

APA 7th in Minutes: Books

This is Humber Libraries APA in Minutes.

This video will show you the basics on how to cite a book in APA format, so it will end up looking like this: [example shown].

To cite a book in APA, you will need: the author's name; the year that the book was published, the title of the book, the edition number (if it's not a first edition), the name of the publisher and, if given, the digital object identifier, known by its acronym, D.O.I.

This information is commonly found within the first few pages of a book, or in an online catalogue record.

Begin with the author's last name, comma, and initials. Follow with a period. The year of publication is added next, surround in parentheses and end with a period. The title, in italics, always comes after the date. In APA, capitalize the first letter of the title and subtitle. Capitalize any proper nouns. If it is not a first edition of the book, add the edition number and include the abbreviation "ed," with a period. Surround in parentheses, and finish with a period. The name of the publisher comes next. Follow with a period. If there is a D.O.I. or a URL included in the catalogue record, include it here, like this: [example shown]. If you do not see a D.O.I. or a URL listed, it is not necessary in the citation. This is your APA book citation: [example shown].

You may have a book with multiple authors.

For two authors, add the author's last name, comma, and initial. Add a period, comma, and an ampersand before including the second author. The rest of your citation will be completed the same ways as before.

For three or more authors, follow each last name with a comma, add the first initial, followed by a period, and separate each author name with a comma and include the ampersand before the last author is listed. You can then proceed to complete the rest of the citation according to the steps outlined earlier in the video.

The book might also have editors. They must also be included in your citation. If the book includes both a primary author and an editor, include the editor's name after the book title: first initial, period, the last name, comma, add Ed (with a capital E), and a period. Include in parentheses and follow with a period. Then complete as normal. This is your citation for a book with an editor: [example shown].

If a book has an editor or editors, but no authors, list the editors' names in the author field, add Eds, period, in parentheses, after their names, and follow with a period. Then complete as normal. This is your citation for an edited collection: [example shown].

If you are referencing a chapter in an edited book with multiple authors, you'll need to gather some additional information: the chapter title and page numbers.

After the author's name and publication date, add the chapter title followed by a period. Then add the word "In" and the editors' initials and last names followed by "Eds" and a period and surround in parentheses. Follow this with a comma, then add the book title in italics. After this, put the edition number (note that this example is the first edition and does not require an edition number) then follow with "pp," a period, and a space followed by the page numbers. Surround in parentheses, and follow with a period. Complete with the publisher and DOI or URL. This is your citation for a book chapter in an edited book: [example shown].

For an in-text citation at the end of a paraphrase, add the author's last name, comma, and the date of publication. Surround in parentheses and follow by a period. For two authors, separate each author's last name with an ampersand. Three or more authors can be cited in-text by listing the first author's last name, and following it with "et al" and a period, which means "and others." If citing a quotation from a book in the body of your paper, be sure to also include the page number where the quote was found. Add a 'p', followed by a period, and add the page number. If your quote spans multiple pages, add 'pp' followed by a period, and then the page numbers. Finish in parentheses, and conclude with a period.

For more on in-text citations, watch our video linked in the description.

Your reference list is at the end of your paper. Make sure to put your citations in alphabetical order. Don't forget to double space, and indent after the first line. For more information and support with APA:

- Book an appointment with the Writing Center;
- Consult the OWL at Purdue;
- Or refer to the APA manual available at Humber Libraries.