APA (American Psychological Association)

The APA style manual is generally used for social sciences courses. Like all style manuals, it has its unique ways of handling citations, parenthetical citations, bibliographies, and other formatting structures.

We have a print copy of the latest edition at the service desk that can be used any time.

You can also use the Purdue OWL (Online Writing Lab). This is an excellent resource for quick searches with reliable answers. They keep the site updated to reflect the most recent editions of the various style manuals.

Here's their APA site. Purdue OWL – APA  https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/

Citation Examples

Journal Citations

Here is the format for a journal citation, and some examples:

Format:


Example:


And a journal accessed from an online database:

Format:


Example:


Hint: Most databases like EBSCO have a "Cite" button that will allow you to choose the right style manual. You always want to double-check it, of course, but it's a start.

Book Citations
Here is the format for a book citation, and some examples:

Author, A. A. (Year of publication). Title of work: Capital letter also for subtitle. Location: Publisher.

For a print book:


Parenthetical Citations

Here is an example of proper parenthetical or in-text citations:

With a quote: "You must note the author's last name and page number if available" (Jones, 2012, p. 263).

If you reference the author: According to Jones (2012), you must note the page number if available (p. 263).

APA Bibliographies

APA bibliographies should be alphabetized and have hanging indents. Here is an example of the previous citation examples in proper order and format:

