Hints on APA Style for HDFS Students

American Psychological Association (APA) style is an editorial style that is used in many of the social and behavioral sciences to present written material. This includes guidelines for both citations in text and reference format. For every in-text citation there should be a full citation in the reference list and vice versa. The following provides some basic information on APA style. For more detailed information on APA please see the following:

http://www.apastyle.org/
http://www2.lib.udel.edu/ref/virtual/citation.htm#apa

**PAPER FORMAT**
Papers should be double-spaced using 12 point font (Courier or Times Roman) with 1 inch margins all around. Number all pages consecutively, beginning with the title page. Paragraph indentation: Indent first line of every paragraph (use the tab key which should be set at five to seven spaces or ½ in.).

**IN-TEXT CITATION OF SOURCES:**
When you refer to or base your ideas on another’s work (either paraphrasing or quoting), you MUST provide a reference.

**Quotations:**
Material directly quoted from another author’s work should be reproduced word for word and enclosed in double quotation marks. Always provide the **author, year, and specific page citation** in the text. For quotations over 40 words, omit the quotation marks, indent and single space the whole block.

**Paraphrasing:**
Provide the **author’s last name and year of publication** in the text.

**In-Text Citation Examples:**

One author:  
Life course theory ….. with families (Elder, 1998). 
In a recent study of paternal involvement, Roy (2006) described….

Two authors:  
Always cite both names when reference occurs in text. 
In parentheses, use “&” between authors; in the phrase, use “and.”

Turney and Kao (1999) found …. for parents.  
Immigrant parents feel …. behaviors in school (Turney & Kao, 1999).  
Shonkoff and Phillips (2000) define self-regulation as “a child’s ability to gain control of ….” (p. 25).
3-5 authors: Cite all authors the first time. For subsequent citations, include last name of 1st author followed by et al. (not italicized and with a period after al.)

Amato, Booth, Johnson, Rogers, and Smock (2007) suggest that the changes in marriage in America ….. history.
All subsequent citations: The current debate about the meaning of marriage ….. end (Amato et al., 2007).

6+ authors: Use the last name of the first author followed by et al. in text.

Edleson et al. (2007) state, “Child exposure to adult domestic violence is associated ….. young adulthood” (p. 963).

Groups as authors: If group author is readily identified by its abbreviation the first time it is used, write out entire name then use abbreviation.

(American Psychiatric Association [APA], 2001)
Subsequent citations: (APA, 2001)

The National Institute of Justice (NIJ, 1996) suggests …. Subsequent citations: NIJ (1996) continues to ….

2 or more works by different authors: Put authors in alphabetical order; Separate with semicolons.
Several studies (Amato et al., 2007; Lukenheimer et al., 2008; Roy, 2006) reported …..

Personal Communication: Interviews, emails, etc. {Do not need to cite in reference list}
M. T. Smith (personal communication, April 25, 2009) said …

Citing Electronic Material: Use same author/date/title/journal format as you would above in text.
Direct Quotes: If an electronic source does not have page numbers, cite paragraph number, preceded by the paragraph symbol or para.

“Children are …. ” (Child Welfare Information Gateway, 2003, Introduction Section, para. 3).

Citing a Web site Use the web address in just the text (http://www.kidspsych.org)
Kidspsych is a wonderful interactive web site for children (http://www.kidspsych.org)
**APA-STYLE REFERENCES**

A reference list provides a full citation of articles cited in-text.

* Type the word References at the top center of the page.
* Double-space references and use Hanging Indents (Format-Paragraph-Special-Hanging)
* Arrange citations alphabetically by the last name of the first author.
* Only one space follows all punctuation.
* Information to include in references:

  - **Authors:** Last names, initials, commas to separate, ampersand before last author, finish with a period.
  
  - **Date:** Give in parentheses the year the work was copyrighted.
    For magazines/newspapers- year followed by date of publication.
  
  - **Article Title:** Capitalize only the first word of the title and of the subtitle, if any, and any proper nouns. Do not italicize or use quotation marks.
  
  - **Title of work:** Periodicals: Italicize title using uppercase and lowercase letters.
    Nonperiodicals: Italicize. Capitalize only the first word of the title and of the subtitle, and any proper nouns.
  
  - **Pub. Info:** Italicize volume number of journals, magazines, & newsletters.
    Include journal issue number (not italicized), if available (2007 change).
    Give inclusive page numbers.
    Nonperiodicals: Give city, and if not well known, the state. Publisher.
  
  - **Electronic:** DATABASE searches (i.e., PsychINFO, Proquest, Science Direct) often lead to an electronic version of print sources that have been reproduced with the exact same content, format, and page numbers as the print versions. In reference use: Author. (pub year). Title of article. *Title of Journal, vol*(issue), pages, DOI if available. Add as much electronic retrieval information as needed for others to locate the sources you cited.

  - **Digital Object Identifier (DOI):** The DOI is an alphanumeric name that identifies digital content. **USE the DOI when available** (2007 change).
    If you have a DOI, do not use the URL, retrieval data, or database name in the reference. The DOI may be found in your article’s citation or abstract or it may be listed on the first page of pdf articles.

  - Article from database (i.e., PsychINFO), no DOI: Use Retrieved from PsychINFO database.
  - Article from internet journal, no DOI, freely available: Use URL to article.
  - Article from internet journal, no DOI, subscription needed: Use URL to journal home page.
  - Electronic material on internet that is likely to change: Use retrieval date & URL to article:
    
SOME EXAMPLES OF REFERENCES:

**Journal Article (1 author), using print copy of journal**


**Journal Article (2 authors), using print copy of journal**

**Journal Article (2 authors), accessed from database, DOI assigned**

doi:10.3200/JOER.102.4.257-271

**Journal Article (2 authors), accessed from database (no retrieval date), no DOI**

**Journal Article (3-6 authors), DOI assigned**

**Journal Article (3-6 authors), accessed from database (no retrieval date), no DOI**
Journal article (more than 6 authors), DOI assigned
Abbreviate the 7th and subsequent authors as et al.


Group as Author, available on the web, using retrieval date because information may be updated/changed

Magazine Article

Newspaper Article


Book, using print copy


Article or chapter in an Edited Book

Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders

Government document, available on the web, has publication date & report number

http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles/alldom.pdf

Government Document/Report

Online Article, No DOI, Freely Available


Webpage, Stand-alone Document, No Author Identified, No Date
Internet Source, Handbook, no author listed.

ERIC Document

Online video (Youtube) & Audio