

# AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION (AMA) CITATION STYLE

*11th Edition*



# WHY MIGHT RESEARCHERS USE CITATION AND FORMATTING STYLES IN THEIR FIELD?

- ✓ Avoids plagiarism
- ✓ Connects information in the text to the reference list
- ✓ Contextualizes information via author names, publication years, or the source type (journal, magazine, news paper, social media feed, etc.)
- ✓ Standardizes how information is communicated between researchers and audiences (i.e. section organization of an article, presentation of outside sources, etc.)

# WHEN DOES INFORMATION GET CITED?



DIRECT QUOTE IS USED  
FROM A SOURCE



INFORMATION IS  
PARAPHRASED

## WHAT DOES DIRECT QUOTATION INCLUDE?



- Exact wording from a source
- **Always** includes quotation marks
- **Always** includes a citation
- Uses a signal phrase as an introduction
- Provides an explanation or analysis afterward
- Avoid starting a paragraph or sentence with a quote

# CITING DIRECT QUOTES IN AMA

- Each source used in a paper will be assigned a number in the reference list. Whenever a source is quoted, its assigned number is used for an in-text citation.
- For these numbers, use either (a) a superscript, (b) a number in brackets, or (c) a number in parentheses outside ending punctuation.
  - ❖ Superscript: "...end of quote."<sup>3</sup>
  - ❖ Number in brackets: "...end of quote." [3]
  - ❖ Number in parentheses: "...end of quote." (3)

**NOTE:** AMA uses past or present-perfect for signal verbs.

- "The author asserted..." or "The author has asserted..."

## WHAT DOES PARAPHRASING INCLUDE?



- Rephrases source material without source language or structure
- Still uses superscript or parenthetical citation
- Can use quotation marks for phrasing that isn't easily reworded or that was coined by an author
- Used in place of long quotes or if source uses complex explanations
- AMA prefers the use of paraphrasing over direct quotation. However, any direct quotes should use a signal phrase and provide one's views.

# EXAMPLES OF PARAPHRASING IN AMA

- Direct quote

“Differentiation as an instructional approach promotes a balance between a student's style and a student's ability. Differentiated instruction provides the student with options for processing and internalizing the content, and for constructing new learning in order to progress academically.”<sup>2</sup>

- Incorrect paraphrase:

Differentiation is a way to encourage equality between the approach and talent of the student.<sup>2</sup> This type of instruction gives students different ways to deal with and grasp information, and for establishing new learning to move on in education.<sup>2</sup>

- Correct Paraphrase:

Teachers use differentiated instruction to help students learn, allowing the teacher to cater lessons to how each student learns and to each student's skill.<sup>2</sup>

# PICKING OUT THE PATTERN

- 1 Source: “...end of quote.”<sup>3</sup>
- Multiple Sources: ...end of paraphrasing.<sup>3-6,8</sup>
- Source mentioned as part of the sentence:...source is mentioned<sup>4</sup> and sentence concludes.
- Source that is used more than once:
  - “...end of quote A from source 4.”<sup>4</sup>
  - “...end of quote B from source 4.”<sup>4(p32)</sup>



# AMA REFERENCE PAGE: FORMAT

- Begin on a new page at end of paper
- Center the title: Reference List
- List **ALL** the sources cited in paper
- List **ONLY** the sources cited in paper
- The references are listed numerically by order of appearance within the paper (**not alphabetized**).
- Single-spaced throughout
- No indentation is used for an AMA reference list.

# AMA BASIC REFERENCE FORMATS

## Books

1. Author AA. *Title of Book: Use Title-Case*. Edition number if known. Publishing Company; Year of Publication.

## Journal Article

2. Author AA. Title of article: subtitle not capitalized. *Abbreviated Title of Journal*. Year of publication; volume number(issue number): page-range. DOI

## Website

3. Author AA. Webpage title. Website Title. Published Month Day, Year. Updated Month Day, Year. Accessed Month Day, Year. URL

# REFERENCE PAGE AND ENTRY EXAMPLE

## Reference List

1. Pollart SM, Caelleigh AS. Changing conversations, changing culture: a medical education journal club. *Med Educ*. 2011;45(11):1134.
2. Jungang L. Investigation of radon and heavy metals in Xuanwei and Fuyuan, high lung cancer incidence areas in China. *J Environ Health*. 2013;76(4):32-39.

**NOTE:** If a source has six authors, all names must be listed for the reference page. If a source has more than six authors, the first three names that appear in the source are listed, then followed by “et al.”

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# RESOURCES

- CMU Writing Center.

<http://writingcenter.cmich.edu>

then: Resources > Quick Guide: AMA Style Tips

- American Medical Association Manual (access through CMU Library AMA Database).

<http://www.amamanualofstyle.com/>

- Purdue University OWL.

[https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research\\_and\\_citation/ama\\_style/index.html](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/ama_style/index.html)

- AMA Citation Style Tutorial

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GRmBRYjz5DE>

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# NOTE ON PLAGIARISM

- Copying verbatim, or too closely, the words and/or paragraph structure of another person
- Can be both intentional and unintentional
- Causes:
  - Challenging to add own material to the existing expert conversation
  - Misunderstanding proper citation techniques
  - Disorganized notes



# CHARACTERISTICS OF AMA STYLE

- Avoid informal language (e.g., slang, colloquialisms, contractions, etc.)
- Superscripts reduce the number of interruptions in the text
- Maintains a third person voice (“this researcher”)
- Verb Tense
- Use of more than one source, use hyphens with the first and last numbers of a series, or commas if not a closed series.<sup>1-8</sup>
- If it uses the same source, reuse the citation numbers and add page numbers.<sup>1(pp52,85),8</sup>



# AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION (AMA) CITATION STYLE



# AMA IN-TEXT CITATIONS

- Why cite?
  - Connects information in the text to the Reference Page
  - Contextualizes the information by using author names, years, or source material

## Example:

- Superscripts are used at the end of sentences.<sup>1</sup>

# WHEN SHOULD I CITE?

- Generally, all information from a source must be cited:
  - Direct quotations
  - When summarizing or paraphrasing another's ideas or opinions
  - When presenting specific facts, figures, or ideas
- When in doubt: Cite!



# DIRECT QUOTATIONS



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# SIGNAL PHRASES

## Explanation

- ❖ commented
- ❖ clarified
- ❖ declared
- ❖ demonstrated
- ❖ described
- ❖ discussed
- ❖ emphasized
- ❖ established
- ❖ explained
- ❖ highlighted
- ❖ illustrated
- ❖ modeled
- ❖ observed
- ❖ outlined
- ❖ posited
- ❖ reported
- ❖ showed
- ❖ suggested

## Concession

- ❖ accepted
- ❖ acknowledged
- ❖ admitted
- ❖ conceded
- ❖ granted

## Agreement

- ❖ added
- ❖ advocated
- ❖ affirmed
- ❖ agreed
- ❖ endorsed
- ❖ supported
- ❖ verified

## Argumentative

- ❖ argued
- ❖ asserted
- ❖ cautioned
- ❖ challenged
- ❖ claimed
- ❖ contended
- ❖ contradicted
- ❖ criticized
- ❖ denied
- ❖ disagreed
- ❖ disputed
- ❖ implied
- ❖ insisted
- ❖ maintained
- ❖ negated
- ❖ proposed
- ❖ refuted
- ❖ rejected
- ❖ urged

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## Journals

2. Author AA. Title of article: subtitle not capitalized. *Title of Journal*. Year of publication; volume number (issue number): page-range. DOI/URL

## Website

3. Author AA. Webpage title. Website Title. Published Month Day, Year. Updated Month Day, Year. Accessed Month Day, Year. URL

# BASIC REFERENCE FORMAT FOR ARTICLES

Author(s). Title. *Journal Name* [using National Library of Medicine abbreviations as mentioned above]. Year;vol(issue no.):inclusive pages. DOI/URL

1. Drake AJ, Smith A, Betts PR, et al. Type 2 diabetes in obese white children. *Arch Dis Child*. 2002;86(3), 207-208. <http://vsearch.nlm.nih.gov/vivisimo/cgi-bin/query-meta?v:project.nlm-main-website&query=Archives+of+disease+in+childhood>

(Purdue OWL)



## ELECTRONIC SOURCE (WITH AUTHOR AND DATE)

2. Dobrin, A. Psychology Today. Ethics training isn't useful when taught by lawyers. Published December 18, 2012. Accessed May 4, 2014.  
<http://www.psychologytoday.com/blog/am-i-right/201212/ethics-training-isnt-useful-when-taught-lawyers>

(Purdue OWL)

# BASIC REFERENCE FORMAT FOR BOOKS

1. Silverstein A, Silverstein VB, Nunn LS. *Cancer*. Twenty-First Century Books; 2006.
2. Maul-Mellott SK, Adams JN. *Childhood Cancer: A Nursing Overview*. Jones and Bartlett; 1987.

# CHAPTER IN AN EDITED BOOK

1. Yagyu S, Iehara T. MYCN nonamplified neuroblastoma: detection of tumor-derived cell-free DNA in serum for predicting prognosis of neuroblastoma. In Hayat MA, ed. *Pediatric Cancer Diagnosis, Therapy, and Prognosis*. Springer; 2013:11-17.

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