ASA Format for References Lists in Sociology

ASA style, set by the American Sociological Association, is most commonly used to cite sources within the field of sociology. Below are examples of references created using the 5th edition of the *American Sociological Association Style Guide* (2014). Consult the *Guide* for more examples. Put the reference list at the end of your paper in a separate section headed References. Use double-spacing throughout. Alphabetize the list by the first author’s last name (or by title if the author is unknown). The first line of each list entry should be flush with the margin and subsequent lines of that entry should be indented (a hanging indent). Capitalize title and subtitle words except for prepositions, articles, and conjunctions that do not begin the title or subtitle (e.g. *on, in, under, the, a, an, and, or*).

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**PRINT SOURCES**

**BOOKS**

Invert the name of the first author so that the last name appears first. If there is more than one author, only the first author’s name is inverted. Connect names with commas; the final name is preceded by “and.” The title of the book is italicized and follows title case capitalization (see above). End with the place of publication and the name of publisher.

**One Author:**


*Citation in text:* (Sachs 2005:28)

**More Than One Author:**


*Citation in text:* (Edin and Kefalas 2005:115)

**Chapters in Books or Other Collected Works:**

Use the same format as above, but also include the title of the chapter or article in quotations, the page numbers, and the names of editors, not inverted and with initials instead of first or middle names.


*Citation in text:* (Montez and Howard 2011:195)
JOURNAL ARTICLES

Invert the name of the first author so that the last name appears first. If there is more than one author, only the first author’s name is inverted. Connect names with commas; the final name is preceded by “and.” The title of the article is in quotations; the name of the publication is italicized; both of these titles follow title case capitalization. The volume of the journal is listed, followed by the issue number in parentheses. End with the page numbers of the article.

Journal Articles:

Citation in text: First citation for a work with three or more authors includes all names (Persell, Pfeiffer, and Syed 2008:113)
Subsequent citations use first author’s last name plus “et al.” (Persell et al. 2008:117)

NEWSPAPER AND MAGAZINE ARTICLES

Newspaper Articles:

Citation in text: (Yardley 2015:A1)

Magazine Articles:

Citation in text: (Heitin 2015:7)
ELECTRONIC SOURCES

For articles that are available online and in print, follow the same pattern as print citations. If you are unsure if an online item is also in print, look for things like volume and page numbers, which indicate their print information. Articles without this information are likely to be online-only.

Online-only resources generally follow the same pattern as print articles, except page numbers are omitted, while date of access and Internet location are added. The Internet location may be a URL or a Digital Object Identifier (DOI). A DOI is a stable Internet location that typically looks like: doi:10.1177/0092055X0803600202. Use a DOI whenever it is available; otherwise, use a URL.

Online-Only Journal Articles without a DOI:

Citation in text: (Schafer and Ramsey 2003)

Online-Only Journal Articles with a DOI:

Citation in text: First citation for a work with three or more authors includes all names (Persell, Pfeiffer, and Syed 2008:113)
Subsequent citations use first author’s last name plus “et al.” (Persell et al. 2008:117)

Online Newspaper and Magazine Articles:

Citation in text: (Sampson 2006)

Website or Blog with a Known Author:

Citation in text: (Carrigan 2014)
Website with No Author Given:
In general, website references when the author is unknown are done this way:
Website Title. Year. “Title of specific webpage.” Retrieved Date (URL). For example:

Citation in text: (American Anthropological Association, 2006)