This guide explains how to use in-text APA style citations and references, why we use them, and how you can learn to use them for your courses. Not citing the source of information is plagiarism and falls under academic dishonesty penalties for your course and the college.

Note: Your instructor might have specific requirements that vary from this, so always pay attention to your instructor’s directions.

**In-text citations** are often in parenthesis or integrated into a sentence. They are used when you use a resource in your writing, either via direct quote or paraphrase. They include authors’ names, the year of publications, and when directly quoting text, a page number. Look at the following examples:

**Citation at end of sentence**

- When looking at how psychological research has viewed the relationship between television violence and aggression it is important to look at predisposition to violence within the individual (Smith & Jones, 2008).

**Citation within the text of the sentence**

- Stintson and Mosbey (2012) showed that there was a minimal relationship between ......

**Quoted citation at end of sentence**

- Researchers have found “47% of 18 to 24 year old are still living at home with their parents” (Taylor, Callaway, & Astor, 1999, p. 214).

**Quoted citation the text of the sentence**

- According to Adams and Brown (1999), "the gender differences in assertiveness found in previous decades have not been found in recent studies" (p. 187) thus indicating a possible change in gender expectations over time.

Not the differences in the use of "and" versus "&", where the parenthesis are located, and how the citations integrated into each sentence. Each of these formats can be used.

**When and where do I use in-text citations?**

Originally created by Dr. JuliaGrace Jester and updated by the Harrisburg Area Community College APA Curriculum Review Team. Date last updated: October 2013.
• We generally cite each sentence that has information from a source within it (not merely the end of a paragraph).
• In APA writing there's often more than 1 source cited within a single paragraph, so it is important to indicate what information comes from each source.
• All cited sources then need to be referenced at the end of the assignment (see below).

**References** refer to the list at the end of an article, assignment, book, or book chapter that indicates the complete information for the resources that were cited in the writing of that item. This information includes the authors, the title, the date, the source, etc. Normally references are on a separate page from the main portion of the written material.

• Keep in mind that the reference format varies depending on the source you are using.
• Each individual reference is left-aligned on the first line and indented on each subsequent line.
• References are put on a reference page with the word "References" above the list (centered, normal font: no italics, bold, etc.).
• In APA style references alone are not enough- they merely give then complete information for the cited sources so in-text citations are always needed as well.

**Where should I go to check my citation format?**

• Go to the 6th edition of the APA Publication Manual - available in all HACC libraries.
• Visit online resources such as the [Purdue OWL website](https://owl.purdue.edu) or your course libguide, if there is one.
• See a tutor in the Learning Center or a reference librarian for help finding these and other resources.
• And always feel free to ask your professor for recommended resources for using APA style.

Originally created by Dr. JuliaGrace Jester and updated by the Harrisburg Area Community College APA Curriculum Review Team. Date last updated: October 2013.