Referencing is very important when writing research papers. In some cases, we may even need to directly quote from another source so as to complement statements we have made in our paper. This is when the knowledge of proper citation comes handy.

In many scientific disciplines, several variations of the author-date style are being used. Here are a couple of examples of APA Citations in text:

- Smith (2000) stated that…
- Jones (1998) has stated that…

In edited collections of journal articles and essays, do not italicize, underline or put quotation marks around titles. In APA style, you should treat these as if they are full books, with the editor's name mentioned in the citation. Therefore, if you are using a DOI to link to the article, you should not italicize the title:

- Defining Film Rhetoric: The Case of the Hitchcock's Vertigo
- There Is Nothing Left to Lose
- Natural-Born Killers
- The Closing of the American Mind

APA citations for direct quotations longer than 40 words, place them in a free-standing block of typewritten lines and omit quotation marks. The quotation should be double-spaced and fully indented. The hanging indentation should be observed. Meaning, all lines after the first line of every quotation are indented 5 spaces from the left margin. Double-spaced citations are used to separate quotations from the text.

For multiple authors, give the last name and initials for all authors unless the source has more than six authors. In such a case, list the first six authors than make use of et al. After the et al., list the last name of the remaining authors. This is especially important if you are referencing multiple references or multiple-author references with the same exact authors in the exact same order:


For collections, episodes of television series, and song titles, put quotation marks around them:

- ...covered over by development (Clayton, 2000).
- When I Met Your Mother
- "Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds"

When capitalizing titles, make sure you capitalize both words in a hyphenated compound word, such as:

- Of Montreal

When capitalizing titles, capitalization is used only for the first word of a title and subtitle, the first word after a colon orDash, and proper nouns. Capitalization is used for all words in the title of a published work. Capitalization is also used in the title of a computer file.

In some cases, you may be asked to provide a signal phrase that mentions the author's last name before or after the quotation. This is especially useful when you want to introduce a quotation that is not directly connected to the previous sentence:

- "Several rivers aside from the Thames once intersected London, although those rivers have since been covered over by development" (Clayton, 2000).

In other cases, you may be asked to provide a signal phrase that mentions the author's last name after the quotation and the closing punctuation mark. This is especially useful when you want to summarize or paraphrase a statement made by the author:

- "The students failed to purchase a style individual that used their data," (Jones, 1998, p. 199).