

## ASA (American Sociological Association) Format

**IMPORTANT NOTE: The ASA format requires that the entire document, including references, be double-spaced. This guide has been produced in single-space in order to save space and paper. Please remember that when you produce your own document, all text and references should be double-spaced.**

Every scholarly field has its preferred citation format or "style." The ASA style, as presented in this handout, is the accepted format for the field of Sociology. The ASA citation format requires citation within the text rather than endnotes or footnotes. Citation in the text provides information, usually the name of the author and the date of publication, to lead the reader to the accompanying bibliographical entry. Complete information about each source cited in the text is supplied in a list called "References," which is placed at the end of the research paper.

### In Text Citations

In the text of a research paper, if the author's name is part of the narrative, include only the year of publication in the parentheses.

in another study by Duncan (1959).

whenever it occurred (Gouldner 1963).

Include page numbers when quoting directly from a work or referring to specific passages. There should be no space after the colon.

Greenwood (2013:55)

If there are two authors, use both last names:

(Jones and Springer 2005)

If a document has three authors, cite all three last names in the first citation; thereafter, use *et al.* in the citation. If a document has more than three authors, use *et al.* in the first citation and all subsequent citations.

First citation:

(Jones, Springer, and Greenwood 2009)

Later:

(Jones et al. 2009)

Separate a series of references with semicolons:

As multiple studies have shown (Martin 2010; Smith 2005; Jones 1995)

Quotations and block quotations:

Quotations in text begin and end with quotation marks; the author, date, and/or page numbers follow the end-quote and precede the period:

Wright and Jacobs (1994) found that “the variation in men’s earnings relative to their peers in the labor force was not a reliable predictor of men’s...flight from feminizing occupations” (p. 531).

Or

One study found that “the variation in men’s earnings relative to their peers in the labor force was not a reliable predictor of men’s flight from feminizing occupations” (Wright and Jacobs 1994:531).

Block quotations are set off in a separate, indented paragraph and should be used for longer quotations (generally, 50 words or more). Do not use quotation marks in block quotations.

As stated by Wright and Jacobs (1994):

The variation in men’s earnings relative to their peers in the labor force was not a reliable predictor of men’s attrition. This finding is inconsistent with the prediction that declines in earnings are responsible for male flight from feminizing occupations. (P. 531)

## References

- List all references in alphabetical order.
- The Reference List should be double-spaced.
- Arrange references for the same single author by date of publication—earliest to latest.
- Distinguish references for the same single author with the same publication year by using 1982a, 1982b, etc.

**Books:**

Single author:

Williams, Dianne. 2012. *Race, Ethnicity, and Crime: Alternate Perspectives*. New York: Algora.

Two authors:

Jaynes, Gerald D. and Robin M. Williams, Jr. 1989. *A Common Destiny: Blacks and American Society*. Washington, DC: National Academy Press.

Three or more authors:

Barak, Gregg, Paul Leighton, and Jeanne Flavin. 2010. *Class, Race, Gender, and Crime: The Social Realities of Justice in America*. Lanham, MD: Roman & Littlefield, 2010.

Editor as author:

Hasselm, Alicia E., ed. 2011. *Crime: Causes, Types and Victims*. Hauppauge, NY: Nova Science Publishers.

Chapter in a book:

Riley, Matilda White. 1985. "Women, Men, and the Lengthening Life Course." Pp. 333-47 in *Gender and the Life Course*, edited by A. S. Rossi. New York: Aldine.

Ebooks retrieved from a database:

Newman, Katherine S. and Rourke L. O'Brien. 2011. *Taxing the Poor: Doing Damage to the Truly Disadvantaged*. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press. Retrieved August 27, 2013.(<http://site.ebrary.com/lib/stmarysca/docDetail.action?docID=10446269>).

Encyclopedia or Handbook article:

Levine, Felice J. 2001. "Professionalization of Social and Behavioral Scientists: United States." Pp. 12146-54 in *The International Encyclopedia of the Social and Behavioural Sciences*, edited by N.J. Smelser and P.B. Bates. London, England: Elsevier Science Limited.

**Journal articles:**

Desmond, Matthew. 2012. "Eviction and the Reproduction of Urban Poverty." *American Journal of Sociology* 11(1):88-133.

Journal article retrieved from a database:

Cite the same as the print unless a DOI (Digital Object Identifier) is available for the article, then include the DOI.

Desmond, Matthew. 2012. "Eviction and the Reproduction of Urban Poverty." *American Journal of Sociology* 11(1):88-133. doi:10.1086/666082.

**Magazine and Newspaper Articles:**

Articles in print and articles retrieved through a library database are cited the same.

O'Hare, William P. (1983). "Poverty's Bottom Line." *New York Times*, August 19, p. A1.

Tough, Paul. 2009. "Man With a Plan: Obama Wants a Seismic Shift in How We Tackle Poverty. It's Already Started In Harlem." *Mother Jones*, January/February, pp. 48-49.

For newspaper and magazine articles retrieve from web sites, add the retrieval date and URL

Sampson, Robert J. 2006. "Open Doors Don't Invite Criminals." *New York Times*, March 11. Retrieved July 10, 2010 (<http://www.nytimes.com/2006/03/11/opinion/11sampson.html>).

### **Book reviews:**

Klinenberg, Eric. 2001. Review of *Poverty and Place: Ghettos, Barrios, and the American City* by Paul A. Jargowsky. *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 24(1):150-151.

### **Dissertations:**

Dissertation retrieved from Proquest Dissertations and Theses:

Lens, Michael C. 2011. "Estimating the Spatial Relationships between Subsidized Housing and Crime." PhD dissertation, Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service, New York University. Retrieved from ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Database.

### **Videos:**

*The Central Park Five*. 2013. A film by Ken Burns, David McMahon, Sarah Burns. Arlington, VA: PBS Distribution. DVD.

### **Web sites:**

If you know the physical location of the organization, include the location. List the organization as the author followed by the date.

In the text cite as (ASA 2006)

In the reference list:

American Sociological Association 2006. "Status Committees." Washington, DC: American Sociological Association. Retrieved December 12, 2006 (<http://www.asanet.org/cs/root/leftnav/committees/committees>).

If the physical location is unknown:

In the text cites as (IBM 2009)

In the reference list:

IBM. 2009. "2009 Annual Report." Retrieved July 12, 2010 ([http://www.ibm.com/annualreport/2009/2009\\_ibm\\_annual.pdf](http://www.ibm.com/annualreport/2009/2009_ibm_annual.pdf)).

**Blogs:**

In the text cite as (Harrington 2010)

In the reference list:

Harrington, Brooke. 2010. "Economic Sociology." American Sociological Association. *Contexts* Blogs. Retrieved July 12, 2010 (<http://contexts.org/economicsociology/>).

**E-mails:**

References to e-mails (and other personal communications) should be entered as part of the text and then cited in a footnote or endnote, not in the reference list. Obtain the sender's permission and DO NOT include the email address.

Text: In an e-mail message to the author, Jones indicated that he was leaving the university.

Footnote: <sup>8</sup> John Jones, e-mail message to author, May 23, 1999.

Many examples and explanations in this guide were taken from:

American Sociological Association. 2010. *American Sociological Association Style Guide*. 4th ed. Washington DC: American Sociological Association.

This guide is available in the Reference Room on the first floor of the library Call number: Ref. 808.0663 Am35a.