

# Augusta University Writing Center

## APA Citation Guide

*All information taken from the APA Manual, 6<sup>th</sup> edition*

### **When do I cite in APA?**

You need to cite research that has impacted your writing, as well as anything you use that is not common knowledge. You must provide an in-text citation when you paraphrase, directly quote, or summarize an idea from a source.

### **How do I cite?**

APA style requires that all sources used be cited in two places: in the text and on the references page.

### **In-text citations**

For **in-text citations**, you will need the author(s) last name(s) and the year of publication. If you are using a direct quotation, then you will also need the page number(s) where the quotation appeared in the original document. Summaries and paraphrases do not require page numbers, but it is helpful to include them. You can put this information in different places (see samples below), but you must include each piece somewhere in the sentence. In parenthetical citations, note that a comma appears between each piece of information.

Direct quotation. Sample one:

The study found a “correlation between smoking and heart disease” (Smith & Jones, 2014, p. 2).

Direct quotation. Sample two:

According to Smith and Jones (2014), the study found a “correlation between smoking and heart disease” (p. 2).

Direct quotation. Sample three:

In 2014, Smith and Jones found a “correlation between smoking and heart disease” (p. 2).

Paraphrase. Sample four:

According to the study, smoking and heart disease are directly related (Smith & Jones, 2014).

Paraphrase. Sample five:

According to Smith and Jones (2014), smoking and heart disease are directly related.

Paraphrase. Sample six:

In 2014, Smith and Jones found that smoking and heart disease are related.

Note that when you have two authors, you use the ampersand symbol within the parenthetical citation; however, if you include their names in the sentence, spell out the word “and.”

## What do I do when I have multiple authors?

If you only have **one author**, you should include that author's last name and the year of publication each time you cite the source.

Sample:

According to Smith (2014), applesauce comes from apples.

OR Applesauce comes from apples (Smith, 2014).

If you have **two authors**, include both authors' last names and the year of publication each time you cite the source.

Sample:

According to Smith and Jones (2014), applesauce comes from apples.

OR Applesauce comes from apples (Smith & Jones, 2014).

If you have **between three and five authors**, list all of their last names on the first citation. Then switch to the first author's last name followed by "et al." for subsequent citations.

Sample:

On the first citation: According to Smith, Jones, Hanes, Barns, and Marks (2014), applesauce comes from apples.

OR Applesauce comes from apples (Smith, Jones, Hanes, Barns, & Marks, 2014).

On subsequent citations: According to Smith et al. (2014), applesauce comes from apples.

OR Applesauce comes from apples (Smith et al., 2014).

If you have **six or more authors**, include only the first author's last name followed by the "et al." abbreviation.

Sample:

If your authors were Smith, Jones, Hanes, Barns, Marks, and Hammer:

According to Smith et al. (2014), applesauce comes from apples.

OR Applesauce comes from apples (Smith et al., 2014).

If you have **a group or organizational author**, use them in place of the author's last name. If the group or organization can be abbreviated, use the full name in the sentence and the abbreviation in the parentheses on the first citation. Subsequent citations use the abbreviation.

Sample:

First citation: According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, cancer is on the rise (CDC, 2016).

Subsequent citations: Cancer increased by 10% in 2015 (CDC, 2016).

## **Reference page citations**

### **What information do I need for the references page citation?**

For the **references page entry**, you will need the author(s) last name(s) and first initials, the year of publication, the title of the article or source, the title of the venue of publication for the source, volume and issue numbers when applicable, the page numbers of the source when applicable, and a URL or doi for the source when applicable. The references page begins on a new page after the body of the paper. Type the word “References” at the top of the page, centered. Do not bold, italicize, or underline the word “References.” The references page should be double-spaced throughout, with no extra lines between entries. The first line of each entry should begin flush left, with subsequent entry lines indented. Organize entries alphabetically by first author’s last name.

### **How do I cite a journal article?**

Include the authors’ last names and initials, the date of publication in parentheses, the journal article title (capitalize only the first word, proper nouns, and first words after punctuation for article titles), the journal title (italicize journal titles, capitalizing all major words), the volume number (in italics), the issue number (in parentheses), the page range, and the doi or URL. If using a URL, include the words “Retrieved from” before the URL.

Sample:

Jones, A.B., Smith, E., Hanes, C., Barnes, F. & Marks, E.E. (2014). Apples and applesauce: A literature review. *Journal of Biology*, 11(2), 1-12. doi: 10.7777.2343.99

### **How do I cite a book?**

Include the authors’ last names and initials, the date of publication in parentheses, the title of the book (in italics, with only the first word, proper nouns, and first words after punctuation capitalized), the location of publication, and the publisher.

Sample:

Jones, A.B. & Smith, E. (2014). *Apples and applesauce*. New York: Columbia UP, 2014.

### **How do I cite a website?**

Include the authors’ last names and first initials, the date posted in parentheses, the title of the webpage (capitalize only the first word, proper nouns, and first words after punctuation), the words “Retrieved from,” and the URL.

Sample:

Jones, A.B. (2014). Apples and applesauce: The real story. Retrieved from [www.apples.org](http://www.apples.org)

See chapters 6-7 of the *APA Manual, 6<sup>th</sup> edition* for more information on citing sources.