Citation Basics

A citation is a credit given to the author of material.  Citations should follow all quoted and paraphrased material.  The basic format for an APA style citation is (Author, year) where the first author’s last name and the year of publication are used to denote which reference you are citing.  Citations should be included within the sentence they are citing (meaning the period should follow the citation, including it as part of the sentence).  The phrase “et al.” as seen in the citation for three or more authors is a Latin phrase, “et” is a whole word and does not need a period, “al.” is an abbreviation and needs a period.

One Author

(Author, year)

Example:

(Smith, 2005)

Two Authors

(Author and Author, year)

Example:

(Smith and Barley, 2005)

Three or more authors

(Author et al., year)

Example:

(Smith et al., year)

Reference Basics

Your references page should contain an APA style reference for every source that you cited in the body of the paper.

Journal Article

Author, F.M. (year). Title of Article. Title of Journal, volume number (issue number), page numbers.

Example:

Smith, H.D., Barley, F.G., and Steam, M.B. (2005).  The best way to write an APA style paper.  Fictitious Journal of APA Style, 24(3), 1004-1120.

Textbook

Author, F.M. (year). Title of Book. Location of Publication: Publisher.

Example:

Carlson, N.R. (2006). Foundations of Physiological Psychology. Boston: Allyn and Bacon.

Website:

Author, F.M. (date of publication). Title of Website. Retrieved month day, year from

http:// webaddresshere.com.

Example:

Vargas, J.S. (n.d.). A Brief Biography of B.F. Skinner. Retrieved January 4, 2008 from http://www.bfskinner.org/brief\_biography.html.

Things to note:

Authors are listed in the order they are presented in the source.  Authors are listed last name followed by first and middle initials, degrees are left out.  The journal title and volume number, title of book, and title of website are presented in italics; the rest of the reference is presented in normal type.  The second and successive lines of the reference are indented 5 spaces.  There is a period at the end of the reference.  In the references page, references are listed alphabetically by first author’s last name.

In addition to this guide, there are several links in the UOP erbsite.

<https://ecampus.phoenix.edu/secure/aapd/grammar/apa.asp>

PLEASE NOTE!

Even though APA style citations and references **may not appear** in the grading criteria for each assignment, I am REQUIRING them for ALL assignments where they are needed.  You will lose points for failing to use appropriate APA style citations and references.  If you are unclear as to how, when, or why to cite, please let me know BEFORE handing in your assignment officially so that we may go over the citations together.