

# Faculty of Community Services

## Academic Support & Resource Centre

### APA Format: In-Text Citations

#### SOME GENERAL RULES

- Always include the author and date in your in-text citations. For example:
  - ✓ They can both be in the brackets (Angeli et al. 2010) OR
  - ✓ Angeli et al. (2010) says that you can put the author in the main text
- If you are using a direct quotation, include the page number if there is one. For example:
  - ✓ “You will need to include the author, year of publication, and the page number for the reference” (Angeli et al. 2010, p.100).
  - ✓ Remember, you will want to paraphrase more often than use direct quotations. Use direct quotations if the specific words that the author used are important for your paper (for example, if they define a new term).
- Within a paragraph, you need not include the year in subsequent references. For example:
  - ✓ Smith (1997) compared reaction times. Smith also found that...

*All sources that are cited in the text must appear in the reference list at the end of the paper.*

<b>Rules for one author</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide the author's last name and the publication year.</li> <li>✓ Smith (1997) compared reaction times...</li> </ul>
<b>Rules for two authors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Include the last name of each and the publication year. Use the word “and” if you are putting their names in your text, use the symbol “&amp;” if you are putting their names in brackets:</li> <li>✓ ...as James and Ryerson (1999) demonstrated...</li> <li>✓ ...as has been shown (James &amp; Ryerson, 1999)...</li> </ul>
<b>Rules for three to five authors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cite all authors the first time; in subsequent citations, include only the last name of the first author followed by "et al." and the year:</li> <li>✓ Williams, Jones, Smith, Bradner, and Torrington (1983) found...</li> <li>✓ Williams et al. (1983) also noticed that...</li> </ul>
<b>Rules for more than five authors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cite the first author followed by “et al.” every time.</li> </ul>
<b>Rules for indirect citations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If you use a source that was cited in another source, name the original source in the text. Put the source that you actually read in brackets.</li> <li>✓ Johnson argued that... (as cited in Smith, 2003, p. 102).</li> <li>• It would be academically stronger to look up the original paper, and draw your own conclusions from the original source.</li> </ul>

**These are valuable resources that cover all aspects of APA formatting (and were adapted for this handout):**

*APA citation style.* Retrieved from <https://library.concordia.ca/help/howto/apa.php?guid=intro>

Paiz, J.M., Angeli, E., Wagner, J., Lawrick, E., Moore, K., Anderson, M., . . . Keck, R. *APA style.* Retrieved from <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/10/>

UBC, The Library. *Getting started with APA citation style.* Retrieved from <http://wiki.ubc.ca/images/6/6f/Apastyle.pdf>