

APSA Citation Style



This guide is based on the American Political Science Association's Style Manual for Political Science (revised 2018 edition). If your instructor has specific requirements for the format of your references page or how to cite sources, please check with your professor and follow their guidelines.

Parenthetical Citations

ASPA in-text citations are based on the Chicago style's author-date system, which means that citations appear in parentheses after quotations, paraphrasing, or information not considered common knowledge (p. 38). Citations include the author and the date of the work with no comma dividing the two. Citations after direct quotations require page numbers; in this case, separate the date from the page number with a comma.

One author

(Arena 2014)

(Durant n.d.)

Two or three authors

(Dodd and Oppenheimer 1977)

(Roberts, Smith, and Haptonstahl 2016)

Four or more authors

(Angel et al. 1986)

Citing more than one source at a time

(Hochschild 2015; Jentleson 2015)

(Hauck 2000; Hauk and Vogelsong 2005; Huck, Smith, and Vogelsong 2010; Jordan et al. 1999, 56–58; Walthall 2012)

Citing direct quotes

(Jentleson 2015, 12–14)

(Fraser 1989, 304, 308)

References

The references page begins on a separate page after the body of the essay.

- Center the word "References" in the middle of the line at the top of the page.
- Double-space the document.
- Use 12-point font.
- Use a hanging indent.
- Arrange the references alphabetically.

Whole book

Last name, First name and First name Last name. Year. *Title of Book*, edition (if applicable). Publication City, State: Publisher.

Example:

Davidson, Roger H., Walter J. Oleszek, Frances E. Lee, and Eric Schickler. 2016. *Congress and Its Members*, 14th edition. Washington, DC: CQ Press.

Chapter in a book

Last name, First name. Year. "Title of the Chapter." Chap. # in *Title of Book*, eds. First name Last name, and First name Last name, page–page. Publication City, State: Publisher.

Example:

Levine, Charles H. 1990. "Human Resource Erosion and the Uncertain Future of the U.S. Civil Service." In *Current Issues in Public Administration*, ed. Frederick S. Lane, 328–53. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

Periodicals/journals

Last name, First name. Year. "Title of Article." *Title of Journal* volume (issue): page–page. DOI, URL, or database name, if applicable.

Example:

Aldrich, John H. 1980. "A Dynamic Model of Presidential Nomination Campaigns." *American Political Science Review* 74 (3): 651–69.

Newspaper

Last name, First name. Year. "Title of Article." *Title of Newspaper*, Month Day. URL, if applicable.

- Page numbers rarely need to be given with newspapers and magazines.
- Titles of newspapers may need a city or country added afterward in parentheses to clarify its location, especially if in a different language.
- For news websites, add the time stamp of the article in the date information if it is readily available online, as news stories are frequently updated.
- An initial *The* is omitted from the title of a newspaper.

Example:

Cuff, Daniel F. 1985. "Forging a New Shape for Steel." *New York Times*, May 26.
<https://www.nytimes.com/1985/05/26/business/forging-a-new-shape-for-steel.html>

Websites

Last name, First name. Year. "Full Title of the Page." Title of the website, blog, or platform. Month Day, time (if applicable). DOI, URL, or database name, if applicable.

Example:

Fiedler, Matthew and Christen Linke Young. 2019. "Current Debates in Health Care Policy: A Brief Overview." Brookings Institute, October 15. <https://www.brookings.edu/policy2020/votervital/current-debates-in-health-care-policy-a-brief-overview/>.

Social media

Screenname. Year. "First 160 characters of the post." Title of the platform, Month Day, time (if applicable). URL, if applicable.

Example:

Chicago Manual of Style. 2015. "Is the world ready for singular they? We thought so back in 1993." Facebook, April 17. <https://www.facebook.com/ChicagoManual/posts/10152906193679151>.

Blog

Last name, First name. Year. "Title of Article." *Title of Blog* [blog], Month Day. URL, if applicable.

Example:

Sides, John. 2008. "Who Will Win the Nominations?" *The Monkey Cage* [blog], January 3.
http://themonkeycage.org/2008/01/who_will_win_the_nominations/.