Citation of Sources

Citation of a reference is used to document the source of information and ideas and is necessary whenever the information and ideas reflect content from sources other than you. Citation is necessary whenever you are using the idea of another author whether paraphrasing, referring to an idea, or quoting.

Formatting references depends on how the reference is used in a sentence.

- **Signal phrase.** When the author is used in the narrative or as a signal phrase to introduce cited material, place the date, in parentheses, immediately after the author’s name. For a quotation, the page number, preceded by “p.”, appears in parentheses after the quotation.
  - According to John Smith (2007), _______________.

- **Parenthetical reference.** When the author is not mentioned in the narrative, give the author’s name and the date, separated by a comma, in parentheses at the end of the pertinent sentence.
  - The argument here is that ______________ (Smith, 2007).

- When there are multiple authors, use the word and in a signal phrase, but use an ampersand (&) in a parenthetical reference.
  - John Smith and Jane Doe (2009) contend that ______________.
  - The important idea is that ___________________ (Smith & Doe, 2009).

Citing Electronic Sources

Digital Object Identifier (DOI)

A digital object identifier (DOI) is a unique alphanumeric string assigned by a registration agency (the International DOI Foundation) to identify content and provide a persistent link to its location on the Internet. The most common application of a DOI is to identify electronic documents. For instance, a publisher assigns a DOI when an article is published and made available electronically. The APA Manual 6th edition recommends that when DOIs are available, you include them for both print and electronic sources.
The DOI is typically located on the first page of an electronic journal article, near the copyright notice. The DOI can also be found on the database page for the article.

Note: Use DOIs when available in your reference list citations. However, since many link to publisher sites where the content is not free, remember to search the library’s databases for the full text of articles.

Reference Page Entries

1) Print Book
Author, A. A. (1997). Title of work. Location: Publisher. For example:
(Note that this is an example of hanging indentation)

2) E-book

3) DOI

4) Chapter in a book or reference book

5) Article in an Academic Journal.
Author, A. A. (2011). Title of article. Title of periodical. Volume number, pp.-pp. For example: