

# APA (American Psychological Assoc.) Style Citations

## INTERNAL or IN-TEXT CITATIONS

Once you have made decisions about what to cite and how to cite it (paraphrase, quotations, etc) it is time to give credit to your sources within the body of your paper. You need to give sources and authors credit for their words and ideas in order to establish your credibility as an author.

The “basic format” for an internal citation is a parenthetical placed directly after the quoted or paraphrased sentence. The parenthetical commonly includes Author Last Name and year date.

Ex. -----paraphrase----- or “-----quote-----” (Smith, 1965).

(Note that the period is placed after the parenthetical and a comma is placed between the author and the year.)

You need not repeat what is understood. If your sentence contains a “signal phrase,” such as “According to Smith” or “In reference to \_\_\_\_\_, Smith contends/notes/proposes,” you do not need to include ‘Smith’ in the internal citation parenthetical at the end of the sentence. However, **rather than including the year date alone in the end-parenthetical, the parenthetical containing the year is placed directly after the author’s name in the signal phrase.** See the following examples:

**Quotation:** “Aliens have been found to inhabit the craggy surface of the moon”(Smith, 1965, p.109).

\*\*Note that page #s are not required, but may be included if you think it will help a reader locate a specific passage in a long work.

**Paraphrase:** Aliens were discovered on the moon (Smith, 1965).

**Quotation w/ signal phrase:** According to William B. Smith (1965), aliens were discovered “inhabit[ating] the craggy surface of the moon”(p.109).

### **A Longer Example:**

Scientists discovered aliens on the moon (Smith, 1965). This directly contradicts our current understanding of there being no life there. Furthermore, Smith(1965) notes that we cannot be sure whether we are alone here on Earth, as well (461). ← *Note that the 2<sup>nd</sup> sentence does not include an internal citation, as it is the author’s own sentence, also that the signal phrase notation can sometimes look less invasive.*

### **A Work with 2 Authors:**

According to Smith and Doe (2001), ----- *or* ----- (Smith & Doe, 2001).

### **A Work with 3-5 Authors:**

----- (Smith, Doe, Brook, James, & Miller, 2004). \*Note that in the SUBSEQUENT (i.e. the following) times that you cite this study you can abbreviate to (Smith et al., 2004).

### **Citing more than one source at the same time:**

If the information you are citing comes from more than one source, separate the sources alphabetically with a semi-colon.

Ex. (Patterson, 1997; Smith et al., 2004).

However, if one of the sources is the “major” source where you think the information is more clearly explained or you know that the other sources have been derived from a particular source, place the “major” source first with a “see also” after.

Ex. (Patterson, 1997; see also Smith et al., 2004; Snopes, 1999).

### **Citing a source within a source:**

If Smith references James in his book, your internal citation will be as follows:

----- (James, 1999, as cited in Smith, 2003).

\*Note: do not include the information for James' work in the reference list/works cited page because you did not use James' original work, you only used it as it was referenced in Smith.

### **Internal Citations with Web Sources:**

Creating internal citations with web sources is usually the same, (ie. Use 'According to Smith (2001)---- or ----- (Smith, 2001).') However, if the source has no author use the first few words of the reference list information, which is usually the article title.

For example, if the article on the website is “Men on the Moon Attack Us Tomorrow” and there are no other articles that start with “Men on the Moon,” then use: ----- (“Men on the Moon,” 2004).

The only exception is when you want to direct your reader to an entire website rather than specific information.

Ex. The Space Scientists Org. posted the findings from their Fruit Census on their website (<http://www.spacesci.org>).

Since pagination is not necessary in APA style citations, the only information necessary is usually found on the website. However, if you wish to use page numbers, make sure the site has a fixed numbering and use (Smith, 2000, p.109) or (Smith, 2000, ¶5) for paragraphs.

\*\* Make sure that you use internal citations after EVERY cited idea, quotation or paraphrase. You cannot just include the citation at the end of the page or paragraph.

## **REFERENCES PAGE: the Fully-Documented Reference Information**

However, internal citations are just the first half of the citation process. At the end of your paper, you will need to include a page of fully-documented reference information, known as a References page. (The difference between this and a bibliography is that in a bibliography you are acknowledging works that might not be cited in the paper, as well. However, in a References page, all references must have been used and cited in the body of the paper, it is not enough merely to allude to them in a bibliography.)

Each entry includes information (as available and applicable) in the following order:

1. Author last name, first name, Editor (given later if separate from the author), or compiler of the source. Ed. is the abbreviation for editor.
2. Year date in parenthesis
3. Title of work in plain, unmodified text
4. Title of book (or journal name) that work appears in italicized
5. Name of editor or translator if that is additional information
6. Publication information (i.e. In the format of 'location: publisher')
7. Version #, Volume #, Issue #
8. Subscription service information
9. number range or total # of pages, paragraphs or sections
10. Institution or organization sponsoring site
11. Date you accessed the site (if a website)
12. URL or if impractically long, the URL of the site's search page

The following are examples in various different formats:

### Basic book format

Author last name, First initial. (year date) *Book Title*. (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.) New York: Longman.

### Edited book format with 2 authors

Author last name, first initial and Author last name, first initial. (Eds.) (year date) *Book Title*. Location: Publisher.

\*Note: use a hanging indent for the second line. (This can be created in Word by hitting "enter" then "tab" if the program at first tries to tab both lines over.)

Also, for more than three authors or editors list the first person Last Name, First, et al.  
Ex: Smith, William B. et al.

### Article in an Edited Book

Ex. Miller, F. (1996). The way we look: sociology. In J. Doe (Ed.) *How We Want to Be*. (pp. 100-250). New York: Pearson.

### Article in Monthly Magazine

Author Last, First initial. (year). Article title. *Journal Name*. pg. #.

Ex: Smith, W. (1999, Feb). Green Men on Mars. Science for Americans, 17-19.

\*Note: refernce every page # used either as a range: 17-19 or individually: A1, D13.

### Article in Newspaper

Author Last, First. (year, month day). Article title. *Newspaper Name*. pp. pages

Ex: Doe, John. (2000, March 24). Debunking the Moon Landing. *The Washington Times*, pp. A1, D13

\*\* Note: in a journal with volume numbers include the volume number after the journal name. Ex. *Psychology Now*, 30, pp. 40-46. If the journal gives a volume number and issue number use the format: vol(issue), as in: 30(2), pp. 40-46.

### A Review of a work

Smith, W. (2005). Remembering How to Love. [Review of the book *Living in this World*]. *Science*, 290, 1304.

\*Note: if no title was specifically given to the review, just use [Review of. . . ] as the title.

The following are related to **web sources**:

### Personal/professional sites

Smith, W. (2001). Green Men Living on the Moon. Retrieved April 12, 2004, from <http://-----/----.html>

\*Note: if the URL is longer than a line break after a slash. Do NOT insert a hyphen as this will create a dead link when copied over into a browser. Also, do not include a terminal period at the end of the URL in the reference list.

If there is no date put Smith, W. (n.d.). -----

If no date or author:

Space Scientists Survey. (n.d.). Retrieved August 4, 2005, from <http://www.spacesci.com>

Also, note that when creating citations, you should remove the automatic hyperlink.

#### Internet-only Journal Article

Author last name, First initial. (year date). Article title. *Online Journal Name*, Vol.(Issue), p. 2 Retrieved month day, year, from <http://www-----html>.

#### Document from an Online Database

Ex. Doe, J. (1999). Fixing Personal Agency [electronic version]. *Psychology Now*, 42, pp. 46-51.

\*Note: If you use a database such as PSYCHINFO or Lexus Nexus to retrieve an article, give credit to that database by using it rather than the unique URL after 'retrieved from.'  
Ex. Retrieved April 8, 2006, from Lexus Nexus <http://Lexus Nexus' webpage.com>

#### E-mail Cited as Personal Communication

Ex. W. B. Smith (personal communication, May 30, 2001).

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