HELP! HOW DO I CITE A PAPER ACCORDING TO APSA

EASY AS 1-2-3
1. Identify your source type.
2. Find an example. (May not be on this handout!)
3. Mirror the example.

IN TEXT (PARENTHEtical citations)

Remember: Citations are required for direct quotations, paraphrasing, and facts or opinions not generally known or easily checked.

Where do parenthetical citations go in my paper?
A parenthetical citation is usually placed at the end of a sentence before the punctuation. When using a direct quote, the citation follows the end quotation mark and before the punctuation. A source can be introduced into your paper in a variety of ways. For example,
Martinez (2008, 355) said...
OR In a recent study (Martinez 2008), ...
OR In 2008, Martinez said...

What should I include in my parenthetical citations?
Include the author’s last name and year inside parentheses. If a direct quote is used, add a comma after the year, followed by the page number(s). Note: “p.” and “pp.” are not used.

Examples:
Book/Article
(Fraser 1989, 304)

Book/Article with multiple authors
Two or three authors = include all last names in each citation. (Roberts, Smith, and Haptonstahl 2016)

Four or more authors = use only the first author’s last name and “et al.” in all citations. (Angel et al. 1986)

Government documents
Use the normal author-date format (seen above). If the name of the government agency is long, use the full name initially and use an acronym for all following citations.

First mention: (U.S. International Trade Commission 1978, 12; hereafter USITC) All subsequent mentions: (USITC 1978, 16)

Law or Statute
Provide the full name of the law/statute and year. (No Child Left Behind Act 2001)

FORMAT YOUR PAPER
• Margins should be set at no less than 1”
• Times New Roman or Palatino, 12 pt. font preferred
• Double-space text except block quotations (5 or more lines, not enclosed in quotation marks)
• Page numbers begin in the header of the first page of text with Arabic number 1
• Title Page: Title should be centered, third of the way down the page. Name, class info, and the date should follow several lines later. All double-spaced.
• Reference list follows from main body, sorted alphabetically by first author’s last name. Use hanging indentation (Not Shown)
The reference list should be titled References.

List all references alphabetically by the author’s last name.

All sources cited in the text must appear in the reference list.

**Book**

**Format:** Last Name, First Name. Year. *Title of Book*. Place of Publication: Publisher.


**Part of an Edited Book**

**Format:** Last Name, First Name. Year. “Title of Essay or Chapter.” In *Title of Book*, ed, Editor’s First Last Name. Place of Publication: Publisher, page range.


**Journal Article from a Database**

**Format:** Last Name, First Name. Year. “Title of Article.” *Title of Journal* Volume (no. Issue): page range. DOI or URL.


**Executive Department Document**

**Format:** Corporate Author. Year. Title. Place of Publication: Publisher.


**Law or Statute**

**Format:** Name of Statute or Law. Year. U.S. Code or Statutes at Large. Vol. no., sec. no., page number.


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**REMEMBER!**

When you include a quote or borrowed idea in your paper, introduce it with a **signal phrase**! This provides context for source material.

**ADDITIONAL HELP**

This handout is only a sample of basic APSA formatting. If you have questions, talk to a librarian or consult the *Style Manual for Political Science*, Revised 2018 Edition (available in the library).

**Citing Subject Guide**

http://guides.mga.edu/citations

**Style Manual for Political Science Online**

https://connect.apsanet.org/stylemanual/

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