

# Making Sense of APA Style

University Writing Center (UWC)

Fall 2013

Does this look like you when you are trying to cite in a paper?



# An Introduction to APA Style

- \* Who uses APA?

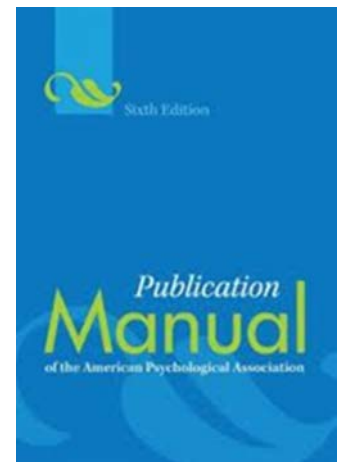
- \* Social Sciences, such as Psychology, Linguistics, Sociology, Economics, and Criminology

- \* Business

- \* Nursing →

- \* Education →

Especially at UWG!!



# An Introduction to APA Style (cont'd)

- \* Why do we use APA?
  - \* Using APA Style makes it easier for readers to understand a text by providing a familiar structure they can follow. Abiding by APA's standards as a writer will allow you to:
    - \* Provide readers with cues they can use to follow your ideas
    - \* Allow readers to focus more on your ideas by not distracting them with unfamiliar formatting
    - \* Establish your credibility or ethos (ethical appeal) in the field by demonstrating an awareness of your audience and their needs as fellow researchers

# What issues have you had with APA?

- \* General formatting of the document?
- \* Inserting correct in-text citations?
- \* Crafting a coherent “References” page?
- \* Finding resources to help with particular aspects of the style?

# Aspects of APA: Overall Document Format and Appearance?

- \* When writing a paper in APA style, you need to make sure to:
  - \* Include **1 inch margins** on all sides of the paper
  - \* Use a **clear font that is highly readable** (preferably **Times New Roman, 12 pt.**)
  - \* **Double space** throughout the document (exception: block quotes!)
  - \* Include a **page header** (also known as a **“running head”**)
  - \* Must include four major sections:
    - \* **Title Page**
    - \* **Abstract**
    - \* **Main Body**
    - \* **References**
- \* [http://bcs.bedfordstmartins.com/resdoc5e/res5e\\_ch09\\_s1-0009.html](http://bcs.bedfordstmartins.com/resdoc5e/res5e_ch09_s1-0009.html) (Sample APA paper--look at formatting!)

# Aspects of APA: In-Text Citations?

- \* For all in-text citations, except those following block quotations, **the reference is placed immediately before the final punctuation mark of the sentence that refers to that source.** In all citations, elements (such as author, publication year, and page number) are separated from each other by commas.
- \* For more information about in-text citations for APA, I encourage you to consult the *Publications Manual of the American Psychological Association* (pgs. 169-192).

# Aspects of APA: In-Text Citations?

- \* When citing in APA, you need to recognize that there is a difference between citing direct quotations and paraphrasing.
- \* Examples:
  - \* **Direct quotation (less than 40 words)**
    - \* (Smith, 2005, p. 6).
  - \* **Direct quotation (more than 40 words)**
    - \* .(Smith, 2005, p. 6)
  - \* **Paraphrasing (one author)**
    - \* (Tisdelle, 2008).
  - \* **Paraphrasing (two authors)**
    - \* (Johnson & Klein, 2010).
  - \* **Paraphrasing (multiple authors)**
    - \* First citation: (Bowen, Simpson, & Stewart, 2009).
    - \* Subsequent citations: (Bowen et al., 2009).



# Aspects of APA: In-Text Citations? (cont'd)

- \* What do I do if...
  - \* **No author is listed**
    - \* Example: Leadership is not a scientific art (“Leadership versus management,” 2008).
  - \* **Personal communication**
    - \* Example: Talking with N. Macklin (personal communication, May 30, 2008)...
  - \* **Electronic references**
    - \* Examples: (McDowell, 2008, para. 2).  
(McDowell, 2008, Union Power section, para. 2).

# Aspects of APA: References?

- \* Your reference page serves to show your reader exactly **what sources you utilized in your paper, where they came from, and ultimately how credible they are in terms of content and overall scope**. Note that different sources may be cited differently and have specific requirements for the citation to be complete and accurate.
- \* For more information about reference pages and the citations therein, I encourage you to consult the *Publications Manual of the American Psychological Association* (pgs. 193-224).

# Aspects of APA: References?

- \* Common entries on references page in APA include:
  - \* **Book:** Jackson, L.P. (2008). *The times are changing for urban developers* (2nd ed.). Boston, MA: Allester and Bacon.
  - \* **Journal:** Roddy, P.K. (2004). A study of communication between a 1964 rock band and youth: The influence of The Rolling Stones on American teenagers. *Journal of Social Commentary*, 23(2), 254-287.

# Aspects of APA: References? (cont'd)

- \* **Newspaper**: Helm, T.R. (2007, May 23). Terrorism in the food chain. *The Montgomery Times*, pp. A1, A11.
- \* **Internet journal**:
  - \* **If digital object identifier (DOI) is available**:  
Ostroff, C. (2002). The relationship between satisfaction, attitudes, and performance: An organizational level analysis. *Journal of Applied Psychology*, 12(2), 963-974. doi: 10:2114-445.57.291

# Aspects of APA: References? (cont'd)

- \* **Internet Journal: If DOI is not available:**

Griffeth, R.W., Horn, P.W., & Gaertner, S. (2004). A meta-analysis of antecedents and correlates of employee turnover. Update, moderator tests, and research implications for the next millennium. *Journal of Management*, 26(3), 463-476. Retrieved from <http://www.nwlink.com/~donplark/leader/learnor2.html>

# Aspects of APA: Where to find aspects you can't memorize?

- \* ***Publications Manual of the American Psychological Association:*** this would be my first point of reference for this style. This book is fairly easy to navigate and provides a wealth of information about the style and how to use it efficiently.
  - \* **ISBN: 978-1-4338-0561-5**
- \* ***APA: The Easy Way!***: this text is, what could be considered, “APA-simplified.” This text gives you the same information that is contained in the main manual, but in a condensed version.
  - \* **ISBN: 978-0-923568-96-2**
- \* **OWL At Purdue:** this website is wonderful in providing information concerning various writing styles:  
<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>.

# A Final Note...

- \* Also, always feel free to visit the UWC anytime with any questions pertaining to APA style and how to navigate the different aspects therein.
- \* 678-839-6513
- \* [writing@westga.edu](mailto:writing@westga.edu)
- \* TLC 1201 (First floor, past the snacks)
- \* [www.westga.edu/writing](http://www.westga.edu/writing)
- \* Like us on Facebook: University Writing Center (UWG)
- \*

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- \* Duane Theobald (Manager)
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- \* [dtheobal@westga.edu](mailto:dtheobal@westga.edu)

