

APA 7 Citations

The American Psychological Association (APA) has made a number of changes in its 7th edition. This handout provides an overview of the citation guidelines with respect to in-text citations, references, and style.

In-text Citations

Page Numbers

When quoting a source, the page number is required.

- According to Baron (1993), "Thinking is a mental activity that is used to resolve doubt about what to do, what to believe, or what to desire or seek" (p. 193).

When paraphrasing or summarizing a source, the page number is not required.

- According to Baron (1993), thinking is used to overcome a state of doubt concerning our actions, beliefs, and desires.
- Thinking is used to overcome a state of doubt concerning our actions, beliefs, and desires (Baron, 1993).

Authors

When citing the work of two authors, both authors are included.

- Edwards and Smith (1996) found that "participants spent considerably longer scrutinizing arguments that ran counter to their prior beliefs than those that were compatible with these beliefs" (p. 18).
- Participants in the study spent more time analyzing arguments that they disagreed with compared to those that they agreed with (Edwards & Smith, 1996).

When citing the work of three or more authors, only the first author is included with the "et al." notation.

- According to Lilienfeld et al. (2009), "human thinking often departs from rational standards and that such departures may be rectifiable by intervention efforts" (p. 395).
- Although human thinking is not always rational, it can be improved through training (Lilienfeld et al., 2009).

When you are making a claim that multiple sources support, list the sources in alphabetical order.

- Numerous researchers have inquired into the different dispositions of critical thinking (Ennis, 1996; Facione et al., 1994; Perkins et al., 1993).

Long Quotes

Quoting passages that are 40 words or longer – make sure to indent and put the period before the page reference.

According to Biesta (2006):

There is, however, another way to understand learning, one that does not think of learning as the acquisition of something that already exists, but instead sees learning as responding, as a response to a 'question'. If we look at learning in this way, we can say that someone has learned something not when she is able to copy and reproduce what already existed, but when she responds to what is unfamiliar, what is different, what challenges, irritates, or even disturbs. Here learning becomes a creation or an invention, a process of bringing something new into the world: one's own, unique response. (p. 68)

References

Book by one author

Zinsser, W. (1994). On *writing well* (5th ed.). HarperCollins.

Book by multiple authors

Coffin, C., Curry, M. J., Goodman, S., Hewings, A., Lillis, T. M., & Swann, J. (2003). *Teaching academic writing: A toolkit for higher education*. Routledge.

Journal article

Ennis, R. (2018). Critical thinking across the curriculum: A vision. *Topoi*, 37(1), 165–184. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11245-016-9401-4>

Book chapter in an edited volume

Bazerman, C. (1997). The life of genre, the life in the classroom. In W. Bishop & H. Ostrom (Eds.), *Genre and writing: Issues, arguments, alternatives* (pp. 19–26). Heinemann.

Work by a corporate author

American Psychological Association. (2020). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th ed.). Author.

Website

Avramova, N. (2019, January 3). The secret to a long, happy, healthy life? Think age-positive. *CNN*. <https://www.cnn.com/2019/01/03/health/respect-toward-elderly-leads-to-long-life-intl/index.html>

Style

APA 7 has made a number of important changes from APA 6 with respect to style. These include the following:

- The pronoun "they" is used for persons who prefer it as their pronoun. It should also be used as a generic pronoun instead of "he or she".
- The Oxford comma, which is the comma before the last item in a list, is required.
- One space is used after a period at the end of a sentence.
- Running heads are no longer required for student papers (unless the professor requests it).
- Double quotation marks are used instead of italics to emphasize text.