APA: A Template for Commonly Cited Sources

General Rules/Guidelines

* Most APA references follow the formula of author, date, title, source. Remember this by asking “who, when, what, where?”
* For help with less common sources, turn to chapter 10 of the APA Manual, 7th edition (pages 313 – 352). A copy is available to review in the Writing Center, no appointment required. Also consider searching APA’s helpful blog, https://apastyle.apa.org/blog.
* If a source has twenty authors or fewer, list all of them, using the format Surname, First Initials and using ampersands (&) to link the names. If the article has more than twenty authors, list the first nineteen, then insert an ellipsis . . . followed by the final listed author’s name.
* When listing titles, the only words you should capitalize are the first word of the title, the first word of the subtitle (if there is one), and proper nouns (Russia, Eleanor Roosevelt). The only exception to this rule is when you list the titles of the magazines, newspapers, or academic journals that *published* the articles you’re citing. In these cases, use “headline” capitalization (meaning you capitalize all words except articles, conjunctions, and prepositions). See examples below for clarification.
* If a citation runs for more than one line, the second and all subsequent lines should be indented.

**An article from an academic journal accessed online**

Formula

First author surname, first author first initial & subsequent author surname(s), subsequent author first

initials. (Year of publication). Title of article. *Title of Journal, Volume Number*(issue number), page

numbers. DOI.

* Note: If some of the information is missing (for instance, a volume or issue number), omit it.

Example

McCauley, S.M. & Christiansen, M.H. (2019). Language learning as language use: A cross-linguistic model

of child language development. *Psychological Review, 126*(1), 1 – 51. https://doi.org/10.1037/rev0000126

(over)

**An article from a newspaper or a magazine read online**

Formula

Author surname, Author first initial. (Year, Month Day). Title of article. *Name of Magazine or Newspaper.*

URL.

Example

Krugman, P. (2022, Aug. 9). Was there a Biden Boom? *The New York Times.*

https://www.nytimes.com/2022/08/09/opinion/biden-boom-recession-inflation.html

**Article from a website (that is not a newspaper or magazine)**

Formula

First author surname, first author first initial. (Year, Month Date). *Title of work.* Name of website [if different

from author]. URL

* Note: Remember that organizations can be listed as authors.

Examples

Martin Lillie, C.M. (2016, December 29). *Be kind to yourself: How self-compassion can improve your*

*resiliency.* Mayo Clinic. https://www.mayoclinic.org/healthy-lifestyle/adult-health/in-depth/self-compassion-can-improve-your-resiliency/art-20267193

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2018, January 23). *People at high risk of developing flu-related*

*complication.* https://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/disease/high\_risk.htm

**Authored book, no DOI**

Formula

First author surname, first author first initial & subsequent author surname(s), subsequent author first initials.

(Year). *Title of book* (first initial, surname of editor or translator when relevant, Ed. or Trans.; edition

number when relevant.) Publishing house. (Original work published Year, when relevant)

Examples

Burgess, R. (2019). *Rethinking global health: Frameworks of power.* Routledge.

Gilbert, S. & Gubar, S. (2000). *The madwoman in the attic: The woman writer and the nineteenth-century*

*literary imagination* (2nd ed.). Yale Nota Bene. (Original work published 1979)

Freud S. (2010). *The interpretation of dreams: The complete and definitive text* (J. Strachey, Ed. & Trans.).

Basic Books. (Original work published 1900)

* Note: Your citation does not need to specify whether you used an ebook, an audiobook, or a print book. However, you should specify the format *if* the content has been changed (for instance, if the book was abridged) or if you want to emphasize something about the format (the narrator of the audiobook, etc.).

**Authored book, with DOI**

Formula

Same as above, with DOI as the final line of the citation

Example

Brown, L.S. (2018). *Feminist therapy* (2nd ed.). American Psychological Association. (Original work

published 2009). https://doi.org/10.1037/0000092-000.

**Chapter in an edited book, no DOI**

Formula

Chapter author surname, Chapter author first initial & subsequent chapter author surname(s),

subsequent chapter author first initials. (Year). Title of chapter. In Editor’s First Initial, Editor’s Surname

(Ed.), *Title of book* (Edition or Volume information if relevant, pp. ##). Publisher name. (Original

work published Year, when relevant).

* Only include the original publication date if the piece was initially published elsewhere, as is often the case with anthologies or edited collections.

Examples

Baldwin, J. (1997). Stranger in the village. In J. Epstein (Ed.), *The Norton book of personal essays* (pp. 263 –

375). (Original work published 1953.)

Weinstock, R., Leong, G.B., & Silva, J.A. (2003). Defining forensic psychiatry: Roles and responsibilities. In

R. Rosner (Ed.), *Principles and practice of forensic psychiatry* (2nd ed., pp 7 – 13). CRC Press.

**Chapter in an edited book, with DOI**

Formula

Same as above, with DOI as final line of citation

Example

Balsam, K.F., Martell, C.R., Jones, K.P., & Safren, S.A. (2019). Affirmative cognitive behavior therapy with

sexual and gender minority people. In G.Y. Iwamasa & P.A. Hays (Eds.), *Culturally responsive*

*cognitive behavior therapy: Practice and supervision* (2nd. Ed., pp. 287 – 314). American Psychological

Association. https://doi.org/10.1037/0000119-012

**A movie**

Formula

Director surname, Director first initial (Director). (Year). *Title of movie* [Film]. Production

company/companies.

Example

Jackson, P. (Director). (2001). *The lord of the rings: The fellowship of the ring* [Film]. WingNut Films; The

Saul Zaentz Company.

**An episode of a TV show**

Formula

Screenwriter surname, Screenwriter first initial (Writer), & Director surname, Director first initial (Director).

(Year, Month Day). Title of episode (Season #, Episode #) [TV series episode]. In First Initial Surname

(Executive Producer), *Title of series.* Production company/companies.

Example

Cahill, J. (Writer), & Patterson, J. (Director). (1999, Jan. 31). Meadowlands (Season 1, Episode 4) [Television

series episode]. In D. Chase (Executive Producer), *The Sopranos*. HBO.

Oakley, B. (Writer), Weinstein, J. (Writer), & Lynch, J. (Director). (1995, May 21). Who shot Mr. Burns?

(Part one) (Season 6, Episode 25) [TV series episode]. In D. Mirkin, J.L. Brooks, M. Groening, & S.

Simon (Executive Producers), *The Simpsons*. Gracie Films; Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation.

**A song**

Formula

Songwriter surname, Songwriter first initial (Year). Title of song [Song]. On *Title of album*. Production

company/companies.

* If a song has no associated album, omit that information

Examples

Lamar, K. (2017). Humble [Song]. On *Damn*. Aftermath Entertainment; Interscrope Records; Top Dawg

Entertainment.

Childish Gambino (2018). This is America [Song]. mcDJ; RCA,

**YouTube or other streaming videos**

Formula

Poster surname, Poster first initial [screen name, if relevant]. (Year, month day). *Title of video* [Video].

Name of website. URL

Examples

Powrie, L. [lucythereader]. (2019, January 1). *Classics I want to read in 2019* [Video]. YouTube.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KjFV2u2jN7s

University of Oxford. (2018, December 6). *How do geckos walk on water?* [Video]. YouTube.

https://www.youtube.co/watch?v=qm1xGfOZJc8

**Social media**

Author surname, Author first initial. [@username, if applicable]. (Year, Month Day). *Content of the post up*

*to the first 20 words* [description of audiovisuals]. Site name. URL

White, B. [@BettyMWhite]. (2018, June 21). *I treasure every minute we spent together #koko* [Image

attached] [Tweet]. Twitter. https://twitter.com/BettyMWhite/status/1009951892846227456

Gaiman, N. (2018, March 22). *100,000+ Rohingya refugees could be at serious risk during Bangladesh’s*

*monsoon season. My fellow UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador Cate Blanchett is* [Image attached] [Status

update]. Facebook. http://bit.ly/2JQxPAD

Zeitz MOCAA [@zeitzmocca]. (2018, November 26). *Grade 6 learners from Parkfields Primary School in*

*Hanover Park visited the museum for a tour and workshop hosted by* [Photographs]. Instagram.

https://www.instagram.com/p/BqpHpjFBs3B.