

American Political Science Association Style Sheet

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Instructions for Citing Materials

All materials referenced in a work should appear in a comprehensive bibliography. Nothing should appear in the bibliography if it is not cited in the work. Materials in the bibliography should be cited according to the format below. There should be no variation in style across items in a bibliography. All works should appear in alphabetical order.

In addition to a complete bibliography, an in-text citation should be provided within the work for the purpose of attribution. The format for in-text citation appears below. If a direct quotation is used, include the page number within the in-text citation as follows: (Smith 2001: 210). Endnotes are not used in the APSA style. Footnotes are used sparingly, and only for the clarification of content. Footnotes are never used for the purpose of attribution.

Single-Authored Books

Bibliographic citation:

Fiorina, Morris P. 1981. *Retrospective Voting in American National Elections*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press.

In-text citation:

(Fiorina 1981)

Dual-Authored Books

Bibliographic citation:

Iyengar, Shanto and Donald R. Kinder. 1989. *News That Matters: Television and American Opinion*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

In-text citation:

(Iyengar and Kinder 1989)

Multiple-Authored Books

Bibliographic citation:

Campbell, Angus, Philip E. Converse, Warren Miller, and Donald Stokes. 1960. *The American Voter* (unabridged edition). Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

In-text citation option 1:

(Campbell, Converse, Miller, and Stokes 1960)

In-text citation option 2:

(Campbell et al. 1960)

Chapter in an Edited Volume

Bibliographic citation:

Putnam, Robert. 2001. "Tuning In, Tuning Out: The Strange Disappearance of Social Capital in America." In *Controversies in Voting Behavior* (4th edition), Eds. Richard G. Niemi and Herbert F. Weisberg. Washington, D.C.: Congressional Quarterly Press.

In-text citation:

(Putnam 2001)

Single-Authored Articles

Bibliographic citation:

Born, Richard. 1990. "Surge and Decline, Negative Voting, and the Midterm Loss Phenomenon: A Simultaneous Choice Analysis." *American Journal of Political Science* 34 (3): 615-645.

In-text citation:

(Born 1990)

Multiple-Authored Articles

Bibliographic citation:

Funk, Carolyn L. and Patricia A. Garcia-Monet. 1997. "The Relationship between Personal and National Concerns in Public Perceptions about the Economy." *Political Research Quarterly* 50 (2): 317-342.

In-text citation:

(Funk and Garcia-Monet 1997)

On-Line Publications

On-line news publication:

Weigel, David. 2010. "Revolution for Sale: Are Members of the Tea Party More Angry or More Gullible?" *Slate*, posted September 8, 4:31 PM ET. <http://www.slate.com/id/2266569/>

Other on-line publication:

Pew Research Center for People and the Press. 2010. "Americans Spending More Time Following the News: Ideological News Sources: Who Watches and Why." September 12 survey report, accessed September 13, 2010. <http://people-press.org/report/652/>

Don't use the URL for the main portal of the website as your sole bibliographic identifier if your material was obtained from anywhere other than the home page itself. You should be citing the page you used, not merely the website you obtained it from.

Do make a PDF or otherwise save materials obtained from on-line sources for future use. If materials move or disappear, you may need an archived copy for reference purposes, and to demonstrate to your instructor where you obtained your information.

User-created websites such as blogs (by non-experts) and Wikipedia are never acceptable sources for a research paper. Similarly, encyclopedias should never be used to write a college paper.

Material obtained on-line should be from a trusted source with known expertise. If you are unable to verify the credentials of your source, then do not use materials from the website.

Newspaper Articles

Bibliographic citation:

Murphy, Sean. 2010. "Atheist Billboard Provokes Oklahoman Christians." *Washington Post*. Posted on September 10, 4:22 PM ET.
<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/09/10/AR2010091004293.html?hpid=sec-religion>

In-text citation:

(Murphy 2010)

In some instances, there may be no identifiable author for a newspaper article. If the story is attributed to a wire service such as the Associated Press (AP) or Reuters, then treat the wire service as the author for the purpose of both in-text citation and alphabetization in your bibliography. If the article you're using has no named author or wire service identified, then the newspaper itself should be treated as the author for all purposes.

When using newspapers as sources for a paper, you may find that you have several works by the same author during the course of the same year. For the purpose of your bibliography, list these in order of temporal precedence. For the purpose of in-text citation, follow the guidelines later in this document for multiple works by the same author in the same year.

Note that many newspapers have both print editions and on-line editions. The on-line edition of an article may not have a page number associated with it if it never appeared in the print edition. If this is the case, it is important that you provide the URL for the article in addition to the usual information.

Datasets

If you are using a dataset in your paper, then you should source that dataset in both your bibliography and in the work itself. It is a common convention to refer to the data set by title and its principal investigators by name in the body of your research design, rather than by using an in-text citation.

When citing your dataset in your bibliography, use the format suggested by the principal investigators of the study (usually found in the codebook for the dataset). For example, the American National Election Studies have a specific preference for their bibliographic citation:

The American National Election Studies. 2010. *The ANES 2008 Time Series Study*, updated September 3, 2010. Stanford University and the University of Michigan

In the case noted above, the organization conducting the study is listed as the author. Sometimes the authors will be the individuals who are the principal investigators. Be careful to note the version of the dataset being used. In some cases, there will be earlier releases, later releases, and even later revisions. These versions may vary substantially both in terms of content and in terms of errors. It is therefore important for your readers to know the version and release date of the data you're using.

In addition, it is a common convention to note the dataset in the form of a notation beneath every table, figure, and chart where that data is used. In such notations, the data source can be abbreviated. For example, an appropriate notation for a table may appear as follows in small text underneath the table: "Source: 2008 American National Election Study."

Direct Quotations

Direct quotations are handled in the same manner as any other attribution, but with the addition of a page number. This will only affect the in-text portion of your citation format.

So, for example, if you're using a quotation from *The American Voter* that appears on page 110 of the book, your in-text citation should appear as follows:

(Campbell et al. 1960: 110)

If your quotation crosses over to page 111, then your in-text citation should appear as follows:

(Campbell et al. 1960: 110-111)

Do place your in-text citation at the end of the quotation being cited, rather than at the end of the paragraph.

You may also use some portion of the citation in the body of your text if you prefer, as in the following example:

David Mayhew (1975) argues that members of Congress pursue a "single-minded goal of re-election" (p. 5).

Temporal Precedence in the Bibliography

All works cited in your bibliography should appear in alphabetical order. When you have a single author who has more than one publication, list the publications in order of temporal precedence, with the most recent publications being first.

Numerous Works by the Same Author in a Single Year

On occasion, you may find that an author has several publications in a single year (this is particularly likely if you're using newspapers as a source). While this does not complicate your bibliography, it will complicate your in-text citations. If Joe Smith has four publications in 2006, then simply citing (Smith 2006) in-text will not make it clear to your reader which Joe Smith article you are citing in any particular instance.

The best solution to this problem is to engage in some additional labeling in your bibliography, and to use that additional labeling in your in-text citations as well. So, for example, if Joe Smith published all four of his works in the Washington Post in 2006, you should use the following strategy in your bibliography:

- Smith, Joe. 2006a. [Washington Post article #1]
- Smith, Joe. 2006b. [Washington Post article #2]
- Smith, Joe. 2006c. [Washington Post article #3]
- Smith, Joe. 2006d. [Washington Post article #4]

For your in-text citations, a reference to Smith's second post article would appear as follows: (Smith 2006b).

Citing Co-Authors

If a work has multiple authors, all authors names must be listed in both your bibliography and your in-text citations. The only exception is when you have more than two authors and you are using the phrase "et al." to refer to all other authors. The et al. shortcut may only be used in your in-text citations. It is never acceptable to use the et al. shortcut in your bibliography.

Omitting references to a co-author from your bibliography, your in-text citations, or the body of your paper itself constitutes academic misrepresentation, which is an Honor Code violation. Simply put, you are failing to give an author credit for their work, and you are falsely attributing the whole of a work to someone else.