

APA In-Text Citations

APA CITATIONS IN THE BODY OF YOUR PAPER

APA citations follow specific conventions that distinguish them from other styles. In most cases, APA citations in your text will follow the guidelines illustrated in the following examples:



Inspector Owl

Click on the listings below to see how in-text citations work depending on the number of authors and/or publications.

APA In-Text Citations

APA CITATIONS IN THE BODY OF YOUR PAPER

APA citations follow specific conventions that distinguish them from other styles. In most cases, APA citations in your text will follow the guidelines illustrated in the following examples:



Inspector Owl

Single Author

When you list the source of information you are using in your paper, you need to list the last name of the author (without his or her initials), followed by a comma, and then the year of publication. If you refer to the author(s) directly in your text, then you only list the year (and page number, if needed).

Examples:

One scholar argued that it is impossible to measure social class (Calvert, 1982).

Calvert (1982) argued that it is impossible to measure social class.

APA In-Text Citations

APA CITATIONS IN THE BODY OF YOUR PAPER

APA citations follow specific conventions that distinguish them from other styles. In most cases, APA citations in your text will follow the guidelines illustrated in the following examples:



Inspector Owl

Two Authors

Authors should be presented in the order that they appear in the published article. If they are cited within closed brackets, use the ampersand (&) between them. If they are not enclosed in brackets, then use the spelled out “and.”

Examples:

A well-known study argued that social class is rapidly becoming obsolete (Calvert & Liu, 1987).

Calvert and Liu (1987) argued that social class is rapidly becoming obsolete.

APA In-Text Citations

APA CITATIONS IN THE BODY OF YOUR PAPER

APA citations follow specific conventions that distinguish them from other styles. In most cases, APA citations in your text will follow the guidelines illustrated in the following examples:



Inspector Owl

Three to Five Authors

With three to five authors, the first reference to an article includes all authors. Subsequent citations in the same document may refer to the article by the principal author only plus “[et al.](#)” However, all authors must be present in the references section.

Examples:

A well-known study argued that social class is rapidly becoming obsolete (Calvert, Liu, & Smith, 1987).

Calvert, Liu, and Smith (1987) argued that social class is rapidly becoming obsolete.

Calvert et al. (2005) argued that social class is rapidly becoming obsolete.

A recent study argued that the concept of social class is rapidly becoming obsolete (Calvert et al., 1987).

APA In-Text Citations

APA CITATIONS IN THE BODY OF YOUR PAPER

APA citations follow specific conventions that distinguish them from other styles. In most cases, APA citations in your text will follow the guidelines illustrated in the following examples:



Inspector Owl

Six Authors or More

Starting with the first author mentioned in the text, the correct format is (Author et al., Year). In the reference section, all six authors' names should be included.

Example:

Calvert et al. (1987) argued that the concept of social class is rapidly becoming obsolete

APA In-Text Citations

APA CITATIONS IN THE BODY OF YOUR PAPER

APA citations follow specific conventions that distinguish them from other styles. In most cases, APA citations in your text will follow the guidelines illustrated in the following examples:



Inspector Owl

Multiple Publications, Same Author

If an author has multiple publications that you wish to cite, you use a comma to separate the years of publication in chronological order (oldest to most recent). If the publications occur in the same year, the American Psychological Publication Manual recommends using suffixes a, b, c, etc. (note that corresponding letters should be used in the reference list, and these references should be ordered alphabetically by title).

Examples:

A recent study argued for the abolition of social class. (Calvert, 2004, 2005a, 2005b).

Calvert (2004, 2005a, 2005b) argued for the abolition of social class.

APA In-Text Citations

APA CITATIONS IN THE BODY OF YOUR PAPER

APA citations follow specific conventions that distinguish them from other styles. In most cases, APA citations in your text will follow the guidelines illustrated in the following examples:



Inspector Owl

Multiple Publications, Same Author

Follow the rules for one author above, and use a semicolon to separate articles. The authors should be cited in alphabetical order, and the years of publication in chronological order.

Examples:

A recent study argued for the abolition of social class. (Calvert, 1987; Liu, 2004, 2005; Smith, 2003)

Direct quotes:

The same rules as above apply here, with the format being: (Author, Year, Page Number).

When asked why social class was becoming obsolete, Jennings simply said, “It’s an outdated concept.” (Calvert, 1987, p. 69)