

# AMA STYLE GUIDE

## REFERENCES

### COMMONLY REFERENCED MATERIALS

Based on the American Medical Association Manual of Style: A Guide for Authors and Editors. 10<sup>th</sup> ed.

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.

Leonard N, Harvey M. Negative perfectionism: examining negative excessive behavior in the  
AUTHORS ARTICLE TITLE

workplace. *J App Soc Psych.* 2012;28(3):585-610. doi:10.1111/j.1559-1816.2007.00318x.  
JOURNAL TITLE DATE VOLUME ISSUE PAGE NUMBERS DOI

##### **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:  
AUTHORS ARTICLE TITLE JOURNAL TITLE DATE VOLUME

443-449. Available from: Academic Search Premier. Accessed January 28, 2014.

PAGE NUMBERS

DATABASE RETRIEVED FROM

DATE RETRIEVED

**ONLINE NEWSPAPER ARTICLES****Online newspaper article from a newspaper Web site or a library article database**Hilts P. In forecasting their emotions, most people flunk out. *The New York Times*. February 16, 1999

AUTHOR

ARTICLE TITLE

NEWSPAPER NAME

DATE

http://www.nytimes.com/1999/02/16/science/in-forecasting-their-emotions-most-people-  
 URL OF NEWSPAPER WEB SITE

flunk-out.html. Accessed January 28, 2014.

DATE ACCESSED

**WEB SITES****Non-periodical Web site article with organization or corporate author**

World fisheries prepare for climate change. Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations

ARTICLE TITLE

ORGANIZATION/AUTHOR

Web Site. http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/10270/icode/. Published March 2, 2009.

URL FOR FIRST PAGE OF ARTICLE

DATE PUBLISHED

Accessed January 28, 2014.

DATE ACCESSED

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

Foss R, Goodwin A, McCartt A, Hellinga A. Short-term effects of a teenage driver cell phone restriction.

AUTHORS

REPORT TITLE

Insurance Institute for Highway Safety Web Site. 2008. http://www.iihs.org/research/topics/pdf/  
 ORGANIZATION RESPONSIBLE FOR WEBSITE      DATE PUBLISHED      URL FOR EXACT LOCATION OF DOCUMENT

/r1106.pdf. Accessed January 28, 2014.

DATE ACCESSED

**Video Posting**Norton R. How to train a cat to operate a light switch. [Video file]. http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=  
 CREATOR      TITLE      FORMAT URL      FOR EXACT LOCATION OF VIDEO

Vja83KLQXZs. November 4, 2006.

DATE POSTED

**PRINT MAGAZINE, JOURNAL, AND NEWSPAPER ARTICLES****Magazine article**Kandel R. Neuroscience: Breaking down scientific barriers. *Science*. November 10, 2000. 290:

AUTHOR

ARTICLE TITLE

JOURNAL TITLE

DATE

VOLUME

1113-1120.

PAGE NUMBERS



DATE  
2014.

DATABASE ACCESSED

**Electronic book chapter**

Cassell J. *Nudge, nudge, wink, wink: Elements of fact-to-face conversation for embodied conversational*  
CHAPTER AUTHOR CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE

agents. In: J. Cassell J, Sullivan S, Prevost, Churchill E, eds. *Embodied conversational agents.*  
BOOK EDITORS BOOK TITLE

Cambridge, Mass: MIT Press; 2000:1-27. <http://www.netlibrary.com/Details.aspx>. Accessed  
PLACE OF PUBLICATION PUBLISHER DATE PAGE NUMBERS DATABASE ACCESSED  
January 28, 2014.  
DATE ACCESSED