ASA STYLE: WHAT IS IT?

“ASA Style” refers to the publication style of the American Sociological Association. This handout summarizes citation formatting in Sociology (not manuscript formatting).

REFERENCES AND CITATIONS IN TEXT: The following are examples of reference list citation and text citations.

- A reference list follows the text in a separate section headed “References.” References should be double-spaced and listed in alphabetical order.
- Citation in text are within the body of the essay.

If authors’ names are not explicitly mentioned in the text, the writer should include a citation of the author’s name and date of publication, followed by a colon and the page number (if relevant). NO space between colon and pages.

Because publishing or even presenting research has become increasing difficult, research posters are not only “one of the most common ways of presenting research” but also one of the most important ways novice and experienced professionals in social science and science fields learn, network, and collaborate in their research communities (Silvia, Delaney, and Marcovitch 2007:117).

If authors are included in the text, follow the authors with the year of publication.

Silvia, Delaney, and Marcovitch (2007) found that research posters are one of the most important ways novice and experienced professionals in social science and science fields learn, network, and collaborate in their research communities.

If authors are included in the text and you are citing a page reference, include the year of publication and page number at the end of the quotation.

Silvia, Delaney, and Marcovitch found that research posters are not only “one of the most common ways of presenting research” but also one of the most important ways novice and experienced professionals in social science and science fields learn, network, and collaborate in their research communities (2007:117).

Note: Always write out all authors in the reference list. For in text citation, you can use “et al.” after the first author, when you have four or more authors. For three authors, write out all the author’s last names in the first text citation; then use the first author’s last name and “et al.”
Citing Numbers: According to the ASA Style Guide, 6th edition: “In text citations and reference lists, . . . page references should be eliding numbers using the following rules” (39).

- Use all digits for pages numbered less than 100
  Example: 42-43, 92-98.

- For page ranges starting on pages numbered 100 or multiples of 100, use all digits:
  Example: 100-108, 1300-1325.

However:

- For page ranges starting on pages numbered 101 to 109, or 201 to 209 etc., use the changed part only.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Correct</th>
<th>Incorrect</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>pp. 364-65</td>
<td>pp. 364-365</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pp. 209-10</td>
<td>pp. 209-210</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- For page ranges starting on pages numbered 110-199, 210-299, etc., use two digits unless more are needed to include all changed parts.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Correct</th>
<th>Incorrect</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>pp. 421-28</td>
<td>pp. 421-428</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pp. 596-628</td>
<td>pp. 596-28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pp. 1301-25</td>
<td>pp. 1301-1325</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pp. 1151-59</td>
<td>pp. 1151-1159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pp. 1394-414</td>
<td>pp. 1394-1414</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Book & Edited Book

Last Name, First Name. (include “ed.” or “eds.” if the editor is the focus). Year of Publication. “If Applicable Provide Title of Essays in Book Chapter: Capitalize Proper Nouns.” Italicized Title of Longer Works or Resource Such as Book Title. Location: Publisher. [NOTE: When you have more than one author, the authors’ names following the first author is not inverted]

Author of a book


(Ngai 2004)

(Lee et al. 2004:3)

**Chapter in an edited volume.**


(Brown and Getz 2011)

**Multivolume book**

Last Name, First Name. (include “ed.” or “eds.” if the editor is the focus). Year of Publication. *Italicized Title of Series*. Vol. #, *Italicized Title of Volume*. Location: Publisher.


(Gulla 2006)

**Article in Print Journal or Online Journal**

Last Name, First Name. Year of publication. “Title of Article.” *Italicized Title of Journal*. Volume number (issue number): page or pages. Accessed [date of access “only if no date of publication or date of revision can be determined” on the website, ASA 6th edition, p. 87].

USE “DOI”: If found on online journal, provide DOI if required by the publisher or your professor (some faculty may not require you to provide DOI so always ask). If you need to provide a link and there is no DOI, provide URL surrounded by parentheses. Period follows last parenthesis.

Notice:
- No space between volume and issue or between colon and page numbers.
- Comma after the first name for two authors in references.
- No period after retrieval date for URL addresses.
- Period follows URL or DOI. **No parenthesis with URL address (NEW with 6th edition!)**
- When DOI is included, it should be cut and pasted from the article.


(IBM 2007)

Public documents


(Congress 1882)

Video

Note: The ASA does not have a specific format for citing film or video recordings because video, audio and broadcast sources are generally cited only in the text or notes, not in the reference list.


(Larkin 2004)

Phone interview, blog, entries, email or text messages.

Note: The ASA does not have a specific format for citing interviews, e-mail messages, conversations and other personal communications because these sources are generally cited only in the text or notes, not in the reference list. See p. 88 in the 6th edition of the ASA Guide.