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# Online Sources

The Writing Center Guide 2016

APA Reference Page Format for Online Sources

(These sources include full text articles obtained through the library database or a search engine such as Google or Google Scholar.)

The overall goal is to give credit to your sources and provide your reader with enough information to access the source.

* Reference citations are double-spaced, hang (reverse) indented, and alphabetized (ignoring *a, an, the*).
* Follow exact order of elements below. Author may be a person, an organization, or a government agency. If no author is given, the article or webpage title jumps to number one position, and year stays in number two position. In your essay, use a shortened version of this title to cite. E.g. article title: (“What Your Brain,” 2011). web title: (*Autism*, 2012).
* When no year is given, put n.d. (for “no date”). If a periodical does not have a volume number, then the month, month and date, or season follows the year.
* For article titles, capitalize only the first word, proper nouns, acronyms, and the first word of the subtitle (first word following a colon).
* Italicize web titles (same capitalization rules as for article titles) and italicize journal/magazine/newspaper titles (capitalize all important words).
* Most journals and some magazines provide a volume number. Italicize the volume number. If an issue number is also provided, put it in parentheses next to the volume number. Note that the issue number is not italicized, and no space separates it from the volume number.
* Give page numbers of an entire journal or magazine article without preceding them with “p.” or “pp.” Give page numbers of an entire newspaper article (section and page) preceded by “p.” or “pp.”
* Add electronic retrieval information that will allow readers to locate the sources. For journal articles only, look for the digital object identifier [DOI] on the first page of the article, near the copyright notice, or on the Full Record Display for a database. It is a long number starting with 10. For journal articles that do not provide a DOI and for all electronic articles, include the *home page* URL of the journal/magazine/newspaper. You can simply google the title of your source and add the word *periodical*, then click on the source to find the home page URL. If you need to break a URL while typing a Reference citation, break before most punctuation. To remove a hyperlink (blue print), right click on the URL. Do not add a period after either the DOI or the URL to avoid the impression that the period is part of the retrieval information.

# Reference Examples

###### ***Journal article with DOI***

Ellis, T., & Davis, J.R. (2012). Gender roles in the classroom: Fostering freedom from stereotypes. Chronicle of Higher Education, 9(3), 36-39. doi:10:1047/0238-7122.31.2.125

###### ***Journal article (electronic) when DOI is not available***

Stahl, J. (2008). Emotional effects of job loss on families. E-Journal of Applied Psychology, 3(2), 12-16. Retrieved from <http://ojs.lib.swin.edu.au/index.php/ejap>

###### ***Online newspaper article***

Lindwahl, J. (2011, July 31). Nutritional deficiencies in high schoolers’ diets. The New York Times. Retrieved from <http://www.nytimes.com>

***Online magazine article***

Rice, P. (2007, June). Effects of obesity on adolescents’ self-esteem. Monitor on Psychology, 14(8). Retrieved from http://www.apa.org/monitor/

***Government report filed online***

Office of International Security and Peacekeeping Operations. (2012). Hidden killers: The global landmine crisis. (Department of State Publication No. 102550). Retrieved from http://www.oispo.dps.gov/peacekeeping/pdf

*(Note: Publication no. is not always provided.)*

***Web report authored by an organization***

National Institute of Mental Health. (n.d.). Autism spectrum disorders. Retrieved from <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/index.html>

***Web report with author***

Smith, G. (2009). Alzheimer’s: Do head injuries increase risk? Retrieved from Mayo Clinic website: <http://www.mayoclinic.com/health/alzheimers.disease/AN0710>

***Web report with no author***

Pros and cons of controversial issues. (n.d.). Retrieved from <http://www.procon.org>

***Entry in an online reference work***

Colonialism. (n.d.). In Merriam-Webster’s online dictionary (11th ed.). Retrieved from <http://www.m-w./dictionary/colonialism>

***Online Posting: Online Forum, Web Log Message (Blog), Electronic Mailing List***

 *(Important: Ask your instructor if these types of sources are acceptable.)*

Brown, R. (2012, August 7). Re: Body image in pre-adolescent girls [Web log comment]. Retrieved from <http://scienceblogs.com/nutrition/2009/08/the_stereoytpes.phb>