APA Style was originally developed for use in anthropology, psychology, and behavioral science journals. The authoritative source is the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 5th ed. (2001), call number BF 76.7 .P83 2001. It can be found in The Ames Library 1st floor Reference Collection.

APA instructions for citing electronic media are located in Section 4.16 1 of the manual starting on page 268. The web version of these instructions is located at: http://www.apastyle.org/elecref.html.

According to APA Style, the citation for an electronic source should include the same information that would be listed for a print source, or as much of that information as can be determined from the electronic source.

Web retrieval information is typically included at the end of the citation. If a uniform resource locator (URL, or web address) is used in a citation, care should be taken to transcribe the address exactly as found on the Internet to aid others in locating the site. If it becomes necessary to break a long web address across two or more lines, APA Style recommends making breaks after the / symbol or before periods. Hyphens should not be added when breaking web addresses.

A reference list prepared using APA Style should be double-spaced both within and between entries. The second and subsequent lines of an entry should be indented five spaces.

END-OF-PAPER CITATIONS

Entire Web Site

To cite an entire web site, include the address of the web site within the text of the paper, enclosed in parentheses, rather than at the end of the paper in the reference list.

The U.S. Census Bureau web site is an excellent Internet resource for data on employment in various sectors of the U.S. economy (http://www.census.gov).

Specific Documents From a Web Site

If a specific document mounted on a web site is used as a resource, the document should be cited in the reference list rather than in the text. Examples of specific documents include: a particular link on a web site, a chapter or section of an Internet publication, a technical or research report, and proceedings of meetings or symposia. Web retrieval information in these citations should be as descriptive as possible.


Articles or Abstracts From Electronic Databases

This format is used to cite full-text articles or abstracts from fee-based article databases such as Academic Universe (Lexis-Nexis), JSTOR, and PsycINFO. This format uses the standard APA format for referencing articles, with a retrieval statement added to the end of the citation.


Articles From an Electronic Journal on a Web Site or in Print
(not retrieved from an electronic database)

The citation format used in these situations varies, depending on whether the article is exactly the same in print and electronic versions or whether the two versions differ in format, contents, or page numbering. See the complete APA style manual for format.
IN-TEXT REFERENCES

To cite a specific electronic source within the body of text, use a parenthetical reference citation. Include the author’s name or the web site address, followed by the publication date and paragraph number or section:

As Myers (2000, sect. 5) aptly phrased it, “positive emotions are both an end and means to a more caring and healthy society.”

“The conclusion system of managed care is shortsighted” (Buetler, 2000, Conclusion section, para. 1).

The full references for these citations will be found at the end of your paper.

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