

Introduction to APA Formatting

Reference List: Basic Rules

- Each line after the first one is indented ½ inch from the left margin (hanging indentation).
- Entries are alphabetized by last name of first author.
- Authors names are written with last name first, followed by one or two initials.
- List full name of journals, capitalize as the journal does, and place in italics. Do not use italics anywhere else in citation.
- Capitalize first word only of titles of articles, books, chapters, and web pages. Only capitalize proper nouns or the first word after a colon

Examples

Journal article-

Kemp, F., Foster, C., & McKinlay, S. (1994). How effective is training for blood pressure measurement?. *Professional Nurse*, 9(8), 521.

Online journal article-

Johnson, K. D., Winkelman, C., Burant, C. J., Dolansky, M., & Totten, V. (2014). The Factors that Affect the Frequency of Vital Sign Monitoring in the Emergency Department. *JEN: Journal Of Emergency Nursing*, 40(1), 27-35.
doi:10.1016/j.jen.2012.07.023

Book-

Judd, D. M., Sitzman, K., & Davis, M. (2010). *A history of American nursing: Trends and eras*. Sudbury, Mass: Jones and Bartlett Publishers.

Webpage-

Institute of Medicine (2010). The future of nursing: Leading change, advancing health [report brief].
Retrieved from <http://www.iom.edu/Reports/2010/the-future-of-nursing-leading-change-advancing-health.aspx>

In-Text Citations: Basic Rules

- Author-date method is used, meaning that author's last name and year of publication is reported in text.
- Page numbers are necessary for a direct quote and are encouraged for paraphrasing.
- All sources cited in the text should appear in the full reference list at end of paper.

Examples

Use the parentheses in text to list all authors and date of publication-

The literature supports training to improve blood pressure measurement (Kemp, Foster & McKinlay, 1994).

For works with 3-5 authors, use et al for subsequent citation-

The literature also suggests that hands-on practice should be incorporated (Kemp et al., 1994).

When referring to author in text, omit the author's name from the in-text citation-

According to the Institute of Medicine (2010), supports should be in place to allow nurses to achieve the highest level of training possible.

When citing more than one work, order them alphabetically and separate by semi-colon-

The accuracy of vital sign measurement can be influenced by many factors (Kemp et. al., 1994; Johnson, Winkelman, Burant, & Trotten, 2014).

There are many resources available to help you learn APA style. Refer to the choosing and citing sources page on the nursing guide for links to some of these... <http://guides.lib.uiowa.edu/choosingandcitingresources>