APA STYLE GUIDE
REFERENCES
COMMONLY REFERENCED MATERIALS
APA Style Guide to Electronic References – 2007

APA format is typically used in sociology, psychology, the sciences, and nursing courses.

General Reference Rules:

- **Format** – double space typed and hanging indentation (first line of each reference flush with left margin, following lines indented five spaces).
- **Reference Order** - list references in alphabetical order by author’s last name OR, if no author name is given, the article title should be the first element of the reference, alphabetize on first important word of title
- **Author names** - invert all authors’ names; last name first, initial of first and middle names for up to and including six authors. For works with seven or more authors, use “et al.” after the sixth author. Use an ampersand (&), not the word “and,” between the last and second to last author names.
- **No author** – use title as first element of the reference
- **Title Capitalization rules** – for all titles EXCEPT PERIODICAL TITLES – capitalize
  - only the first word
  - proper names
  - when a colon is in the title, capitalize the first word after the colon
  - 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.

Reference guidelines for information sources not listed in this guide can be found in the APA Publication Manual and/or the APA Style Guide to Electronic References available at the Library Reference Desk.

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 Web site.

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.


doi:10.111/j.1559-1816.2007.00318x
Journal or magazine article without a DOI (based on APA Style Guide to Electronic References – 2007)

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


NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

Print newspaper article


Online newspaper article from a newspaper Web site or a library article database


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)


Video Posting

## PRINT MAGAZINE AND JOURNAL ARTICLES

### Magazine article

### Journal article

## BOOKS

### One author

### Two or more authors

### Edited book

### Chapter in an edited book

## ELECTRONIC BOOKS

### Entire electronic book

### Electronic book chapter

**MOTION PICTURE**