

The APA Comments Database provides written feedback with related links to resources at PG regarding common errors in APA style format. The comments are categorized and labeled for ease in locating the appropriate comment. Faculty can copy the comments and resources to directly paste into student papers for feedback. This allows for efficiency and consistency in providing students with feedback on APA style format.

APA Comments Database

Citations

No Citations Present:

To show readers what has been borrowed, provide in-text citations for any material that has been summarized, paraphrased, or directly quoted. The writer cites the source with both an in-text citation and an entry on the references page as explained in these tutorials: <https://campus2.purdueglobal.edu/article/basic-citation-guidelines>

Overall errors in Citation format:

The format of a citation differs depending on if the information is paraphrased or directly quoted from the source. For details on how to provide a correct in-text citation for paraphrased material as well as direct quotes, review this quick video at <https://campus2.purdueglobal.edu/media/basic-in-text-citations>

Errors in Direct Quotes:

Direct quotes must be placed in quotation marks followed by a citation which includes the author, date, and page # or paragraph #. Review the Quick Guide for Direct Quotes at <https://academicwriter-apa-org.libauth.purdueglobal.edu/learn/browse/QG-25>

Large Direct Quotes:

For an example of citing a block quote of 40 or more words, review this Quick Guide at <https://academicwriter-apa-org.libauth.purdueglobal.edu/learn/browse/QG-25>

Reference Page

Missing Reference Page:

Please remember that a research paper requires a reference page, on which are listed all of the outside sources referred to in the paper. Review the guide available at <https://campus2.purdueglobal.edu/article/apa-manuscript-style-guidelines>

Reference Page Format Overall:

The reference page should be in alphabetical order of entries by authors' last names (or titles if there are no authors), centered References title in black Normal Style Times

New Roman font, hanging indents to show separate entries, and double-spacing without extra lines between citations. Review the Quick Guide at <https://youtu.be/MOL5N8fuYPg>

Errors in Formatting of References in List:

Each type of reference on the reference page contains common elements. However, the formatting for the reference can be slightly different depending upon the type of resource. View this Quick Guide for details on how to properly format references at <https://academicwriter-apa-org.libauth.purdueglobal.edu/learn/browse/QG-13>

References Not Cited in Paper:

All sources listed on a reference page must be cited at least once in the paper to support your writing. Review the following Quick Guide for tips on citing references in text <https://academicwriter-apa-org.libauth.purdueglobal.edu/learn/browse/QG-29>

Basic Formatting

Title Page:

A title page in APA style is required and follows certain formatting conventions with respect to content and its placement on the page. At the following link, you will find an especially helpful video tutorial, “APA Title Page and Running Head in Microsoft Word” <https://campus2.purdueglobal.edu/media/apa-title-page-and-running-head>

Proper APA formatting:

To properly format a paper in APA style, include one-inch margins; black Times New Roman or Arial 12-point font; double-spacing; paragraph indentation of one-half inch (one Tab); removal of extra spaces between paragraphs; and plain APA title page. Review the Quick Guide at <https://academicwriter.apa.org/learn/browse/QG-23?group=QG&view=list&sort=asc>

Headings and Subheadings:

For proper APA formatting of headings and subheadings, review <https://campus2.purdueglobal.edu/article/apa-headings-and-subheadings>