APA CITATION STYLE

This handout is based on the 7th edition of the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, which is available in print at each campus library, call number BF 76.7 P83 2020. For additional details on APA style, check out the APA Style Center at: [https://apastyle.apa.org/](https://apastyle.apa.org/)

Entries in a Reference list are based on four core elements that appear in the following order:

1. Author: Who is responsible for the work?
2. Date: When was the work published?
3. Title: What is the work called?
4. Source: Where can I retrieve this work?

Note: You may not have all core elements for a source you are using. There are rules that tell you what to do in that case (see APA 9.4 in the book or see our online guide). You may also add other elements for clarification.

The four core elements in more detail:

1. Author(s).

For ONE author, list the author’s last name, followed by initial(s) only. Example

Creese, G. L.

For TWO to TWENTY authors, put them in the order in which they appear in the work. Begin the entry with the last name of the first author, followed by a comma and initial(s). Follow this with any further authors in the same way and use an ampersand (&) before the last author. For more than twenty authors, see …Examples:

Tellis, G. J., & Ambler, T.

Brown, M., Rees, P. R., & McGee, F.

Singh, H., Horn, S., Carlston, M. J., & Peterson, D.

If there is NO author, skip the author element, and start the citation with the title. Example:

Good Housekeeping.

An author can also be a group (organization, association, company, etc.). Example:

Kwantlen Polytechnic University.

Note: the term author is used loosely. It refers to any main person(s) of a source, such as: editor(s), creator(s), director(s), performer(s), translator(s), etc. Add the respective label in parentheses after the name(s). Example:

Green, W. A., & Moss, T. B. (Eds.)
2. Date.

The date of publication of a work may be the year only, the year and month; the year, month and day; the year and season; or a range of dates. When you cannot determine the date of publication, treat the work as having no date and use (n. d.)


https://twitter.com/KPULibrary/status/762744957492867072

3. Title.

The title identifies the work, and you must ALWAYS include this element in a citation. Titles are given in full as they appear in the source. If there is a subtitle, it follows after the main title, separated by a colon and a space.

*Italicize titles* of works that are stand-alone, such as books, journals/magazines/newspapers, reports, webpages, movies, TV series, a CD, etc. Use *sentence case* for capitalization. Example:


Use normal typescript (neither italicized nor in quotation marks) for a work that is a part of a larger work, such as a chapter in a collection of works, an article in a journal, magazine, or newspaper, a posting on a website, an episode of a TV series, a song on an album, etc. Use *sentence case* for capitalization.


If there is no title, give a generic description of the source in square brackets and in normal typescript. Use *sentence case* for capitalization. Example:

https://pixabay.com/photos/polar-bear-predator-animal-white-1888038/
4. Source

The source indicates where readers can retrieve the cited work. Sources can be works that are part of a greater whole and works that stand alone.

The source for a work that is part of a greater whole (e.g., journal article, edited book chapter) is that greater whole (i.e., the journal or edited book), plus any applicable DOI or URL.

The source for a work that stands alone (e.g., whole book, report, dissertation, thesis, film, TV series, podcast, data set, informally published work, social media, webpage) is the publisher of the work, database or archive, social media site, or website, plus any applicable DOI or URL.


**EXAMPLE – Basic book, print and online**

Author/Editor/Organization name, A. A. (year). *Title of work: Subtitle. Publisher.*
Author/Editor/Organization name, A. A. (year). *Title of work: Subtitle. Publisher.*
https://doi.org/xxxx OR https://xxxx


https://archiveofourown.org/works/91885?view_full_work=true


*Note:* also add a page number or other locator when quoting directly

The WHO examples does not show a publisher, because it is the same as the author.

**EXAMPLE – Book, edition and volume information**


*In text:* … (Castro, 2010)… (Fiske et al., 2010) …. (Toner, 2019)

*Note:* also add a page number or other locator when quoting directly
EXAMPLE – Book chapter, print and online


*In text:* ... (Burney, 2010) ... (Gray et al., 2019)

*Note:* also add a page number or other locator when quoting directly

EXAMPLE – Reference book entry and no author/no date


*In text:* ... (Bercuson, 2007) ... ("Mountie," 2004) ... (Merriam-Webster, n.d.) ... ("Vancouver Canucks," 2019)

*Note:* also add a page number or other locator when quoting directly

If there is no author, move the title in the author position (Mountie and Vancouver Canucks examples).

If there is no date, use (n.d.).


*In text:* … (Frideres, 2008) … (Frideres & Dalhouse, 1996) … (Zanato et al., 2019) … (Greenbaum, 2019) … (Penner, 2019)

*Note:* also add a page number or other locator when quoting directly
World Health Organization. (2019, January 24). *Universal health coverage (UHC).*

https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/universal-health-coverage-(uhc)


In text: ... (World Health Organization [WHO], 2019) the first time, then (WHO, 2019) ... (Bruce, 2019) ... (Glasner, 2019)

Note: if quoting also include a page number or other locator (e.g. section title, heading or paragraph)

Kwantlen Student Association. (2019, December 2). *In preparation for the release of Episode IX - The Rise of Skywalker we will be holding a Star Wars movie* [Image attached] [Status update]. Facebook. https://www.facebook.com/KSAcouncil/photos/a.225203104188652/33092265924529939/?type=3


Greta Thunberg [@gretathunberg]. (2019, December 7). *500’000 people marched in Madrid last night. This is the beginning of change! The world is slowly waking up to* [Photograph]. Instagram. https://www.instagram.com/p/B5xF5yUp2SE/

In text: … (Kwantlen Student Association [KSA], 2019) the first time, then … (KSA, 2019) … (KPU Library, 2019) … (Greta Thunberg, 2019)
EXAMPLE – Audiovisual Media (works that stand alone)


Top Tenz (2017, July 4). *Things about Canada the rest of the world finds weird* [Video]. YouTube. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xLsRDovWvbc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xLsRDovWvbc)


Google. (n.d.). [Google Maps directions for driving from Vancouver, BC, Canada to Portland, OR, United States]. Retrieved from [https://goo.gl/maps/NsiHMVqxbz4rp8rg7](https://goo.gl/maps/NsiHMVqxbz4rp8rg7)

EXAMPLE – Audiovisual Media (works that are part of a greater whole)


https://www.cbc.ca/radio/secretlifeofcanada/the-most-famous-vancouverite-you-ve-never-heard-of-1.5220625


In text: ... (Martin & Earnshaw, 2010) ... (Johnson & Simone-Bowen, 2019) ... (Morissette, 1995)

Note: if quoting also include a locator if possible, for example a time stamp: (Martin & Earnshaw, 2010, 25:10) ... (Johnson & Simone-Bowen, 2019, 10:35) ... (Morissette, 2019, 2:19)

EXAMPLE Conference Sessions & Symposia


http://docs.lib.purdue.edu/iatul/2014/posters/2/

Gonzales, F. (2018, April 26-29). Cultural sensitive practices used by clinicians. In L. Benuto (Chair), Cultural sensitivity and culturally sensitive clinical practices [Symposium]. Western Psychological Association 98th Annual Convention, Portland, OR, United States.

In text: ... (Creese, 2012) ... (Djokic, 2014) … (Gonzales, 2018)
EXAMPLE – Reports & Gray Literature


In text: ... (Coote & Gregorich, 2007) ... (Statistics Canada, 2019) ... (Kwantlen Polytechnic University [KPU], 2019) the first time, then ... (KPU, 2019) ... (Tesla, 2019) ... (Borealis GeoPower Inc., 2019)

Note: if quoting also include a page number or other locator
EXAMPLE Personal Communications

These are only cited in the text and include such things as: personal interviews, telephone conversations, text messages, chats, emails, unrecorded classroom lectures, live speeches, letters, memos, your class notes, etc.

In text: ... (C. Ferner, personal communication, December 12, 2019) … (J. Williams, classroom lecture ENGL 1202, October 11, 2019) … (B. Smith, text message, November 2, 2019)

EXAMPLE Class Handout

APA does not give specific examples for these. PLEASE CHECK WITH YOUR INSTRUCTORS ON THEIR PREFERENCE FOR CITING THESE MATERIALS. We suggest the following format:


EXAMPLE Custom Course Packs

APA does not give specific examples for these. PLEASE CHECK WITH YOUR INSTRUCTORS ON THEIR PREFERENCE FOR CITING THESE MATERIALS. We suggest that you either find the full information of the item in the course pack and cite it as usual OR that you treat the pack as a collection of works and the instructor as the compiler (see example below).


EXAMPLE Citing a Citation

Let's say there is an original study by Denton et al., but you read about it in a book by Beaujot & Kerr. In the reference list, provide the citation of the source YOU are using, i.e. the book by Beaujot & Kerr:


In text: name the original source and provide a citation for the source YOU use, for example: According to Denton et al., …... (as cited in Beaujot & Kerr, 2007).