

AMA Citation Style Guide (10th ed.)

This guide is developed in line with American Medical Association. *AMA Manual of Style: A Guide for Authors and Editors*. 10th ed. London, UK: Oxford University Press; 2007.

General Principles of Formatting

AMA Manual of style is not very specific about formatting requirements, and most of the time students should follow the instructions of their professors. Following are the recommendations of style if none are provided by the instructor.

- Double-spacing
- Margins - 1" (2.54 cm)
- Any font type. 12 pt. AMA suggests two typefaces (a serif for body text and a sans serif for titles and subheads) with appropriate use of styles, such as bold and italics for a scholarly publication.
- Every page should be numbered starting with the title page. Page numbers are usually put in the upper left corner.

Papers written in AMA are required to have four sections:

- Title Page
- Abstract (structured or unstructured)
- Body (introduction, methods, results, discussion)
- References

Title Page

AMA style does not have strict rules about formatting the title page; however, it should include several crucial features:

- Title
- Authors' Name
- Degrees (above bachelors)
- E-mail Addresses
- Institutional Affiliation
- Word Count (for text only, excluding title, abstract, references, tables, and figures)

Remember that every instructor may have his or her preferences in organizing the title page.

Abstract

- Abstracts are written on a separate page.
- **The word "Abstract" is written in UPPER CASE, left justified, boldface, and has a triple-space afterward it.**
- The text on the abstract page is NOT indented.
- The sections of the abstract are single-spaced with double spaces between them.
- Structured abstracts are used for original data, systematic reviews, and clinical reviews; they are usually limited to 250-300 words.
- Unstructured abstracts are used for every other manuscript and are limited to 150 words.
- 3-10 keywords should be placed after the abstract.

Headings

Level 1. Left-aligned, Bold, Uppercase and Lowercase. Double Space After.

Level 2. Centered, Italicized, Uppercase and Lowercase. Double Space After.

Reference List

The reference list is put on a separate page with the title "**References**" bold and left hand justified on the top of the page. Every source used in the body of the paper must appear in the reference list. Here is the list of requirements for the organization of this page:

- All the references are numbered and listed in the order they appear in the body of the paper.
- Reference numbers are indented 0.25".
- The reference page is single-spaced with double spaces between entries.
- Regardless of the type of source referenced, a comma is never inserted between the last name and the first name of the author.
- If a piece of information and/or idea is borrowed from a specific page or range of pages, numbers of the said pages should be identified at the end of the corresponding reference.

Authors' last names are fully spelled. First name and middle name initials are put after the last name with no periods or commas between them.

Example:

1. Wolf ZR. Nursing practice breakdowns: Good and bad nursing. *Medsurg Nursing*. 2012;21(1):16-36

When identifying page numbers, be sure to put them in full without shortenings. In addition, there are no spaces after the year of publishing

Example of an incorrect entry:

1. Riley JB. *Communication in Nursing*. 8th Ed. St. Louis, MO: Elsevier. 2017: 111-7.

Example of a correct entry:

1. Riley JB. *Communication in Nursing*. 8th Ed. St. Louis, MO: Elsevier. 2017:111-117.

References

Citing Books

When citing a book, a student is to provide authors' last names as they appear on the cover of the book with initials. Commas are put between the authors' names and a period is put after the last author's name. After that, you are to state the title of the book in *italics* with capitalization. Then the publication place and the publisher's name is given. At the end of the entry, provide the year of the publication and page numbers, when specific pages are cited.

One author

1. Drewett P. *Field Archaeology: An Introduction*. London, England: UCL Press; 2012.

Note:

- Locations in the U.S. or Canada: City, 2-letter State abbreviation.
- Locations outside the US: City, Country.
- Provide the name of the publisher after a colon, excluding Co. and Inc., which are not necessary for the identification of the publisher. However, do not omit the words Books and Press.
- Use a semicolon before providing the year of the publication.
- If the date of publication cannot be located, use the words "date unknown" in place of the date.

Two to six authors

1. Greene J, Scott D. *Finding Sand Creek*. Norman, OK: University of Oklahoma Press; 2004.
2. McNeil AJ, Frey R, Embrechts P. *Quantitative Risk Management: Concepts, Techniques and Tools*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press; 2015.

More than seven authors

Provide last names and initials for the first three authors of the work and add "et al." after the third author.

1. Mehrer M, Flatman J, Flemming N, et al. *GIS and Archaeological Site Location Modeling*. Boca Raton, FL: Taylor & Francis; 2006.

Corporate/organization author

For corporate authors, AMA style offers to use the acronym (if applicable) instead of the full name.

1. Ministry of Health. *Future Directions for Eating Disorders Services in New Zealand*. Wellington, New Zealand: Author; 2008.
2. WorldatWork. *WorldatWork Handbook of Compensation, Benefits, & Total Rewards: A Comprehensive Guide for HR Professionals*. Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons; 2007.

Unknown author

1. *Alluvial Archaeology in Europe*. New York, NY: Routledge; 2009.

Edited book, no author

In reference to an edited book with no author, move the editor name to the author position and follow it with the abbreviation **ed.** for one editor or **eds.** for multiple editors.

1. Palenchar M, Greenwald H, eds. *The Management of Organizations: Responsibility for Performance*. New York, NY: Russell Sage Foundation; 2009.

Edited book with an author/authors

When citing an edited source, place the editor's last name and immediately after the book's title, followed by the abbreviation **ed.** for one editor or **eds.** for multiple editors after a comma.

1. Calfee M. *Strategic Issues Management: A Systems and Human Resources Approach*. Emory KV, ed. Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass; 2011.

An author with a translator

When referencing a translated book, place the name(s) of the translator(s) immediately after the book's title, add the abbreviation **trans.**

1. Leary P. *Metaphors in the History of Psychology*. Burt AW, Kernberg FL, trans. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press; 2009.

Different editions

Include information about the edition in immediately after the title. No italics or parentheses. Never indicate the first edition.

1. Shotton ML, Schiraldi G. *The Need for Revision*. 2nd ed. Chicago, IL: Dover; 2016.

Chapter in an edited book

When citing a chapter of an edited book, put the authors of the chapter in the author's position and cite the name of the chapter without italics or capitalization. Enter the word **In** and state the editors' names in general format followed by abbreviation **ed.** Please pay special attention to the page numbers as they are required for this type of source.

1. Wiener P. Gender issues across the globe. In Krugman AA, Kempe FD, eds. *Gender Identity and Gender Politics*. Frankfurt, Germany: Springer; 2013:134-146.

Multivolume work

Give volume number preceded by Vol / Vols with no period. End with a period.

1. Haybron DM. *Perspectives on Piaget's Theory*. Vols 1–4. New York, NY: McGraw-Hill; 2011.

Encyclopedia/dictionary

1. Graham T, ed. *Encyclopedia of Psychology: The Great Discoveries*. Vols 1–3. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO; 2009.

Note:

- If a specific entry is used, it is cited as a book chapter with page numbers being an essential part of the citation.

- Remember to put the entry's author in the first position.
 - If the entry's author is unknown, start with the name of the entry.
1. Wallace RJ Jr, Griffith DE. Antimycobacterial agents. In: Kasper DL, Fauci AS, Longo DL, Braunwald E, Hauser SL, Jameson JL, eds. *Harrison's Principles of Internal Medicine*. 16th ed. New York, NY: McGraw-Hill; 2005:946.

Online book

Online books are cited as printed books with the addition of URL and access date.

1. Kolt GS, Andersen MB, eds. *Psychology in the Physical and Manual Therapies*. Edinburgh, Scotland: Churchill Livingstone; 2004.
<http://www.netLibrary.com/urlapi.asp?action=summary&v=1&bookid=79424>. Accessed January 24, 2019.

Online book (no date and publication place)

When citing electronic books when there is no available data about the publication date and place, state the name of the website, provide a URL and the access date.

1. Kopf R. *Low Blood Pressure—Hypotension Treated with Homeopathy and Schuessler Salts (Homeopathic Cell Salts)*. Booktrix. https://www.booktrix.com/_ebook-robert-kopf-low-blood-pressure-hypotension-treated-with-homeopathy-and-schuessler-salts-homeopathic/. Accessed January 18, 2019.

Chapter in an online book or web document

1. National Research Center. Chapter 2: How teachers teach: Specific methods. In National Research Center. *Science Teaching Reconsidered: A Handbook*. Washington, DC: National Academy Press; 1997. <https://www.nap.edu/read/5287/chapter/3>. Accessed January 18, 2019.

Online encyclopedia/dictionary

When citing an online encyclopedia or a dictionary, include the name of the website after the title of the work.

1. Kashmiri Shaiva philosophy. In Fieser J, Dowden B, eds. *Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy*. IEP. <http://www.iep.utm.edu/kashmiri/>. Accessed January 18, 2019.

Citing Articles in Periodicals

Scholarly journal article

1. Williams P. Emotions and consumer behavior. *JCR*. 2014;40(5):8–11.

Magazine article

1. Columbus L. Roundup of cloud computing forecasts and market estimates. *Forbes Magazine*. March 16, 2016:1–3.

Newspaper article

1. Gellman B, Nakashima E. US spy agencies mounted 231 offensive cyber-operations in 2011, documents show. *Washington Post*. July 25, 2013:C3–C4.

Letter to the editor in a magazine

1. Jenkins J. It's time for the President to take responsibility for his words and actions [Letter to the editor]. *The Washington Post*. January, 2017;233:17.

Review article

There are no special rules for citing review articles in AMA citation style. Therefore, students are to use the general format for citing articles

1. Raab J. Extending Our Knowledge on Network Governance. *Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory*. 2013;24(2):531-535.

Abstract

You may use the abstract only if the full article is not available. If you are citing the abstract as part of the full article, cite the full article without any additions. Otherwise, add information about the abstract in square brackets including the number of the abstract or the citation of the journal it originally came from.

1. Elnor VM, Hassan AS, Frueh BR. Graded full-thickness anterior blepharotomy for upper eyelid retraction [abstract taken from *Arch Ophthalmol*. 2004;122(1):55-60]. *Arch Facial Plast Surg*. 2004;6(4):277.

Article in an online journal (DOI)

According to the 10th edition of the AMA Style Guide, it is advisable to provide a DOI of an article if it is available. There is only one accepted format of DOI that is put after the page numbers:
doi:0000000/000000000000

1. Baldwin DS, Anderson IM, Nutt DJ. Evidence-based pharmacological treatment of anxiety disorders, post-traumatic stress disorder and obsessive-compulsive disorder: A revision of the 2005 guidelines from the British Association for Psychopharmacology. *Journal of Psychopharmacology*. 2014;28(5):403–439. doi:10.1177/0269881114525674

Article in an online journal (without DOI)

When citing online journals with no DOI, AMA requires students to state the URL, published or last updated date, and the access date.

1. Round J. Apocatastasis: Redefining tropes of the Apocalypse in Neil Gaiman and Dave McKean's Signal to Noise. *International Online Journal of Comic Art*. 2015;15.
<http://eprints.bournemouth.ac.uk/26013/>. Published January 9, 2017. Accessed January 18, 2019.

Online newspaper/magazine article

1. Tuchman P. How do you sell a work of art built into the earth? *The New York Times*.
https://www.nytimes.com/2017/01/27/arts/design/robert-smithson-earthwork-art.html?smid=pl-share&_r=0. Published January 27, 2017. Accessed January 18, 2019.

Online book review

There are no special rules for citing online book reviews in AMA citation style. Therefore, you are to use the general format for citing articles

1. Ascher M. But I thought the earth belonged to the living. *Texas Law Review*. 2011;89(2):1149–1177. <http://www.texasrev.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/Ascher-89-TLR-1149.pdf>. Accessed January 18, 2019.

Note:

- Alternatively, provide a DOI instead of a link.
- If the publication date is unknown, avoid the section.

Citing Dissertations and Theses

Dissertation/thesis

The general format for dissertations and theses is as follows:

Author AA. *Title of Work*. [Dissertation or master's thesis]. Location: Institution; Year. If the thesis is available online, add the URL, publication date (if available), and the access date.

1. Patel B. *A Computational Pipeline to Uncover Genomic Regulatory Regions That Modulate the WNT Signaling Pathway*. [Undergraduate thesis]. Stanford, CA: Stanford University; 2016.
2. Patel B. *A Computational Pipeline to Uncover Genomic Regulatory Regions That Modulate the WNT Signaling Pathway*. [Undergraduate thesis]. Stanford, CA: Stanford University; 2016. <https://searchworks.stanford.edu/view/jz288sd3151>. Accessed January 18, 2019.

Citing Learning Environment

Online lecture notes/presentation slides

When citing lectures, put the professor's name in the author's position. Never use italics in the title of the lectures.

1. Arnold D. Functional analysis [Class lectures]. Stanford, CA: Stanford University; 2016. <http://www-users.math.umn.edu/~arnold/502.s97/functional.pdf>. Accessed January 18, 2019.

AMA style allows putting an author's or a presenter's name in the author position when citing presentations.

1. Pomije B. Online shopping. Presented at: Class lecture, January 9, 2011; Stanford, CA. <http://www.slideshare.net/pobr0702/online-shopping-presentation-10492184>. Accessed January 18, 2019

Citing Web Sources

Page from website

1. Preston J. John Preston on the Thorpe affair. Penguin Books. <https://www.penguin.co.uk/articles/on-writing/why-i-write/2016/john-preston-on-the-thorpe-affair/>. Published 2017. Accessed January 18, 2019

Page from website with unknown author

1. How sibling rivalry made Anne the 'neglected' Brontë. Penguin Books.
<https://www.penguin.co.uk/articles/on-writing/times-and-life/2017/jan/how-sibling-rivalry-made-anne-the-other-bronte/>. Published 2017. Accessed January 18, 2019.

Page from website. Organization

When citing a webpage from an organization's website, put the organization's name after the title of the webpage instead of the name of the website.

1. WHO statement on reports of alleged misconduct. World Health Organization.
<https://www.who.int/news-room/detail/17-01-2019-who-statement-on-reports-of-alleged-misconduct/>. Published January 17, 2019. Accessed January 18, 2019.

Blog

There are no special rules for citing blog posts; therefore, AMA suggests using the general format for websites.

1. Cush A. You'll never guess who's angry about CNN "deceptively" editing a video of Sylville Smith's sister. Gawker. <http://gawker.com/youll-never-guess-whos-angry-about-cnn-deceptively-ed-1785416442>. Published August 17, 2016. Accessed January 17, 2019.

Video or film

AMA citation style allows putting a director's or a producer's name in the author's position. Make sure to put a medium in square brackets.

1. Nguyen H, Solanki V. *Caffeinated: Every Cup of Coffee Has a Story* [Amazon Streaming]. United States: Film Buff; 2015.

Podcast/YouTube

When citing a video, provide the author only if you are sure that the person created the video. Do not list the person posting the video online as the author. If you are unsure, treat the citation as having no author.

1. Alcock P. Electromagnetic levitation quadcopter [Video]. YouTube.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pCON4zfMzjU>. Published June 29, 2012. Accessed January 17, 2019.

Personal communication / Unpublished material

Personal communication and unpublished material are not included in the reference list. However, parenthetical in-text citation is a must.

Examples:

(K. Dawson, personal communication, April, 2010).

In a conversation with Dr. Smith (October 2009)...

As described in recent literature (H. E. Marman, MD, unpublished data, January 2005)...

Citing Governmental Sources

Government publication

1. United States Congress House Committee on Energy and Commerce. DOE for the 21st century: Science, Environment, and National Security Missions. *E&C Publication No. 114–119*. Washington, DC: U.S. Government Publishing Office. Published November 16, 2017.

In-text citations

AMA citations style uses superscripts to give credit to the initial author of an idea or information that the student has borrowed. The superscript number should appear to the right of periods, commas, and quotation marks and to the left of colons and semicolons. Give credit to all the sources that were used in a sentence by using unique superscript numbers.

Example:

The engineer announced that the house was built on solid ground¹; however, the observers doubted that.

When using direct quotations, the superscript number is put outside the quotation marks.

Example:

“The role of obesity on the development of allergic rhinitis is not well defined, whereas allergic rhinitis may have an impact on obesity.”¹

If the direct quotation is four lines or longer, it should be indented and put into a distinct section with a reduced type. In this case, no quotation marks are needed.

Example:

The report states:

Allergic diseases, such as asthma and allergic rhinitis, are common chronic inflammatory diseases of the airways. Obesity is an increasingly common pediatric disease and is a risk factor for the development of asthma in that obese patients with asthma tend to have more severe asthma that does not respond well to standard asthma therapy. On the contrary, children with asthma maybe at a high risk of obesity, suggesting that the relationship of asthma and obesity seems to be interrelated.¹

When citing the same source more than once, include the page number in the reference in parentheses.

Example:

The engineer announced that the house was built on solid ground.¹⁽¹⁴⁾