It is important to cite sources properly when you are researching and writing a paper or preparing a presentation. Please use the following examples as a beginner’s guide to citing sources using the 6th edition of the American Psychological Association’s (APA) style format. This style is most often used in fields related to the social and natural sciences, including nursing and psychology. All of the sources you use for a given paper or project should be cited on a separate page in alphabetical order, with the title “Reference List”.

**Books:**

Basic Form - Author, A. A. (Publication date). *Title of the book*. Publisher location: Publisher name.


**Magazine and Newspaper Articles:**

Basic Form - Author name. (Year, Date of publication). Title of the article. *Periodical title, Volume* (Issue), Pages.


**Articles Retrieved from Online and CD-ROM Databases:**

Basic Form - Author, A. A. (Issue date). Title of the article. *Title of journal or magazine, Volume* (Issue no. if known), Pages. Retrieved from URL.


Scholarly Articles (from a print journal):

Basic Form - Author, A. A. (Publication year). Title of the article. Journal title, Volume (Issue no. if known), Pages.


Web Pages:

Basic Form - Author/Editor/Organization name. (Date or n.d. for no date). Title. DOI number or retrieval statement including URL


Film or Video Recording:

Basic Form - Name, A. A. (producer), & Name, B. B. (Director). (Year). Title of movie or video. [Videocasette or DVD]. Country of origin: Studio.


Commonly Used NCC Sources:


For more information on citations in APA format please visit Purdue’s Online Writing Lab (OWL) at: http://owl.english.purdue.edu/ or check out the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (6th ed.) from the NCC library.
Parenthetical (In-text) References:

When using a quote or any information obtained from a source you must point the reader to a specific source included on your Reference List. This is referred to as a parenthetical reference or an in-text citation. If you cite a reference in a text, it must also appear in the Reference List. The reverse is also true: if you add an entry to the Reference List it must be cited within the text. The APA style of in-text citation includes the author name and date of the publication. The following examples are the most common. For additional examples, please utilize the sources listed at the end of this guide.

Print Sources –

Basic Form - Sentence (Author, date of publication).

Examples - While many countries used blood groups to determine the paternity of a given child, “California did not do so until 1953” (Starr, 1998).

According to Starr (1998) California did not use blood groups to determine the paternity of a child until 1953.

Authors with same surname-
add initials - (H. L. Lawrence, 1992)

Two authors-
always cite both names - (Kennefick & Young, 1999)

Three or more authors-
cite all authors the first time, then list the first author’s name followed by “et al”

First time - (Kris, Harms, Asmus & Johnson, 2008)
Rest of paragraph - (Kris et al., 2008)

Six or more authors – (Hannity et al., 2006)
Cite name of first author followed by et al.

No author or anonymous – (“What level,” 2003)
Cite the first few words of the reference list entry (usually the title) and the year

Two or more works within the same parentheses - (Sayre, 1997; Stein, 2009)
List both works in the order they appear in the reference list. Separate them with a semi-colon.

For more information on citations in APA format please visit Purdue’s Online Writing Lab (OWL) at: http://owl.english.purdue.edu/ or check out the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (6th ed.) from the NCC library.