Introduction

This guide contains information on how to cite sources in the American Psychological Association (APA) style. All information in this guide is taken from the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 6th edition* (which is found in our Reference Collection at call number **808.02 P976 2010**) or the *APA Style Guide to Electronic Resources* (currently available online [here](#)). This guide covers a lot of ground, but it does not cover everything - if you are having trouble citing a source, please contact one of Illinois College's librarians:

- Luke Beatty, Library Director / luke.beatty@ic.edu
- Garrett Traylor, Reference & Cataloging Librarian / garrett.traylor@ic.edu
- Erika Wade Smith, Digital Services Librarian / erika.wadesmith@ic.edu

Meta-Notes:

**Places to Cite:**

When citing in the APA style, you must consider both your **References** list and your **in-text** citations.

Your **References list** - titled “References” - appears at the end of your paper. The References list is organized alphabetically (by the author's last name), and it contains full citations of all the sources used in your paper. Look at the end of this guide for a sample References list.

**In-text citations** are abbreviated references found throughout your paper’s text. You will find sample in-text citations throughout this guide.

**In-Text Citations:**

While there is only one way to cite material in your References list, there are two ways you can cite material in your text. The two in-text citation methods are the **parenthesis** method and the **name-in-sentence** method. Your choice of one over the other will boil down to a stylistic preference (we use the parenthesis format in this guide). Here are examples of each:

*Parenthesis method:* After the event, the crowd dispersed (Johnson, 2012).

*Name-in-sentence method:* After the event, Johnson (2012) noted the crowd dispersed.

**Multiple Authors:**

Citing multiple authors is a pain, but fortunately, the process for citing multiple authors (in the APA style) is the same for all material types. We cover the rules for citing multiple authors under the **Books** section of this guide, so consult that section for guidance on citing multiple authors.

**Spacing:**

APA recommends using **two spaces** after all concluding punctuation. APA recommends using **one space** between initials (ex. A. A. Milne).

**Citing Page #s:**

In APA, an in-text citation will usually include an author’s last name and a publication date. Additionally, if you are making a direct quote or paraphrasing, you should include a page number in your citation. If you only cite one page, indicate this with [p.]; if you cite two or more pages, indicate this using [pp.]. Example citation: (John, 2007, pp. 3-7).
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Examples

Blog (APA, p. 215)


In-Text: The market for theatre safety materials was burgeoning, and had even extended into the blogosphere (Wayne, 2014).

Note 1: Include a retrieval date (i.e. “retrieved January 22, 2014 from [whatever the URL is]”) only if you believe the source is likely to change over time.

Note 2: The “Blog post title” portion of your citation is not italicized.

Book (with 1 author or 1 editor) (APA, p. 202)


In-Text: In a few short years, bike polo had become a popular activity with the flannel-and-skinny-jeans set (Reda, 2008, p. 89). Predictably, however, thefad was short-lived, and the hipster zeitgeist soon moved on (Blatche, 2014).

Note 1: The “(Ed.)” refers to an editor, and is only included when you are citing a work with an editor.

Book (with 2 authors or 2 editors) (APA, p. 175)


In-Text: With Ernst Roehm’s murder, Himmler had eliminated a dangerous and resourceful rival (Stewart & Juber, 2008, pp. 20-30). With Roehm and his Storm Battalion now purged from the Nazi power structure, Hitler was free to insinuate himself further into the German state apparatus (Roth & Meine, 1966, pp. 100-125).

Note 1: The “(Eds.)” refers to editors, and is only included when you are citing for editors.

Book (with 3-7 authors or 3-7 editors) (APA, p. 175)


In-Text: The tenure question has always been a bugaboo of academic librarianship, especially when considering the non-credit instruction that librarians frequently take on (Monteith, Herscovitch, & Millard, 2000). Contributions to teaching ‘information literacy’- as variously and widely defined as that term is- also play an important role in tenure considerations for librarians (Hayman, Loyer, & Cleaver, 2012).

Note 1: The “(Eds.)” refers to editors, and is only included when you are citing for editors.

Note 2: For 3-5 authors/editors, the first in-text citation will contain all authors of the work - in this case, [ex. (Hayman, Loyer, & Cleaver, 2012)] - while subsequent in-text citations will contain only the first author, followed by “et al.” (which means “and others”) [ex. (Hayman et al., 2012)].

Note 3: For 6-7 authors/editors, all in-text citations will contain the “et al.” citation. In this example (if there were 6-7 authors), the proper in-text citation would be: (Hayman et al., 2012).
Example: Format: Book Review


In-Text: The reviews were dismal, however, and Kottke quickly went back to his guitar (Pumanti, 2004, pp. 17-19).

Note 1: The "(Eds.)" refers to editors, and is only included when you are citing for editors.
### Brochure / Flyer

**Format:**

**Example:**

**In-Text:**
Cosmetic surgery was even making inroads in economically depressed areas of the city, best epitomized by the ubiquitous Lose 40 Pounds in 48 Hours brochure, found throughout Chicago’s south side in the summer of 2001 (Occidental Aesthetics, 2001).

### Classical Work (e.g. religious text)

**APA, pp. 174, 178-179**

**Format (In-Text):**
(Work name specific book [if applicable] chapter [if applicable] verse [if applicable] version [if applicable]).

**Example:**
Classical works are NOT cited in the reference list because they are considered to be “commonly known”, and thus, a reference would be redundant. Only cite In-Text.

**In-Text:**
The Abrahamic religions, of course, offered guidance on the matter (Qur’an 7:1-2; The Bible Ezekiel 2:8-9 King James Version). The non-Abrahamic traditions also took a position on the issue (Baalapandita Sutta; Dao de Jing; Bhagarad Gita).

Note 1: If the work does not have a) specific books, b) chapters, or c) verses, simply omit those sections from your in-text citation.

Note 2: Deciding what is (and what is not) a classical work can be tricky. Most religious works are considered classical, but where would, for instance, Scientology fit? Some consider Shakespeare’s work classical, others not. If in doubt, simply cite the work as you would a regular book.

### Conversation / Email / Phone Call / Personal Interview

**APA, p. 179**

**Format (In-Text):**
(A. A. Sender, personal communication, Month Day, Year)

**Example:**
Conversations, email, phone calls, and personal interviews are NOT included in the reference list because they don’t provide recoverable data. Only cite these In-Text.

**In-Text:**
Johnson, a violent and contemptible racist, spewed forth an unceasing stream of race-baiting invective during our conversation (D.D. Crow, personal communication, January 7, 2014).

### Dataset / Statistic

**APA, pp. 210-211**

**Format:**
Author, A. A. or Rights Holder. (Publication year, month [if present]). Dataset/statistic title: Dataset/statistic subtitle. [Description of material type]. Location: Name of Producer.

**Example:**

**Example 2:**

**Example 3:**

**In-Text:**
The range of datasets available to the modern consumer is enormous. Consider social registers, now available in England as far back 1779 (Stuckey, 1780). Or, should one’s tastes run more to the modern, one can find state-funded datasets in most national libraries, such as, for instance, South African Mines 1978 (South African Department of Mineral Resources, 1978). Visual representations of this data - graphs, charts, tables, etc. - are also frequently used to illustrate various facets within a dataset (South African Department of Labour, 2011).

Note 1: Do not include a month in your in-text citation, even if it appears in the reference.

Note 2: A dataset is simply a collection of data (data being a body of facts or information about a particular subject); a statistic is a particular piece of data, often represented graphically.
### Dataset / Statistic (online) (APA, pp. 210-211)

**Format:** Author, A. A. or Rights Holder. (Publication year, month [if present]). Dataset/statistic title: Dataset/statistic subtitle [Description of form]. Retrieved from URL.


**In-Text:** As at July, 2014, France had the 5th largest GDP in the world (World Bank, 2014). France is unusual amongst the G10, however, in that an unusually high percentage of its household income goes toward the payment of state tax (International Monetary Fund, 2014).

**Note 1:** Do not include a month in your in-text citation, even if it appears in the reference.

**Note 2:** A dataset is simply a collection of data (data being a body of facts or information about a particular subject); a statistic is a particular piece of data, often represented graphically.

### Dictionary Entry (APA, p. 205)

**Format:** Word. (Publication year). In Dictionary title: Dictionary subtitle, edition (if applicable). Location: Publisher.


**In-Text:** ‘Antidisestablishmentarianism’ is the longest word in the English language (Oxford English dictionary, 2012). Language evolves, however, and even words that we once thought silly - ‘defriend’, for instance - can find their way into dictionaries (Merriam-Webster’s dictionary, n.d.).

**Note 1:** If the dictionary has an edition, abbreviate the edition as "ed." in your citation.

**Note 2:** If you cannot find a date, or the work does not have one, put "n.d." (meaning “no date”) for the publication year.

### Dictionary Entry (online) (APA, p. 205)

**Format:** Word. (Publication year). In Dictionary title: Dictionary subtitle, edition (if applicable). Retrieved from URL.


**In-Text:** Most people are unaware that the tech company Google took its name from the word ‘googol’, indicating the number (1.0 × 10^100) (dictionary.com, 2014).

**Note 1:** If you cannot find a date, or the work does not have one, put “n.d.” (meaning “no date”) for the publication year.

### E-Book (APA, p.203)


**In-Text:** Research has revealed that vanilla is the most popular flavor of ice cream (Johnson, 2013). Subsequent research, however, has confirmed that chocolate ice cream is growing in popularity (Manley, 2014, pp. 10-15).

**Note 1:** If the e-book has a DOI (digital object identifier) and a URL, only include the DOI.
**Government Publication** (APA, p. 205)

|---|---|

|---|---|

|---|---|

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-Text:</th>
<th>Health authorities mounted a campaign to assure the public that vaccinations were indeed safe (British Columbia Ministry of Health, 1999). By 2003, these campaigns had a wealth of counter-evidence to discredit Wakefield’s claims (Hung, 2003).</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Image / Photo / Artwork (online)** (APA, p. 214)

|---|---|

|---|---|

|---|---|

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-Text:</th>
<th>With the rise of social media, the memorialization of pets was taken to new heights. Consider Dogs on the Couch, which depicts a dog acting in the manner of a human (Cooke, 2014). Similarly, Furby Gets Shaved playfully captures the in-progress shaving of Furby, an impossibly fluffy dog (MacDermott, 2013).</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Note 1: Include a retrieval date (i.e. “retrieved January 22, 2014 from [whatever the URL is]”) only if you believe the source is likely to change over time.

**Image / Photo / Artwork (online, without author)** (APA, pp. 212-214)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Format:</th>
<th>Work title: Work subtitle [Type of work]. (Creation year). Retrieved from URL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

|---|---|

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-Text:</th>
<th>The number of cat image repositories was staggering, though few of the repositories required authorial attribution. For example, the drawing below is effectively anonymous (Autumn cat by my door, 2010).</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Note 1: Include a retrieval date (i.e. “retrieved January 22, 2014 from [whatever the URL is]”) only if you believe the source is likely to change over time.

**Image / Photo / Artwork (online, without author, date, or title)** (APA, pp. 212-214)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Format:</th>
<th>Subject and type of work. (n.d.) Retrieved from URL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

|---|---|

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-Text:</th>
<th>Consider, even, the reification of the pre-trip experience, captured anonymously in the painting below (Untitled painting of a man ingesting peyote, n.d.).</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Note 1: Include a retrieval date (i.e. “retrieved January 22, 2014 from [whatever the URL is]”) only if you believe the source is likely to change over time.

Note 2: If you cannot find a date, or the work does not have one, put “n.d.” (meaning “no date”) for the publication year.

**Journal Article (print or digital clone of print)** (APA, pp. 198-199)

|---|---|

|---|---|

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-Text:</th>
<th>Basket weaving was held in contempt by many of the faculty, but a grassroots, student-led campaign spurred its take-up at the college (Jack, 2007, p. 9). In time, basket weaving became a cornerstone of the curriculum (Jack, 2009).</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Note 1: For multiple authors, cite your authors in the same way you would for Books (pp. 4-5).

Note 2: If your journal does not have an issue number, simply omit that part of the citation.
One of the goals of the IB is to convey a sense of world mindedness to its students (Richards, 2007, p. 35). In secondary classrooms, however, developing a sense of world mindedness is not seen by the students as an important objective of the IB (Tarc, 2013).

The device was infrequently used, though select works employed it (Suessadon, 2005, p. 35-36).


Sabermetric-like stats in the NBA began to skyrocket when the Houston Rocket’s General Manager, Daryl Morey, began to use them wi

One of the goals of the IB is to convey a sense of world mindedness to its students (Beatford, 2012, p. 49). In secondary classrooms, however, developing a sense of world mindedness is not seen by the students as an important objective of the IB (Tarc, 2013).
### Map (from an atlas or book) (APA, p. 200)


**In-Text:** The Cherokee relocation was comparatively swift, and the permeable Canadian border would soon find them relocating into Canadian territory (Morantz, 2003, p. 61).

### Map (online) (APA, p. 210)

**Format:** Author, A. A. (Publication year). *Map title: Map subtitle [map].* Scale. Retrieved from URL.


**In-Text:** By 1750, however, the Empire was neither Roman, holy, or even really an empire at all (Hogan, 2011).

Note 1: Include a retrieval date (i.e. “retrieved January 22, 2014 from [whatever the URL is]”) only if you believe the source is likely to change over time.

### Music Recording (APA, p. 210)

**Format:** Writer, A. A. (Copyright year). Song title: Song subtitle [Recorded by A. A. Artist if different than Writer]. On *Album title: Album subtitle [medium of recording].* Location: Label. (Year of recording if differs from copyright year).

**Example 1:**


**Example 2:**


**In-Text:** Still carrying the moniker ‘Shawn’, LaRouge produced a startling array of records, most notably *Arrows Through Apples*, which saw him join forces with local garage rock luminaries Nikes Conroy and Butch Weatherhead (LaRouge, 2011). Three years later, Larouge had gone solo, though his output remained vital, most notably on the already-classic “Pumps and Paradise” (LaRouge, 2014).

Note 1: In the case of songs released independently of an album - typically on born-digital platforms such as Bandcamp or Soundcloud - best practice is to cite these recordings as podcasts, marking the medium as [Audio recording] rather than [Audio podcast].

### Newspaper Article (APA, p. 200)

**Format:** Author, A. A. (Publication year, month day). Article title: Article subtitle. *Newspaper title, page number(s).*

**Example 1:**


**Example 2:**


**In-Text:** The term ‘jerkwater’ originally described trains which ran off the main line (Blatchford, 1972, p. B2). Podunk, IL was indeed a jerkwater town, but after its pumping station was engulfed in flames in 1977, things got even more difficult for trains passing through town (DeMontario, 1977, pp. C3-C7).

Note 1: Most periodicals do not use “pp.” or “p.” in the References list, but newspapers do use this convention because newspapers typically do not have volumes. In the References list, use “p.” if you are only citing one page, and use “pp.” if you are citing more than one page. Mirror that format for your in-text citation. Honestly, this is the sort of lunatic particularism that gives academic citation its justifiably bad name. Happy times! 😊

Note 2: Newspaper pagination is done in the style of *section letter page number*. Thus, if you are citing something in *section B*, page 1, the in-text citation would be as follows: (Author, year, p. B1).
### Newspaper Article (online) (APA, pp. 200-201)

**Format:**


*Newspaper title*, page number(s).  *Retrieved from URL*

**Example:**


**In-Text:**

Even with proper refrigeration, a rotisserie chicken should not be eaten after 48-hours (from the time of purchase) (Karotin, 1995).

Note 1: Many online newspapers will not have page numbers; if this is the case, simply omit the page number(s) section from your reference.

Note 2: Include a retrieval date (i.e. “retrieved January 22, 2014 from [whatever the URL is]”) only if you believe the source is likely to change over time.

### Podcast (APA, p. 210)

**Format:**

Author/Producer, A. A. (Publication year, month day). Podcast title: Podcast subtitle.  *[Audio podcast]*.  *Retrieved from URL*

**Example:**


**In-Text:**

Post-punk thrived on energy, precise playing, and a fascination with odd time signatures. By the mid-1990s, however, smooth jazz had taken its toll on the best artists of the movement (Sumner, 2013).

Note 1: Do not include a month in your in-text citation, even if it appears in the reference.

### Poem (original) (APA Style Blog, as epigraph or block quotation)

**Format:**


**Example:**


**In-Text:**

Brown’s work was typical of the period, as best exemplified by his seminal piece, “Black Cream, Black Coffee” (Brown, 2002, pp. 32-33).

**In-Text Direct Quote (1-2 lines):**

In his poem, “Black Cream, Black Coffee,” Brown (2002) writes: “Lastly drank I the nightly thusly while/ dream swirled and hurled in my face the lack of lusting” thus demonstrating his obsessive late nights battling with the memory of his ex-wife after the tumult of their divorce (p. 32).

**In-Text Block Quote (3+ lines):**

The following excerpt of Brown’s (2002) “Black Cream, Black Coffee” demonstrates his obsessive late nights battling with the memory of his ex-wife after the tumult of their divorce (p. 32):

Lastly drank I the nightly thusly while
dream swirled and hurled in my face the lack of lusting
I will not my will to ceaseless watching.

Note 1: According to APA-style, a poem title that you would normally place in quotation marks in-text will be written *without* quotation marks in the reference page citation.

### Poem (reprinted) (APA Style Blog)

**Format:**


**Example:**


**In-Text:**

His work was becoming more confrontational, as wonderfully illustrated in “Red Caps in Green Hats” (Yorrick, 2002/1982, pp. 50-51).
Presentation (online or digital) (APA, p. 206, 213)

|--------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

In-Text: Online training materials, particularly for Prezi and PowerPoint, had become ubiquitous by 2014 (Blaine, 2012; John Robarts Training Institute, 2013).

Note 1: Include a retrieval date (i.e. "retrieved January 22, 2014 from [whatever the URL is"] only if you believe the source is likely to change over time.

Screenplay / Play Script (APA, p. 202, as book)

|--------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

In-Text: The script was irreverent and insightful. Consider the following passage, which illustrates Janet’s exasperation with her gormless aunt, Susan (St. Jean, 2014, p. 13):

SUSAN: Now, you see, Janet, one can never be too clean! Never, never, never! For cleanliness is next to godliness – and you want to be closer to God, don’t you???

JANET: No, no I don’t. [JANET calmly deposits her freshly laundered clothes on the floor]. Poo poo to God, and poo poo to you! [JANET reaches into her pocket, removes a handful of dirt, and throws it across her bed]. Filth is my only god! [JANET walks to her aquarium, reaches inside, and flings a ream of algae into SUSAN’s face].

SUSAN: Dammit, Janet!

Note 1: If the script or screenplay is online, simply follow the reference format for E-Books (APA doesn’t actually give any guidance on screenplays at all, so we are improvising here).

Social Media (Facebook, Twitter, etc.) (APA Style Blog)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Format</th>
<th>Personal Name or Username or Group Name. (Publication year). Name of post. In Social media name [Page type]. Retrieved month day, year, from URL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

In-Text: Walgreens has a legion of supporters who go out of their way to promote the company on social media (Krittenag, 2013). The Walgreens corporate page, however, is an unexciting and staid affair (Walgreens, 2014).

Note 1: Include a retrieval date (i.e. “retrieved January 22, 2014, from [whatever the URL is"]”) only if you believe the source is likely to change over time. For social media, the source post can often change over time (edited, deleted, made private, etc.), so include a retrieval date.

Note 2: If you want to cite a social media page, and not a particular post on the page, simply omit the “Name of post” and “In” sections from your citation.

Note 3: For Twitter, the name of the post is the first 40 (or however many there are) characters of the post.
**Television Program (episode)** (APA, p. 210)


**In-Text:** The Emmy-winning episode, however, was childish, puerile, and delivered none of the high fantasy the series was known for (Scheneker & Robinson, 2005).

**Television Program (series)** (APA, p. 210)


**In-Text:** On the other hand, shows such as Tripartite took the conceit in a brainier direction, giving the sci-fi genre its first ‘college intellectual’ hit since Buffy (Scandrick, 2011).

**Video (online)** (APA, p. 209)

**Format:** Author, A. A. (Publication year, month day). Video title: Video subtitle [Video file]. Retrieved from URL.


**Example 2:** SpeedMonster 75. (2007, May 26). Speed run: Death warriors from Hell [Video file]. Retrieved from https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eUbksLrscA

**In-Text:** The sequel, Death Warriors from Hell, received all manner of popular attention, from glowing reviews (Cunningham, 2006) to play-through videos (SpeedMonster 75, 2007).

**Videogame** (APA Style Blog, as software)

**Format:** Developer. (Publication year). Videogame title: Videogame subtitle [Game format]. Location: Publisher.


**Example 2:** Sobriquet Studios. (2014). Castle adventure redux [PlayStation 4 game]. Montreal, Canada: Rataxes Ltd.

**In-Text:** The trend in videogame remakes is clearly epitomized in the recent remake of Castle Adventure, creatively titled Castle Adventure Redux (Sobriquet Studios, 2014). The original title used little more than icons and text to convey its adventure (Parallaxium, 1983). The remake is a multimillion dollar extravaganza, bordering on the obscene.

**Website (with personal author)** (APA, p. 200-201, 211-212)

**Format:** Author, A. A. (Creation date or update year or update month). Website title: Website subtitle. Retrieved from URL.


**In-Text:** The WordPress blogging platform was, by 2011, the leading microblogging platform on the Internet (Troy, 2011). That growth, however, made the site a very public target for hackers and data thieves (Kroft, n.d.).

**Note 1:** Include a retrieval date (i.e. “retrieved January 22, 2014 from [whatever the URL is]”) only if you believe the source is likely to change over time.

**Note 2:** If you cannot find a date, or the work does not have one, put “n.d.” (meaning “no date”) for the publication year.
### Website (with an institution, organization, or company as author) (APA Style)

**Format:** Institution or Organization or Company.  (Creation / update year, month).  Title of website.  [Retrieved from URL](URL)


**In-Text:** Though many have speculated on the secret ingredient, Coke has remained silent on the issue (Coca-Cola Global, 2009).  In Diet Coke, however, the secret ingredient has been supplemented with a not-so-secret ingredient - aspartame.  Though health authorities have established that aspartame is completely and unambiguously safe for human consumption - save by phenylketonurics - the lunatic fringe continues to cast doubt on the safety of the chemical (FitDay, 2014).

Note 1: Include a retrieval date (i.e. "retrieved January 22, 2014 from [whatever the URL is]") only if you believe the source is likely to change over time.

Note 2: If you cannot find a date, or the work does not have one, put “n.d.” (meaning “no date”) for the publication year.

### Website (without an identifiable author) / Wiki / Discussion Board (APA Style)

**Format:** Title of specific page/document.  (Creation / update year, month).  In Website title.  [Retrieved from URL](URL)


**In-Text:** Following the revelation, Internet discussion boards were fixated on the issue, particularly the Reddit community (The human condition…, 2013).  When it came to light that phrenology was also involved in the practice, the Wikipedia page for “phrenology” was repeatedly defaced (Phrenology, 2013).

Note 1: If you cannot find a date, or the work does not have one, put “n.d.” (meaning “no date”) for the publication year.

Note 2: Include a retrieval date (i.e. “Retrieved January 22, 2014, from URL”) only if you believe the source is likely to change over time.  For wikis and discussion boards, it is almost assured that the source will change over time, so do include a retrieval date.
References


Sobriquet Studios. (2014). *Castle adventure redux* [PlayStation 4 game]. Montreal, Canada: Rataxes Ltd.


