

Citing Sources Apa Style Tutorial Transcript

Hi, this is Jenny from the UNCG University Libraries and today we're going to talk about everybody's favorite topic: citing your sources in APA Style. In all honesty, this might not be your favorite part of doing research, but it is a really important part of the process. Whenever we use anyone else's words, ideas, phrases, we want to make sure that we're giving credit where credit is due. This helps us avoid plagiarism, and also helps build our credibility as speakers or writers because the people who are reading our papers, or listening to our presentations, can get a sense of where we got our information from.

Even if you don't love citing sources, there are lots of options here at UNCG to get help. You can talk to the Writing or Speaking Center, and of course, you can always use the libraries. We have most of the major style guides behind the reference desk, but we also have this citation style guide's link under Research on our Homepage. You'll notice that across the top we have tabs for lots of different styles that are used here at UNCG, but today we are concerned with APA Style, so I'm clicking that particular tab. All of our guides have the same general format, but I do want to point out the iMinerva chat widget over on the left. If you have questions about citing sources in APA style, you can always ask us for help.

So when we scroll over a bit, we can see the introduction here. It's really important to make sure that you're using the most recent edition of the style guide. So in this case, it gives you the information right up here at the top that tells you we're working with the 6th edition, which is the most recent edition of APA. Major changes often happen from one edition to the next, so you always want to make sure you're using the proper, most recent edition of your style. The library also keeps print copies of all the major style manuals behind the reference desk, so if you need to flip through a book to help you answer your questions, we've got you covered. Come visit us and we'll help you out!

So we're going to scroll down a little bit and you'll see that we have examples of lots of different types of citations. We also have this More Information links box, including a link to the APA Guide from the Owl at Purdue, one my top five favorite websites in the world...a really great, well-organized resource to help you with APA citation. Just keep that in mind as you're looking through. Our site doesn't have quite as many examples as the owl site because that one already exists, so we don't need to reinvent the wheel.

Today we're going to talk about citing two different formats: a website and a scholarly article. So let's say we're doing some research on the history of women in the Olympics. It's summer, 2012 when I'm recording this, so that seems pretty timely. Our webpage example here is going to be what we'll use to kind of guide us through as we're deciding how to site this particular page, which is the Women's Work Commission. There's no author listed here. If you scroll through a little bit you can tell. So in this case, we can use the actual organization, the International Olympic Committee as our author and I can find out who is responsible for the content of the website by looking for an "About" page. So I am going to list them here as our author.

Next, we're going to need a date. For websites, you want to be as specific as you can, so if you have a specific publication date, you can put that in there like you saw in the example. But in our case, I'm not actually seeing that, so the most information I have is that it's copyright in 2012. So I'm going to go ahead and put 2012 in parenthesis and then a period.

What's really important about citing is that you're trying to provide as much information as possible about the particular source you're looking at. So as much detail as you can is great, but you don't have to get hung up though if there is not an exact match to what you see in an example.

The next thing we need is the title of the webpage. In our example, it's *Planking: A beginner's guide*. You'll notice that the capitalization here is only in the first word of the title and then the first word after this colon, so the first word of the subtitle. So just think of it as typing sentence case, how you would type a sentence. You usually capitalize the first letter and then don't capitalize the rest, unless it's a proper noun. In this case, it's a little different. "Women and Sport Commission" is actually the name of an organization within the International Olympic Committee so we would actually be capitalizing that since it is a proper noun.

Finally, we really need to have the URL, or where we retrieved it from. This is really important for people who might want to follow our research through, so we're going to get "retrieved from" and then we can copy our URL directly from the site that we're using. So if I paste that in, what you'll notice is that there's not actually a period at the end. Notice that our example actually is missing a hanging indent. The example that I created here at the bottom does have that hanging indent. You want to make sure that your second and any following lines are all going to be indented. So that's how you site a website! Remember that you can always get back to the Citation Style Guide if you need help with this. Consulting some of these additional resources would also probably be helpful or you can chat with us!

Now we want to cite a scholarly article that we found on the history of women and the Olympics. We've got examples of journal articles, so I'm going to show you the one that I've got here: *Women's Ski Jumping, the 2010 Olympic Games, and the Deafening Silence of Sex Segregation, Whiteness, and Wealth*, which sounds pretty intense, kind of a mouthful in the title, but it would be a great example for us to use to see how we would cite a journal article. So with journal articles, as with any other sources, we're going to start first with our author. In this case, our author is Ann Travers and what we're going to do is insert her name like this: Travers comma A. In APA, we only use the first initial or the first and middle initials for our authors. We don't include the first names. The second piece of information is always going to be that date. Now with scholarly articles, that's often just going to be a year. So in this case, we can see that our article was published in 2011, so we'll add parenthesis, 2011, end parenthesis, period. So now we need to get some titles and there are actually going to be a couple of titles that are involved when you're dealing with journal entries. The first one is going to be the title of the article, and again it's going to be in sentence case. The title of the article on this page is going to be the one in bold letters, so that *Women's Ski Jumping*, and so on, and so on. So you can always copy it and paste it, or it might be a little easier in this case to just type it out so that we can avoid that incorrect case. So we

want to make sure we've got our first word capitalized (so "women's"), so we want to make sure we've got "women's" capitalized, we want to make sure "Olympic Games" since that's a proper noun and everything else is going to be lowercase. Punctuation is really important in all citation styles including APA, so we want to make sure here that after we have our title, we're going to include a period.

The next is going to be the journal title. Now journal titles will be capitalized, fully capitalized actually, because they are proper nouns. So ours is *Journal of Sport and Social Issues* and that's going to be in italics. APA includes journal and book titles always in italics. If you're writing it out on paper, you can underline it, but there's no underlining when you're actually typing out your reference list. After the title, we're actually going to have a comma, and then we're going to need a bunch of numbers. So we're going to start with our volume and issue. In this case, we see that it's 35 (volume 35), and then our issue is 2. So "35" is going to be in italics and "2" is going to be in parenthesis, and not italicized. So you can see from the example it switches right between the volume and the issue from italics to non-italics. After that, you're going to have a comma and then we're going to wrap it up with our page numbers. So this article is really nice because it tells us right here at the top that our page numbers are 126 to 145, so we can copy that and put it right here into our citation.

In this case, we have a DOI: a Digital Object Identifier, which is a unique number that is assigned to an article. If your article has one, it'll be pretty clear, like it is in this case. If not, you can just leave it off. But since we do have one, we want to make sure we include our DOI with the idea that again, we're trying to put out there as much information as we possibly can about the source that we have. So we're going to put that at the end, DOI, colon, and then that whole long list. Just like with URLs from a website, we don't actually need to put a period after our DOI. So just like a web address, you can just leave off a period.

Now, I've done two different types of citations for this presentation that I'm working on about women and the Olympics. Our examples here also include books, interviews and personal communication, like email, government documents, and there's so much more out there. So you want to make sure you take a look at this guide and then remember that you can always get help. So there are lots of examples here, but you can always chat with us, call us, email us, however you want to get in touch with us here at the library, we are here to help you with any part of the research process, including citing your sources. So thanks so much for listening and I hope you have fun citing your sources. Thanks!