

## How to Construct an APA Journal Citation in the Reference Section of a Paper

### Authors:

Author's last name followed by a comma and then their initials for first and if supplied middle initials, each initial should be followed by a period.

- For one author you are finished this part.
- For more than one author, follow the period after the initials with a comma and then the next author's last name, etc. Between the last two authors there should be an &.
- *For example:* Minhas, S., Andrew, K. L., & Reagan, D.

### Date:

There should be the year the journal was published in brackets followed by a period.

*For example:* (2007).

### Article Title:

The first letter of the first word should be in upper case (capitals) the rest of the title should be in lower case, except for proper nouns and the first word after a colon. This is NOT underlined or in italics. The title is followed by a period.

*For example:* Drugs and the brain: How the brain is affected by consumption of drugs.

### Journal Title:

The first letter of every word (except for is, the, an, etc.) is in capitals and the title is in italics, and followed by a comma.

*For example:* *Journal of Mental Health,*

### Volume and Issue Numbers:

The volume number is written by itself in italics (do NOT write Vol.) followed by the issue number (if provided) which is in brackets but NOT in italics. Following the brackets is a comma.

*For example:* 6(9),

### Page Number:

The first and last page numbers are written NOT in italics and followed by a period.

*For example:* 89-109.

### Retrieval Information (DOI or Database)

Newer articles have a doi number. If the article you find has a doi number type doi in lowercase followed by a colon, space and then the number. You do not put a period after the doi number.

*For example:* doi: 10.1016/S0140-1971(02)00118-5

If the article you find does not have a doi number and you retrieved it online, type "Retrieved from" and then the URL address of the Journal's homepage (you may need to do an internet search to find this.)

*For example:* Retrieved from PsycINFO database.

### Indentation:

You will need to create a hanging indent. This means the first line is not indented but all subsequent lines are indented approximately five spaces. You can do this in Word by putting your pointer on any part of the reference and then right clicking and selecting "Paragraph," "Special," "Hanging," and "OK."

### Alphabetical Order:

If you have more than one reference, you need to place them in alphabetical order within the reference list. However, DO NOT rearrange the order of the authors within a single reference.

### Spacing:

Everything in an APA paper is double spaced including references.

### Putting it all together:

Minhas, S., Andrew, K. L., & Reagan, D. (2007). Drugs and the brain: How the brain is affected by consumption

of drugs. *Journal of Mental Health*, 6(9), 89-109. doi: 10.1016/S0140-1971(02)00118-5