What is APA Style?

APA is an editorial style developed by the American Psychological Association for use in their discipline. However, other **social** and **behavioral sciences** have adapted APA style over the years. The APA editorial style refers to the rules or guidelines a publisher uses to ensure consistent presentation of written material, that is, for punctuation and abbreviation, table constructions, headings, reference citation, use of electronic references, and the presentation of statistics on a paper.

APA Style Format:

1. Double space all text.
2. Single space all figures and tables.
3. Use one-inch margins all around.
4. Center the title of your paper using proper capitalization.
5. Center your name under the title with your institutional affiliation right below it.
6. Use 12 point font size
7. Number all pages in upper -right corner using arabic numerals (1,2,3...)
8. A shorten version of your title should appear in the upper-left corner of each page (this is often referred to as the running head).

Citing Sources within the Body of the Paper:

Put the author's last name followed by the year the work was published in parenthesis .

Example: Smith (1998) reported ….."bla bla bla bla............" (Smith, 1998).

If the work has two authors, follow the same format,include the last names of both authors followed by the year the work was published in parentheses.

Example: Mabrey and Lien (2009) explain …."bla bla bla........................." (Mabrey & Lien, 2009).

For works by two to five authors use the format above; include all the last names followed by the year of publication.

For works by six or more authors, include the last names of the first author followed by "et al." *a*nd the year of publication in parentheses.

Example: Macias et al. (2012) show ….."bla bla bla..." (Macias et al., 2012).

Reference List:

1. APA style needs a reference list at the end, not a bibliography or works cited page.
2. Begin the reference list with a new page.
3. Alphabetize the list by the last names of the authors.

Books by one author:
Author's last name, initials. (Year of publication). *Book Title.* Place of Publication: Publisher.

Example:
Freire, P. (2000). *Pedagogy of the Oppressed*. New York: Continuum.

Chapter in edited book:
Author's last name, initials. (Year of publication). Title of article. In initials of last name of editor (Ed.) *Title of Book.* (pages article covers). Place of Publication: Publisher.

Example:
Jaramillo, N. and S. Barros. (2011). Labyrinth of Ignorance. In N. Jaramillo & E. Malewski (Eds.), *Epistemologies of Ignorance in Education* (pp. 71-86). Charlotte NC.: Information Age Pub.

Typical Structure of an APA formatted paper:

I. Abstract
II. Keyworks
III. Introduction
IV. Mehtod
V. Results
VI. Discussion
VII. Experiments
VIII. Analysis
IX. References
X. Footnotes
XI. Appendices and Supplemental materials.

For more information on how to cite edited books, websites, articles, interviews, plays, etc, please visit the Purdue University Online Writing Lab (OWL) or use the handouts and writing manuals available to you at the TRiO office.

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This handout was compiled by Carlos Macias Prieto for TRiO Student Support Services, Laney CC. *Diana Hacker's A Pocket Style Manua*l (5th ed.) and the *APA/MLA Guidelines Quick Stud*y were used as references for this handout.April 12, 2012.