=3&amp;theater">https://www.facebook.com/USInterior/photos/a.155163054537384/2586475451406120/?type=3&amp;theater</a>  <b>Note:</b> Since Facebook posts can be lengthy, use the first number of words to capture meaning
Twitter tweet	(realnickholt, 2022)	Holt, N. [@realnickholt]. (2022, May 28). ' <i>Science buried under politics</i> ': <i>Climategate revisited</i> . Twitter, May 28, 2022. <a href="https://twitter.com/realnickholt/status/1530531125055041536">https://twitter.com/realnickholt/status/1530531125055041536</a>  <b>Note:</b> Write out the actual text of the post in the citation and keep spelling and grammar the same as in the original up to the first 20 words, even if there are errors.

Online video (YouTube) when creator is known	(Norton, 2006)	Norton, R. (2006, November 4). <i>How to train a cat to operate a light switch</i> [Video file]. YouTube. <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vja83KLQXZs">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vja83KLQXZs</a>
Online video (YouTube) when creator unknown	(Clarity Child Guidance Center, 2016)	Clarity Child Guidance Center. (2016, December 8). <i>Using dialectical behavior therapy (DBT): Theory &amp; behavioral chains part 1</i> [Video]. YouTube. <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E45eXvgbDFg">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E45eXvgbDFg</a>
Film/documentary	(Scott, 1979)	Scott, R. (Director). (1979). <i>Alien</i> [Film]. Brandywine Productions.
Videos on demand	(Nova, 2018)	Nova. (2018). <i>Addiction</i> [Video]. PBS. <a href="https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/video/addiction/">https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/video/addiction/</a>
TV series	(Sherman-Palladino & Palladino, 2017-present)	Sherman-Palladino, A., Palladino, D. (Executive Producers). (2017-present). <i>The marvelous Mrs. Maisel</i> [TV series]. Dorothy Parker Drank Here Productions; Picrow, Amazon Studios.
TV episode	(Korsch, 2019)	Korsh, A. (Writer & Director). (2019, September 25). <i>One last con</i> (Season 9, Episode 10) [TV series episode]. In D. Liman & D. Bartis (Executive Producers), <i>Suits</i> . Untitled Korsh Company; Universal Content Productions; Open 4 Business Productions.
Podcasts	(Livingston, 2017)	Livingston, E. (Host). (2017, June 20). <i>Medication errors in hospitals - It's everyone's fault</i> [Audio podcast]. JN Learning. <a href="https://edhub.ama-assn.org/jn-learning/audio-player/14505877">https://edhub.ama-assn.org/jn-learning/audio-player/14505877</a>
Ted Talk	(Goldacre, 2011)	Goldacre, B. (2011, July). <i>Battling bad science</i> [Video]. TED Conferences. <a href="https://www.ted.com/talks/ben_goldacre_battling_bad_science">https://www.ted.com/talks/ben_goldacre_battling_bad_science</a>
Album recording (composer emphasis)	(Bach, 2010)	Bach, J. S. (2010). <i>The Brandenburg concertos</i> [Album recorded by Oregon Symphony]. Decca. (Original work published 1721).
Song recording (emphasizing musician)	(Haydn, 2017)	Haydn, F. J. (2017). <i>Symphony no. 96 in D major</i> [Song recorded by Oregon Symphony]. On <i>Haydn symphonies</i> . Pentatone. (Original work published 1791)
Track from a sound recording	(Dacus, 2018)	Dacus, L. (2018). <i>Night shift</i> [Song]. On <i>Historian</i> [Album]. Matador Records.

Music recording (online)	(Stewart, 2020)	Stewart, V. (2020). When we were friends [Song]. <a href="https://soundclick.com/r/s8eurn">https://soundclick.com/r/s8eurn</a>
Song lyrics found online	(Lennon, 1971)	Lennon, J. (1971) Imagine. <i>Lyrics</i> . <a href="https://www.lyrics.com/lyric/3403160/john+lennon/imagine">https://www.lyrics.com/lyric/3403160/john+lennon/imagine</a>
Music scores	(Gilbert & Sullivan, 1885/2012)	Gilbert, W. S., & Sullivan, A. (2012). <i>The Mikado in full score</i> (C. Simpson & E. H. Jones, Eds.) [Musical score]. Dover Publications. (Original work published 1885)
Lecture notes (PPT)	(Johnson, 2008)	Johnson, A. (2008). <i>Week three: Foucault</i> [PowerPoint slides]. Learn.UQ. <a href="https://learn.uq.edu.au/">https://learn.uq.edu.au/</a>
Recorded speech	(Kennedy, 1961, 01:45)	Kennedy, J. F. (1961, January 20). <i>Presidential inaugural address</i> [Speech audio recording]. American Rhetoric. <a href="https://www.americanrhetoric.com/speeches/jfkinaugural.htm">https://www.americanrhetoric.com/speeches/jfkinaugural.htm</a>
Lecture or speech attended by student	(Smith, 2019)	Smith, J. (2019, April 19). <i>The causes and consequences of the Spanish Civil War</i> . University of Chicago. Lecture.
Image from book	(Boccioni, 1911)	Boccioni, U. (1911). <i>States of Mind: The Farewells</i> [Oil on Canvas]. The Museum of Modern Art, New York. From M. Stockstad, <i>Art History</i> (p. 1058). New York, NY: Harry N Abrams, Inc., 1995.
Image from journal article	(Marsh & de Beauvoir, 2019, p. 7)	Marsh, A., & de Beauvoir, X. (2019). Cafe latte served in a glass [Photograph]. In The effect of Melbourne's cafe culture on international visitors. <i>Journal of the Caffeine Commons</i> , 9(21), 1-15. <a href="https://doi.org/00.0000">https://doi.org/00.0000</a>
Image found on online database	(Peters, 1872)	Peters, J. L. (1872). <i>Phrenological waltzes</i> [Print, Electronic resource]. Library of Congress: Music Division. <a href="https://www.loc.gov/item/sm1872.06931/">https://www.loc.gov/item/sm1872.06931/</a>
Image found online	(McCurry, 1985)	McCurry, S. (1985). <i>Afghan girl</i> [Photograph]. National Geographic. <a href="https://www.nationalgeographic.com/magazine/national-geographic-magazine-50-years-of-covers/#/ngm-1985-jun-714.jpg">https://www.nationalgeographic.com/magazine/national-geographic-magazine-50-years-of-covers/#/ngm-1985-jun-714.jpg</a>
Image caption (journal article)	Fig. 1. Celebration of the Modern City. From <i>Art History</i> (p. 1058), by U. Boccioni, 1911, New York, NY: Harry N Abrams, Inc. Copyright [1995] by M. Stockstad.	



Image caption (online source)	Fig. 2. Water lilies at the Melbourne Royal Botanic Gardens (Andrews, 2019)
Painting caption example	 <p>Figure 1. <i>The Ancient of Days</i>, by W. Blake, 1794/1824 (Bell, 2007, p. 305)</p>

Visual figure example



Figure 4. *Chair of Reniseneb*, ca. 1450 B.C. (Metropolitan, 2015)

Figure example



Table example

**Table 1**  
*Descriptive Statistics and Correlations for Study Variables*

Variable	<i>n</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>	1	2	3	4
1. Graduation rate	33	60.95	16.74	—	—	—	—
2. Sector <sup>a</sup>	33	0.30	0.47	-.40	—	—	—
3. Median SAT score	33	1101.21	111.43	.89	-.19	—	—
4. Tuition <sup>b</sup>	33	32.25	11.31	.75	-.77	.61	—

*Note.* <sup>a</sup>0 = private schools and 1 = public schools. <sup>b</sup>Tuition is measured in thousands of dollars.

Screenshot image  
caption of figure

Figure 1

*Depiction of Iskwewuk E-wichiwitochik's (Women Walking Together) Vision Statement*



*Note.* The image was created from a strategic planning session to represent IE's vision statement. From

"Iskwewuk E-wichiwitochik," by D. R. Okemasim-Sicotte, S. Gingell, and R. Bouvier, in K. Anderson, M. Campbell, & C. Belcourt (Eds.), *Keetsahnak/Our missing and murdered Indigenous sisters* (p. 252), 2018, University of Alberta Press. Copyright 2018 by University of Alberta Press.