



Academic Success Center
SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY

APA-7 References

Four Elements of a Reference:

Entries in a reference list are created and assembled in a specific order; a reference generally is composed of four elements: author, date, title, and source. Please refer to page 313 of the APA Publication Manual 7th Edition, Chapter 10: Reference Examples (APA 2020) for more reference examples

References Page:

The References Page is placed at the end of the document on a new page. The title of the section (References) should be centered at the top of the page. Reference entries use a hanging indent with the first line of the entry flush with the left hand margin, but each subsequent line of the entry indented .5". If a work you are citing has no author listed, place the title of the entry first, followed by the date, and then the source. All entries should be in alphabetical order by the author's last name. If the author's name is not listed, use the title to alphabetize; do not use articles such as (a, an, & the). If you have two or more works by the same author, arrange the works chronologically by publication date. Like the rest of your paper, the entire references page should be double spaced.

Citations by Format:

The examples below show you how to cite some basic source types. APA journal references use a Digital Object Identifier (DOI) number which, unlike a URL, will not break. Most documents found in a database and journals which utilize APA Style provide their DOI either as a number or as a link. If the DOI is not provided but a URL is available, make sure to test the URL before turning in your final draft. When an article has a DOI, the number goes at the end of the entry. If an article does not have a DOI, simply leave it off the entry. If your professor requests a URL, the URL also goes at the end of the entry.

If a work has 21 or more authors, include only the first 19 names, an ellipsis (...), and the final name from the work.

If the work you are citing lists an author, place the author's name and the individual work first, then a comma, followed by "In" and the general information for the book in which it was published. If the work you are citing does not list an author, place the title of the entry first, followed by "In" and the general information for the book in which it was published.

Remember: **use sentence case** for the capitalization of book, chapter, and article titles, **BUT use title case** for the capitalization of periodical or journal titles.

Common References at a Glance:

A Journal Article

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>

A Newspaper Article

Guarino, B. (2017, December 4). How will humanity react to alien life? Psychologists have some predictions. *The Washington Post*. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/speaking-of-science/wp/2017/12/04/how-will-humanity-react-to-alien-life-psychologists-have-some-predictions>

A Magazine Article

Margolis, M. (2008, December 28). The coming battle over green trade. *Newsweek*. 16.

A Book by a Single Author

Brown, L. S. (2018). *Feminist therapy* (2nd ed.). American Psychological Association. <https://doi.org/10.1037/0000092-000>

A Book by Two to Twenty Authors

Kennedy, X. J., Gioia, D., & Bauerlein, M. (2012). *Handbook of literary terms: Literature, language, theory* (3rd ed.). Pearson Longman.

A Book with an Organization or a Corporation as an Author

Sam Houston State University. (2010). *Majors and programs*. <https://www.shsu.edu/academics>

A Chapter or Reference Entry in an Edited Book OR A Book or Work in an Anthology

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>

An Article with No Author

Sherlock Holmes. [Review of *Sherlock Holmes*, directed by Guy Ritchie]. *Rolling Stone*, 1096.

A Dictionary Entry

Merriam-Webster. (n.d.). Self-report. In Merriam-Webster.com dictionary. Retrieved July 12, 2019, from <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/self-report>

A Government Report

National Cancer Institute. (2018). Facing forward: Life after cancer treatment (NIH Publication No. 18-2424). U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health. <https://www.cancer.gov/publications/patient-education/life-after-treatment.pdf>

A YouTube Video

University of Oxford. (2018, December 6). How do geckos walk on water? [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qm1xGfOZJc8>

A Government Webpage or Website

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2018, January 23). *People at high risk of developing flu-related complications*. https://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/disease/high_risk_htm

An E-Book

Christian, B., & Griffiths, T. (2016). *Algorithms to live by: The computer science of human decisions*. Henry Holt and Co. <https://a.co/7qGBZak>