APA 7th Edition Format Guide—GCC Library

APA stands for American Psychological Association. The current version of APA’s citation standard is the 7th edition. Most science and social science professors at GCC ask their students to use APA citation format.

APA citations consist of two parts:

1. The in-text citation, which appear throughout the paper to explain where you found a particular idea or quotation.
2. The bibliographic citation that appears on the “references” page at the end of your paper.

In general, any source that appears as an in-text citation needs to also have a bibliographic citation on the references page, and vice versa.

In-text citations

The basic form of an in-text citation is the author’s name and publication year in parentheses: (Pei, 2015).

- If you’re summarizing the main point that your source makes, you don’t need to include a page number in your in-text citation.
- If you’re quoting or citing a particular page or pages, add page numbers after the year. For a single page, this looks like: (Pei, 2015, p. 17). When citing a range of pages, this looks like: (Pei, 2015, pp. 275-278).

If you mention the author or date in the sentence, you do not have to then include them in parentheses. You never need to include an author’s first name or credentials (RN, PhD, etc.), or the title of the article.

- Castillo (2017) argues that nurses should take a holistic approach when assessing the health of psychiatric patients.
- In a 2002 article, Ramos and Wang wrote, “The American system of high education is in a period of unprecedented change,” (p. 253).

Different numbers and types of authors

- For two authors, use an ampersand between their names: (Laurent & Washington, 1988).
- For three or more authors, use the first author’s last name and the abbreviation et al., which means “and others:” (Kane et al., 2020).
- If an organization or institution is the author, cite the whole name: (United States Census Bureau, 2000).
- For undated sources, such as some websites, use the abbreviation “n.d.” to indicate no date: (FoodNetwork.com, n.d.).
Bibliographic citations

Every entry in your references page should include these basic elements, in this order:

- **Author:** For an individual, this is last name, first initial, and middle initial if you have it: Harrington, L. K.
  - Include names for up to 20 authors. If there are more than 21 authors, include the first 19 authors’ names, then an ellipsis (...), then the final author’s name.
  - If there is no author, the title comes first.

- **Date published:** Year first, followed if possible by month and day: 2018 or 2018, May 12.
  - If there is no date, use n.d. to indicate “no date.”

- **Title:** For untitled works, give a description of the work in square brackets: [Untitled bas-relief marble sculpture of a rearing horse].

- **Where to find it:** This will depend on what kind of source you have, and may include things like the journal or magazine title, volume and issue number, page range, web address or DOI number.

The following pages give examples of bibliographic citations for different types of sources. There are many more types of sources that exist in the universe. Some general things to keep in mind:

- Entries should be in alphabetical order.
- Cite personal communications, such as emails, in text only. Give the initials as well as the surname of the communicator, use the words “personal communication,” and provide as exact a date as possible, e.g., (C.E. Lobdell, personal communication, May 17, 2019).
- If possible, include a URL (web address) or DOI (digital object indicator; mostly used for journal articles).
- If you can’t find the author of a source, it’s a good idea to be suspicious of the source.
- Use the entries below for different types of books as a guide for how to format author names. The same formatting rules hold true for different numbers of authors of articles.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BOOKS</th>
<th>SAMPLE BIBLIOGRAPHIC CITATIONS</th>
<th>SAMPLE IN-TEXT CITATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **BOOK: SINGLE AUTHOR**  
Author. (Date). *Title*. Publisher. | Urbina, I. (2019). *The outlaw ocean*. Alfred A. Knopf. | (Author, Date)  
(Urbina, 2019) or (Urbina, 2019, p. 111) |
| **BOOK: TWO AUTHORS**  
Author, & Second Author. (Date). *Title*. Publisher. | Bekoff, M., & Pierce, J. (2009). *Wild justice*. University of Chicago Press. | (Authors, Date)  
(Bekoff & Pierce, 2009) or (Bekoff & Pierce, 2009, pp. 213-214) |
| **BOOK, THREE TO TWENTY AUTHORS**  
(Kane et al., 2010) |
| **BOOK, MORE THAN TWENTY AUTHORS**  
After 19th author include an ellipsis (...) and then the final author’s name | Kane, R. L., Ouslander, J. G., & Abrass, I. (1989). *Essentials of clinical geriatrics*. McGraw-Hill. | (First author et al., Date)  
(Kane et al., 2010) |
| **CHAPTER IN AN EDITED BOOK**  
Chapter Author. (Date). Chapter title. In Editor(s) Name (Ed.), *Book title* (pp. Chapter page numbers). Publisher.  
(If there is no editor, include the word “in” before the book title) | Walters, W. S. (2016). Lonely in America. In J. Ward (Ed.), *The fire this time: A new generation speaks about race* (pp. 33-58). Scribner. | (Author(s), Date)  
(Walters, 2016) |
| **ARTICLE IN A DICTIONARY OR ENCYCLOPEDIA**  
Author. (Date). Article Title. *Title of dictionary or encyclopedia*.  
(Volume, Page numbers). Publisher.  
(If there is no author, title moves to author position and the entry is alphabetized by the first significant word of title.) | Robinson, R., & Odle, T. G. (2006). Dementia. *The Gale encyclopedia of medicine*. (3rd ed., Vol. 2, pp. 1128-1131). Thomson Gale. | (Author(s), Date)  
(Robinson & Odle, 2006) |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OTHER SOURCES</th>
<th>SAMPLE BIBLIOGRAPHIC CITATIONS</th>
<th>SAMPLE IN-TEXT CITATIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MOTION PICTURE/MOVIE</td>
<td>Director (Role). (Date). Title [Film]. Distributor.</td>
<td>Magness, G, and Siegel-Magness, S. (Producers), &amp; Daniels, L. (Director). (2009). <em>Precious</em> [Film]. Lionsgate.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEWS ARTICLE</td>
<td>Author. (Date). Title of article. Title of publication. URL (If this is a print newspaper, include the page numbers. If a print magazine, include the volume/issue number)</td>
<td>Warzel, C. (2018, December 19). Apps are revealing your private information to Facebook and you probably don’t know it. <em>BuzzFeed News</em>. <a href="https://www.buzzfeednews.com/article/charliewarzel/apps-are-revealing-your-private-information-to-facebook-and">https://www.buzzfeednews.com/article/charliewarzel/apps-are-revealing-your-private-information-to-facebook-and</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Updated May 2020. Some examples courtesy of the APA 7th edition publication manual. Contact: reference@gcc.mass.edu, or 413-775-1831
<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Author [@username]. (Date of post). Text of post up to 20 words. [Description]. Name of website. URL Note: [Description] can be [Tweet] in the case of Twitter, [Photograph] in the case of Instagram, etc.</td>
<td>Fake Library Statistics [@fakelibstats]. (2017, June 21). A librarian is never more than 8 feet away from a conference tote bag. [Tweet]. Twitter. <a href="https://twitter.com/FakeLibStats/status/877531971437703173">https://twitter.com/FakeLibStats/status/877531971437703173</a></td>
<td>(Author, Date) (Fake Library Statistics, 2017)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive producers’ names. (Role). (Inclusive dates). <em>Title of show</em> [TV series]. Production company; Broadcaster.</td>
<td>Kaling, M. (Writer &amp; Creator), Fisher, L. (Creator), Mendoza, L. (Director). (2020). …felt super Indian (Season 1, Episode 4) [TV series episode]. In M. Kaling &amp; L. Fisher (Executive Producers), <em>Never have I ever</em>. Kaling International, Inc.; Original Langster; 3 Arts Entertainment; Universal Television; Netflix.</td>
<td>(Writer/Director(s), Date) (Kaling et al., 2020)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TELEVISION SHOW (individual episode)</strong></td>
<td>Kaling, M. (Writer &amp; Creator), Fisher, L. (Creator), Mendoza, L. (Director). (2020). …felt super Indian (Season 1, Episode 4) [TV series episode]. In M. Kaling &amp; L. Fisher (Executive Producers), <em>Never have I ever</em>. Kaling International, Inc.; Original Langster; 3 Arts Entertainment; Universal Television; Netflix.</td>
<td>(Writer/Director(s), Date) (Kaling et al., 2020)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writer and/or directors’ names. (Role). (Year, Month Day of Broadcast). Episode title (Season number, Episode number) [TV series episode]. In Executive producers names (Executive Producers), <em>Title of Show</em>. Name of Production Companies; Broadcaster.</td>
<td>Kaling, M. (Writer &amp; Creator), Fisher, L. (Creator), Mendoza, L. (Director). (2020). …felt super Indian (Season 1, Episode 4) [TV series episode]. In M. Kaling &amp; L. Fisher (Executive Producers), <em>Never have I ever</em>. Kaling International, Inc.; Original Langster; 3 Arts Entertainment; Universal Television; Netflix.</td>
<td>(Writer/Director(s), Date) (Kaling et al., 2020)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>VIDEO POSTED TO AN INTERNET SITE (e.g. YOUTUBE)</strong></td>
<td>Krasinski, J. (2020, May 11). The Office Cast Reunites for Zoom Wedding: Some Good News with John Krasinski Ep. 7 [Video]. YouTube. <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NDjNX3nEfYo">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NDjNX3nEfYo</a></td>
<td>(Author(s), Date) (Krasinski, 2020)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>WEBSITE (as a whole)</strong></td>
<td>NASA.gov. (n.d.). Retrieved May 21, 2020, from <a href="https://www.nasa.gov/">https://www.nasa.gov/</a></td>
<td>(Website name, Date) (NASA.gov, n.d.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name of Site. (Date). Retrieved from web address. (Put in dates of retrieval if text may change over time)</td>
<td>NASA.gov. (n.d.). Retrieved May 21, 2020, from <a href="https://www.nasa.gov/">https://www.nasa.gov/</a></td>
<td>(Website name, Date) (NASA.gov, n.d.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
APA Reference Page Example

References


Kaling, M. (Writer & Creator), Fisher, L. (Creator), Mendoza, L. (Director). (2020). ...felt super Indian (Season 1, Episode 4) [TV series episode]. In M. Kaling & L. Fisher (Executive Producers), Never have I ever. Kaling International, Inc.; Original Langster; 3 Arts Entertainment; Universal Television; Netflix


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