



APA Citations Quick Guide

APA References

The standard citation style guide for the social sciences is the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 6th edition*.

Multiple subject areas at RBC recommend APA format for papers written within that specific field. When you are assigned a paper or project for class at RBC, be sure to pay close attention to the citation style that is required.

Three types of citations are included in most research papers and projects:

- 1) Citations within the text of the document
- 2) Parenthetical citations within the text, but at the end of the information used from the source
- 3) A list of reference citations at the end of the document

In-Text & Parenthetical Citations

In-text and parenthetical citations appear in the body of your paper. They identify your use of an idea or quotation from one of your sources. The APA Handbook uses the author-date citation system for in-text and parenthetical citations.

Reference Citations

Information about your sources you use in your work are included as a separate list at the end of the paper. The APA Handbook suggests using the title "References", for the list.

Any source information that you provide in an in-text citation MUST correspond to a source on your Reference page.

APA Chart of In-Text & Parenthetical Citations

Type of Citation	First Citation in Text	Subsequent Citations in Text	Parenthetical Format, First Citation in Text	Parenthetical Format, Subsequent Citations in Text
1 work by 1 author	Harris (2003)	Harris (2003)	(Harris, 2003).	(Harris, 2003).
1 work by 2 authors	Harris and Ramirez (2011)	Harris and Ramirez (2011)	(Harris & Ramirez, 2011).	(Harris & Ramirez, 2011).
1 work by 3-5 authors	Peet, Young, and Collins (1998)	Peet et al. (1998)	(Peet, Young, & Collins, 1998).	(Peet et al., 1998).
1 work by 6 or more authors	Hughes et al. (2009)	Hughes et al. (2009)	(Hughes et al., 2009).	(Hughes et al., 2009).
Groups (readily identified through acronyms) as authors	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC, 2016)	CDC (2016)	(Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC], 2016).	(CDC, 2016).
Groups (no acronyms) as authors	Stanford University (2010)	Stanford University (2010)	(Stanford University, 2010).	(Stanford University, 2010).

Things to Remember

- Include a DOI (digital object identifier) when available using the format doi:#####
- The URL, with "Retrieved from" before it, should be included for internet sources that are retrieved from the open web. If the item is on the web behind a paywall or database login, do not use the URL.
- Though VERY rare, if a source does not have a date use "n.d." for "no date" in place of the year in the reference list citation, but not for the in-text citation. For the in-text citation, use the author(s) last name only. If you cannot find a date for a source, be sure to check on "About" pages, Copyright pages, and the bottoms of pages.

Examples

Material Type	Paranthalical Citation	Works Cited
Book with one author	(Siegal, 2016).	Siegal, L. (2016). <i>Criminology: Theories, patterns, and typologies</i> (12 th ed.). Belmont, CA: Thompson/Wadsworth.
Book with two authors	(Sahai & Ageel, 2000).	Sahai, H. & Ageel, M. (2000). <i>The analysis of variance: Fixed, random, and mixed models</i> . Boston, MA: Springer Science & Business Media.
Book with three or more authors	(Giddens, Duneier, Appelbaum, & Carr, 2016).	Giddens, A., Duneier, M., Appelbaum, R., & Carr, D. (2016). <i>Introduction to sociology</i> (10 th ed.). New York, NY: W.W. Norton & Company Inc.
Journal article with one author	(Fiedor, 2015).	Fiedor, P. (2015). The social dynamics of the Peter Principle. <i>Journal of Engineering Science and Technology Review</i> , 8(1), 56-60.
Journal article with three authors	(Hawkins, Weber, Stegall, & Ryan, 2012).	Hawkins, B., Weber, M., Stegall, J., & Ryan, J. (2012). The influence of a yoga exercise program for young adults with intellectual disabilities. <i>International Journal of Yoga</i> , 5(2), 151. Doi: 10.4103/0973-6131.98244
Video	(Smith & Smithee, 2001).	Smith, J.D. (Producer), & Smithee, A.F. (Director). (2001). <i>Really big disaster movie</i> [Motion picture]. United States: Paramount Pictures.
YouTube Video	(Psychology Video Blog #3, n.d.).	Psychology Video Blog #3 [Video file]. Retrieved on August 7, 2017 from http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lqM90eQi5-M
Image (including painting, sculpture, or photograph)	(Scott & Borgman, 2002).	Scott, J. & Borgman, J. (2002, December 15). Zits. [Comic strip]. King Features Syndicate. Retrieved from http://zitscomics.com/comics/december-15-2002/
Song	(Taupin, 1975).	Taupin, B. (1975). Someone saved my life tonight [Recorded by Elton John]. On <i>Captain fantastic and the brown dirt cowboy</i> [CD]. London, England: Big Pig Music Limited.
Online discussion board post	(Frook, 1999).	Frook, B.D. (1999, July 23). New inventions in the cyberworld of toylandia [Msg 25]. Message posted to http://groups.earthlink.com/forum/messages/00025.html
Podcast	(Fogarty, 2006).	Fogarty, M (Producer). (2006, October 8). Excessive redundant redundancies [Show 18]. <i>Grammar Girl: Quick and Dirty Tips for Better Writing</i> . Podcast retrieved from http://grammar.quickanddirtytips.com/
Webpage from organization	(American Psychological Association [APA], 2010).	American Psychological Association. (2010b). Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct: Including 2010 Amendments. Retrieved June 22, 2015, from http://www.apa.org/ethics/code/

Additional Resources

RBC Writing and Citation LibGuide (explanations, examples, and links to additional resources): <http://libguides.rbc.edu/c.php?g=484846>
Ask-A-Librarian (personal assistance available in-person, chat, phone, or e-mail): <https://www.rbc.edu/library/get-help/>