American Sociological Association (ASA) Style
~Reference Guide~

California State University, Fresno

The following are samples according to ASA style for citing references in your Reference List.

The reference list follows the text in a separate section headed “References.” All references cited in the text must be listed in the reference section and vice versa. It is your responsibility to assure that publication information for each entry is complete and correct. The first line of each reference is set flush left and subsequent lines are indented. References should be double-spaced. List the references in alphabetical order by first authors' last names. Include first names and surnames for all authors—use first-name initials only if an author used initials in the original publication. For multiple authorship, only the first author’s name is inverted [e.g., Jones, Arthur B. and Colin D. Smith]. For two or more listings under the same author[s], list in order of year of publication, earliest year first. Use six hyphens and a period (------.) in place of the name[s] for repeated authorship. Distinguish works by the same author[s] in the same year by adding letters (e.g., 1985a, 1985b).

Refer to the Style Guide of the American Sociological Association (2nd ed.) or ask your instructor for further assistance.

Books

One Author:


Two or More Authors:


No Author*:


*List books with no author alphabetically by the first significant word in the title.

Edited Volumes:


Republished Works:


Chapter/Article in a Book:


Government Documents

*Public documents are so varied; the form of entry for documents cannot be standardized. The essential rule is to provide sufficient information so the reader can locate the reference easily.


Citations in the text include the last names of the authors and year of publication. Include page numbers when you quote directly from a work or refer to specific passages. For example: ... in another study by Duncan (1959). ... whenever it occurred' (Gouldner 1963:71). Give both last names for joint authors: (Martin and Bailey 1988). If a work has no author, use the first few words in the title: ('Katrina's Window' 2005).

If a work has three authors or more, cite all last names in the first citation in the text; thereafter, use "et al." in the citation after the first author's name: (Carr, Smith, and Jones 1962); then, (Carr et al. 1962).

Quotations in the text begin and end with quotation marks, the author, date, and page number(s). Block quotations for longer quotations are presented in smaller type, set off in a separate, indented paragraph, and are not enclosed in quotation marks. For example:

As stated by Wright and Jacobs (1994:531):

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.