AMA STYLE GUIDE
REFERENCES
COMMONLY REFERENCED MATERIALS


AMA format is typically used in biomedical science, medicine, nursing, and nutrition courses.

General Reference Rules:

- **Formatting** – Use Arabic superscript numerals outside periods and commas, and inside colons and semicolons
- **Reference Order** – Citations are numbered in the order they appear in the text and full references appear at the end of the paper.
- **Author names** - Invert all authors’ names; last name and first initial without a period. Include author names for up to and including six authors. For works with seven or more authors, use “et al.” after the sixth author.
- **No author** – use title as first element of the reference
- **Title Capitalization rules**
  - In titles capitalize only the first word and first word in the subtitle.
  - Proper names
  - Abbreviations
  - PERIODICAL TITLES (professional journals, magazines, newspapers) – capitalize all important words
- **Title formats** – italicize book and periodical titles
- **No publication date** - use (n.d.) in place of the date
- **Punctuation** – strictly follow punctuation between reference elements

Reference elements in each of the following examples are labeled to help you identify citation structure. Be aware that your professor may have unique reference style requirements. Check with your course instructor to verify his/her required format.

Need more help? – Ask a librarian in person or through instant messaging at the library website.

MAGAZINE AND JOURNAL ARTICLES FROM A LIBRARY DATABASE

**Journal article with a DOI**

Note: Article DOI (digital object identifier) appears in the brief article description in search result lists, is listed in the full record for the article, and/or may be printed on the first or last page of the article.


**Journal or magazine article without a DOI**

Note: For an article from a magazine published on a specified day, use the date format shown in the print magazine example.

Borman W, Hanson M, White A. Role of early supervisory experience. *J App Psych*. 2006;78:
ONLINE NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

Online newspaper article from a newspaper Web site or a library article database
Author Article Title Newspaper Name Date

WEB SITES

Non-periodical Web site article with organization or corporate author

Technical or research report available on a Web Site (usually in PDF format) (CHECK)

Video Posting

PRINT MAGAZINE, JOURNAL, AND NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

Magazine article
Journal article

Print newspaper article

Print newspaper article w/ no author

BOOKS
One author

Two or more authors

Edited book

Chapter in an edited book

ELECTRONIC BOOKS
Entire electronic book
Electronic book chapter