How to Prepare Bibliographic Citations: American Sociological Association (ASA)

Source

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Reference List

• References follow the text and endnotes in a separate section head “References.” □ All references cited in the text must be listed and vice-versa. □ References should be double-spaced.
• List references in alphabetical order by authors’ last names.
• Use hanging indentation (the first line of the entry remains flush with the left margin, and the subsequent lines are indented ½” to the right).
• Invert the author’s name (type the last name first). If there are two or more authors, invert only the first author’s name.
• Arrange multiple items by the same author in order by year of publication, earliest year first.
• Distinguish works by the same author in the same year by adding letters (e.g. 1993a, 1993b, 1993c).
• Use italics for book and periodical titles (underline if italics are not available).
• If no date is available use “N.d.” in place of the date.
• Include the state abbreviation only if the city of publication is not well known (e.g., New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles do not need a state abbreviation). For foreign cities provide the name of the country.

Reference Examples Books

The basic form for a book entry includes:
• Author’s last name, followed by a comma and author’s first name and middle initial, ending with a period.
• When a reference has two authors, a comma follows the first author’s first name. □ Year of publication followed by a period.
• Title of book is italicized ending with a period. Follow with edition number if 2nd edition or later. □ City of publication (with state abbreviation if it’s not a well known city), followed by a colon and name of publisher, ending with a period.

Book: Single Author

Routledge.

Book: Two or More Authors

Berkeley: University of California Press.
Book: Edited Volume (when citing the entire volume)

Book: Chapter in Book

Book: No Author

Book: Editions of Books

Book: Translations

Journal Articles
The basic form for a journal article includes:
• Author’s last name, followed by a comma and the first name and middle initial ending with a period. For multiple authors, invert last name of first author only.
• Year of publication followed by a period.
• Title of article in quotations, ending with a period inside the closing quotation mark.
• Title of journal in italics, no period following.
• Volume number followed by issue number in parentheses, followed by a colon, page number(s) and period.
• Use p. or pp. before page number when citing print newspaper or magazine articles.

Print Journal Article, One Author

Print Journal Article, Two or More Authors

Print Newspaper and Magazine Articles

E-Resources
Articles and books obtained from the Internet follow the same pattern as those cited above. The URL and date retrieved are included.

Printed Edition of a Book Accessed through an Online Library

**Journal Articles from Electronic Journals**

**Journal Articles with DOI**

**Newspaper or Magazine Article**

**Websites**

**Web Log (Blog)**

**Social Media Sources**
References to social media sources (e.g., Facebook, Twitter) should not appear in the references page. Rather, they should be footnoted in the body text where referenced. The footnote should include the page's title and URL.

Text: The American Sociological Association mentioned the meeting directly on its Facebook page.¹


**Audiovisual Materials**

**DVDs**


**Other Audiovisual Materials**
PowerPoint Presentation

Other Examples

Dissertations and Theses

Government Documents

In-Text (Citation) References

General Formatting
Citations in the text include the last name of the author(s) and year of publication. Include page numbers when quoting directly from a work or referring to specific passages. Identify subsequent citations of the same source in the same way as the first.

• If the author's name is used in the text, put the date in parentheses.
  When Duncan (1959) studied...

• If the author's name is not in the text, enclose last name and year in parentheses.
  When these relationships were studied (Gouldner 1963)...

• Short quotations in the body of the manuscript should be surrounded by quotation marks.

• Pagination follows the year of publication after a colon, with no space between the colon and the page number.
  Orol (2010:1).

• For joint authors, give both last names.
  (Martin and Bailey 1988)

• For three authors, give all last names in the first citation in the text; in subsequent citations, use the first name and et al.
  First citation: (Carr, Smith, and Jones 1962)...
  Later citations: (Carr et al. 1962)

• For four or more authors, use the first author's last name plus et al. in all citations. (Nilson et al. 1962)

• For institutional authorship, supply the minimum identification needed from the beginning of the complete reference to find it in the reference list.
  (U.S. Bureau of the Census 1963:117)

• Separate a series of references with a semicolon and either alphabetize or place them in chronological order, but be consistent throughout the manuscript.
• If the work cited was reprinted from a version published earlier, list the earliest publication date in brackets, followed by the publication date of the recent version used:

…affected the aged (Omran [1971] 2005).

• For unpublished papers, cite the date, or, if scheduled to be published soon, use *forthcoming* in lieu of a date. If no date is given, use N.d.

Previous studies by Smith (forthcoming) and Jones (N.d.) concluded….

• For archival sources, use abbreviations when possible.

(Meany Archives, LRF, Box 6, March 18, 1970).

• Text citations for e-resources generally follow the preceding guidelines.

**Footnotes & Endnotes**

• Footnotes and endnotes are used to cite materials of limited availability, expand upon the text, or to add information presented in a table.

• Endnotes are used more frequently than footnotes, but both should be used sparingly. As a general rule, use one or the other throughout the manuscript but do not mix them. (The exception to this rule is to use a footnote on the Title page and for tables, but use endnotes throughout the rest of the document for manuscripts being submitted to a sociology journal.)

• In the text, footnotes or endnotes, whichever are used, should be numbered consecutively throughout the essay with superscript Arabic numerals.

• Footnotes are placed at the bottom of the page on which the material being referenced appears. If using endnotes, at the end of the paper in a separate section following the references, type the endnotes in numerical order, double-spaced, as a separate section with the title *Notes* or *Endnotes*.

• Begin each note with the same superscripted number used in the text. Ex: ⁸ See the new ASA Style Guide for more information.

For additional information about the ASA Style and examples, please refer to the *American Sociological Association Style Guide*. ⁵th ed. Babbridge Library/Level B / Ref. HM 569.A54 2014 or Purdue OWL [https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/583/01/](https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/583/01/).