Citing Your Sources using APA (American Psychological Association)

It is important to cite the sources you use when you write a paper. When you gather articles, websites, books, or other materials for your research, make sure that you also collect the "pieces" needed to properly cite the work. This guide outlines the basics of APA (American Psychological Association) 5th edition documentation style. For more in-depth help or for other types of material (such as newspapers, interviews, govt. documents, etc…) refer to the websites listed below, or consult the ***Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association,*** 5th edition, in the library.

- **Duke Libraries** > Guide to Library Research: Assembling a List of Works Cited in Your Paper: www.lib.duke.edu/libguide/works_cited.htm

- **Purdue University** > OWL (Online Writing Lab) > Research and Documenting Sources: owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/research/

- **Wright State University's Writing Center Mini-Manuals**. These are quick reference guides available for printing in pdf (Adobe Acrobat format).
    - **APA Mini Manual:** www.wright.edu/academics/writingctr/apa2.pdf

- Cites that link to several other sources:
    - **Citation Guides for Internet and Electronic Sources:** www.library.ualberta.ca/guides/citation/
    - **Citation Style Guides, Auburn University:** www.lib.auburn.edu/citations.html

Citations Within Your Research Paper:

You must cite (give credit to) whatever quotes, ideas, or information you use in your paper. APA asks that you provide the author and date in your citations. Page numbers are only required for direct quotes—although it is recommended that you include them when possible.

Examples:

Author's name in text, without directly quoting:

Baker has argued this point in the past (2002).

Author's name in reference:

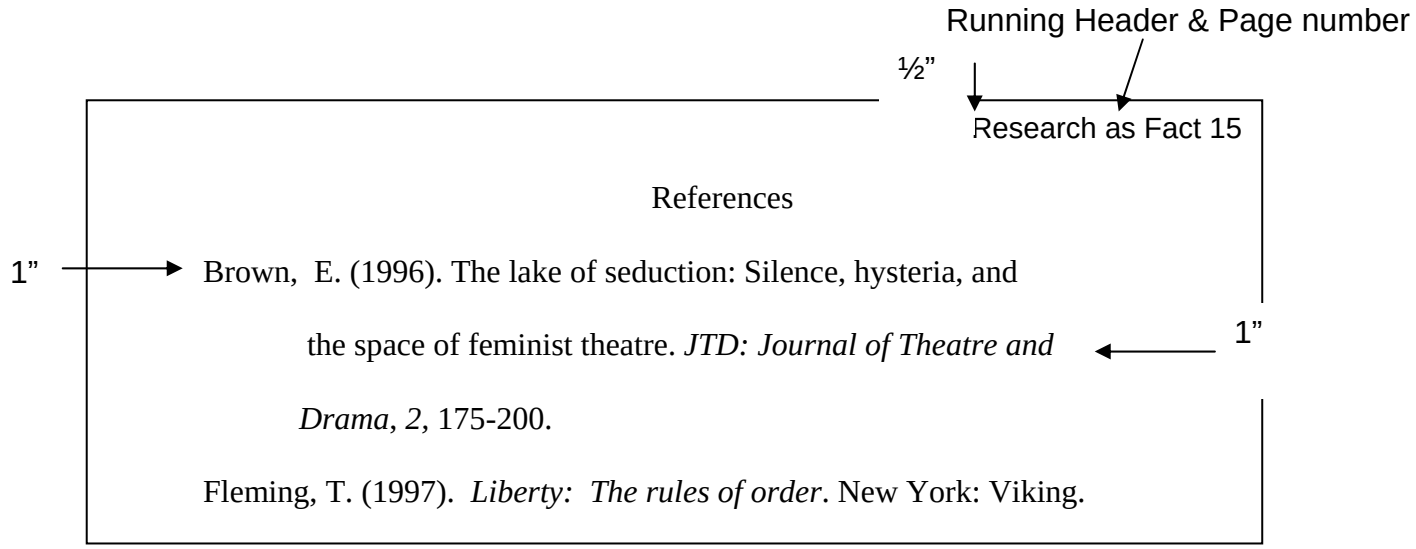
This point has been argued in the past (Baker, 2002).
In 2002, this point was argued (Baker).

Direct quotation—only time page number is used:

Baker states, "this is my finest hour" (2002, p. 62).
"This is my finest hour" (Baker, 2002, p.62).

Format of the List of References:

- APA recommends a serif font in 12 point (Times New Roman is an example of a serif font. Arial is NOT serif).
- APA style requires that the list of references appear at the end of your paper. It begins on a new page, with the heading of **References** and the pages are numbered, continuing from the text. If your research paper ends on page 3, then your list of References would be page 4.
- Unless otherwise specified by your professor, the page number appears in the upper right hand corner, half an inch from the top margin and flush with the right margin.
- Center the word References an inch from the top of the page.
- Begin each entry flush with the left margin and if an entry runs more than one line, indent each subsequent line 5 spaces (1/2 inch). This is called a hanging indent. The entire list should be double spaced throughout and in alphabetical order.



Book:

Author's last name, First initial. (Year of publication). *Title of book*. Place of Publication: Publisher.

Fleming, T. (1997). *Liberty!: The rules of order*. New York: Viking.

Magazines that are published every week or two weeks, such as *Time*:

Author's last name, First initial. (Year, Month and day of publication). Title of Article. *Title of Magazine, volume,* page numbers.

Smith, J. (2002, June 13). How to Write the Perfect Paper. *Newsweek, 256*, 14-26.

Journal Article in Paper:

Author's last name, First initial, & Author, B. (Year). Article title. *Journal Title, volume* (issue--note: only include issue when journal is not continuously paginated throughout the year), page numbers.

Brown, E. (1996). The lake of seduction: Silence, hysteria, and the space of feminist theatre. *JTD: Journal of Theatre and Drama, 2(4),* 175-200.

Journal Article from an Online Database:

Author's last name, First initial. (Year, Month Day—if applicable). Article Title. *Journal Title, volume* (issue if required, page numbers if given or length of article. Retrieved [date of access], from Name of Database.

Holton, W., & Smith, J. (1994). The Ohio Indians and the coming of the American Revolution in Virginia. *The Journal of Southern History, 60,* 453-478. Retrieved August 31, 2003, from Academic Search Premier database.

Website:

Name of Organization or author of website. (Date site was updated or publication date). *Title of website or section*. Retrieved [date], from url

Smith, B. National Park Service. (2003, February 11). *Abraham Lincoln birthplace national historic site*. Retrieved August 13, 2003, from http://www.nps.gov/abli/