

## APA References - Condensed Guide

Adapted from the handout, APA References: A Guide for Psychology Undergraduates

### **REFERENCES SECTION:**

Double-space references. Do not indent first line of a source; do indent all following lines (known as a *hanging indent*; APA Publication manual, 5<sup>th</sup> Ed.).

- **Journal article by one author:**

Thompson, L. (1990). Negotiation behavior and outcomes: Empirical evidence and theoretical issues.

*Psychological Bulletin*, 108, 515-332.

- **Journal article by two authors:**

Loesche, L. S., & Tsai, S. D. (1998). Beneficial effects of caffeine on writing style. *Human Behaviour*,

5, 1-43.

- **Journal article by three to six authors:**

Saywitz, K. J., Mannarino, A. P., Berliner, L., & Cohen, J. A. (2000). Treatment for sexually abused

children and adolescents. *American Psychologist*, 55, 1040-1049.

- **Journal article, more than six authors:**

Wolchik, S. A., West, S. G., Sandler, I. N., Tein, J., Coatsworth, D., Lengua, L., et al. (2000). An

experimental evaluation of theory-based mother and mother-child programs for children of divorce. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*, 68, 843-856.

- **Book chapter:**

Booth, D. A. (1980). Conditioned reactions in motivation. In F. M. Toates & T. R. Hall (Eds.), *Analysis of motivational processes* (pp. 77-102). New York: Academic Press.

- **Book:**

Toates, F. M., & Hall, T. R. (Eds.). (1980). *Analysis of motivational processes*. New York: Academic Press.

Note: If more than one city is given for the publisher of a book, name the most convenient city for locating the book (e.g., Academic Press is published in New York and London; cite only New York).

### CITATIONS IN TEXT:

#### First time cited

- **One author:**

1. Thompson (1990) reviewed research on negotiation and found that it spans many disciplines.
2. Negotiation research spans many disciplines (Thompson, 1990).
3. This effect has been widely studied (Abbott, 1991; Kelso, 1998; Martini, 1992).

Note: With multiple references (see third example above), cite authors in alphabetical order.

- **Two to five authors** (use ‘&’ within parentheses; use ‘and’ outside parentheses):

1. Becker and Seligman's (1996) findings contradicted this result.
2. This result was later contradicted (Becker & Seligman, 1996).
3. Medvec, Madey, and Gilovich (1995) examined the influence of "what might have been" thoughts on satisfaction among a group of Olympic medalists.
4. Research on Olympic medalists has shown that bronze medalists are more satisfied than silver medalists (Medvec, Madey, & Gilovich, 1995).

- **Six or more authors**

(Cite only the last name of the first author, followed by "et al." and the year of publication):

1. Barakat et al. (1995) attempted to . . .
2. Recent research (Barakat et al., 1995) has found that . . .

Note: "et al." is from the Latin "et alia", which means "and others". "Et" is a whole word (no period); "al." is an abbreviation.

### **Citing the Same Article Within the Same Paragraph**

If you cite a paper more than once in a single paragraph, omit the year in subsequent citations, unless you are citing more than one work by the same author. To cite a reference by three or more authors more than once in the same paragraph, use only\* the first author's last name followed by "et al."

\*Note: If there are multiple sources with three or more authors that have the same first author, you need to include additional names to distinguish the sources from one another.

For example:

Jones, Smith, Cleaver, et al.

Jones, Smith, Simpson, et al.

### **Citing the Same Article in Subsequent Paragraphs**

**One or two authors:** Use the same format as for the first citation.

**Three or more authors:** Include only the first author's last name followed by "et al." and the year of publication:

- Medvec et al. (1995) examined the influence of "what might have been" thoughts on satisfaction among Olympic medalists.
- Research on satisfaction among Olympic medalists has shown that bronze medalists are more satisfied than silver medalists (Medvic et al., 1995).

### **Secondary Sources**

Use sparingly and only when necessary. Suppose that you want to refer to a 1989 study by Nguyen and Lee, which you read about in a 1996 study by Becker and Seligman. Use one of the following citations:

- Nguyen and Lee (as cited in Becker & Seligman, 1996) found the opposite effect in two-year-olds.
- The opposite effect was observed in two-year-olds (Nguyen & Lee, as cited in Becker & Seligman, 1996).

In the References, list only Becker and Seligman (the source that you read).