USING THE APA FORMAT

This brief guide provides examples of how to cite some of the most commonly used types of information resources: periodicals, books, and electronic publications. Detailed explanations and additional types of examples are available in the following handbooks located at the Evans Library Reference Desk. Check LibCat for more locations:

The *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, 5th edition, is a guide for psychologists and other authors who wish to write and submit an article for publication in one of the APA’s journals. It contains detailed instructions and examples for manuscript preparation, including reference lists. **BF76.7 P83 2001**

*Concise Rules of APA Style* is a pocket guide meant to be used as a supplement to the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*. **BF76.7 C66 2005**

*The World’s Easiest Guide to Using the APA*, 3rd edition, is a step-by-step guide designed primarily for undergraduate students who are writing research papers in psychology or related social sciences disciplines. Examples illustrate how to format an entire research paper, including citations and references. **BF76.7 A547 2002**

IN TEXT (parenthetical citations)
- Follow author-date citation method (i.e., author's last name and publication year).
  - Walker (2000) compared reaction times . . .
  - In a recent study of reaction times (Walker, 2000) . . .
  - In 2000, Walker compared reaction times . . .
  - Several studies (Balda, 1980; Kamil, 1988; Pepperberg & Funk, 1990) show that...
  - According to Jones (1993, p.24), as society continues to undergo...

REFERENCE LIST
- List, in alphabetical order by author’s last name, all references cited in the text.
- Note that personal communications (i.e., letters, memos, telephone conversations, interviews, E-mail, discussion groups, etc.) are cited in text only.
- Use authors’ last names, first initials (and middle initials, if available); for books, use “et al” to credit seventh through last authors.
- For journal articles, use first initials only for third through last authors.

PERIODICALS

**Journal Article, One Author**

**Journal Article, Two to Six Authors**

**Magazine Article**

**Newsletter Article, No Author**

**Daily Newspaper Article, No Author**
**Monograph with Issue Number and Serial (or Whole) Number**

**BOOKS**

**One Author**

**Two Authors, Edition, “Jr.” in Name**

**Edited Book**

**Article or Chapter in an Edited Book, Two or More Editors**

**Report from Government Printing Office (GPO), Government Institute as Group Author**

**Encyclopedia Article, with author**

**ELECTRONIC RESOURCES**

**Journal Article from a Database**

**Journal Article from a Web Site**

**Journal Article from a Web Site, based on a print source**


**Document from a Web Site, without an author or date**

**See also:**
Electronic references (how to cite) http://www.apastyle.org/elecref.html
Style tips http://www.apastyle.org/styletips.html