

Swinburne Commons

Transcript



Title: APA referencing style (Library Clips)

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Audio/video available from: <http://commons.swinburne.edu.au>

This video describes the APA referencing style.

Knowing how to reference is an essential skill for all students and researchers as it demonstrates academic integrity.

You can use referencing to strengthen your arguments and assertions, demonstrate that you have used credible sources, avoid plagiarism by acknowledging your information sources, and make details of source books and articles easily available to interested readers.

The APA referencing style has two parts: the in-text citations that appear in the body of the paper, and a reference list at the end.

When quoting or paraphrasing a source of information you should include the in-text reference directly after it, although depending on your wording it can come before. You should include the author and publication date, and a page number if there is one.

A reference list is placed at the end of the paper and lists all the source books and articles that you have cited. For every in-text citation you include, there must be a corresponding entry in your reference list.

APA requires reference lists have a hanging indent and be double-spaced. It should be arranged alphabetically by author's surname, or by title if there is no author.

A book citation has the following elements:

- the author's name and initials;
- the year it was published, in brackets;
- the title of the book, in italics;
- the edition, if it is not the first, in brackets;
- the place of publication;
- and finally, the book publisher, with a colon separating the place of publication and the publisher.

An ebook citation looks the same, but we need to replace the place of publication with the name of the ebook collection and the digital object identifier or DOI. If no DOI is assigned, include the home page url.

A journal article citation, in print or online, has the following elements:

- the author or authors of the article;
- the year of publication, in brackets;
- the title of the article;
- the title of the journal, periodical or magazine, in italics;
- the volume number in italics - with the issue number, if necessary, in brackets;
- the page numbers of the article;
- and if you are you are referencing an article from a library database, include the digital object identifier or DOI. If this is not available, say 'Retrieved from' and include the url of the database.

Finally, a webpage citation has the following elements:

- the authors of the webpage, or the organisation responsible for the site if no authors are named;
- the year it was created, or the year of the most recent version or update;
- the title of the webpage or document, in italics;
- the name of the organisation hosting the webpage;
- and finally, the URL of the page, with the prefix 'Retrieved from'.

When discussing the APA referencing style, you may also hear the term bibliography being used. A bibliography is similar to a reference list, but also includes material you may have read but not actually cited in your paper.

For more details on how to cite using the APA referencing style, please to refer to the library referencing pages.

If you have any other questions about referencing, speak to a library staff member, visit the library website or contact us online.