ASA Citation Style: A Sample

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Word Count: 689*

*Includes References
THIS IS A FIRST LEVEL HEADING

With American Sociological Association (ASA) style, the entire paper is to be double-spaced, and font should be 12-point, Times New Roman unless otherwise indicated by the instructor. Margins should be 1 ¼ all around unless otherwise indicated by the instructor.

This is a Second-Level Heading

One of the most important parts of ASA citation style is in-text citations. In general, the author’s name and the year should be included, with no comma separating the two (Rogers 1999). Remember that the period always comes after the citation to enclose it with the sentence. When there are two or more names, they are separated by commas, with the word “and” before the last author’s name (Rogers, Nakashita, and Chung 2005). If there are three authors, all names are listed with the first citation, and then each subsequent citation can use the “et al.” notation, which is Latin for “and others” (Rogers et al. 2005).

According to Daniels (2009), the citation can also be put at the beginning of the sentence in this way, and does not need to be cited again at the end of the sentence. One exception to the “et al.” rule is when you have four or more authors, in which case the writer does not need to cite all names the first time and can automatically use “et al.” In some cases, multiple sources are cited to support one point, in which case the sources are separated by semicolons (Rogers et al. 2005; Nakachi 2010).

This is a third level heading
According to Nakachi (2010), “whenever quoting a source, a page number is required” (5). In this example, the name was mentioned at the beginning, and the page number was placed at the end. The two rules to remember here are that the author’s name and the year should never be separated, and at the same time, the page number should always be at the end of a quote. The in text citation “can also be set up so that all the information is at the end of the quote” (Nakachi 2010:6). The year and page number are next to each other, separated by a colon with no spaces.
References


Notes about the reference list:

- A hanging indent is used, where the first line of each entry is flush left and the subsequent lines are indented. Basically, the reverse of a paragraph indent.
- For all citations, each piece of information is separated by periods. The first author’s name is inverted, with the last name notated before the first name and middle initials, while the other authors’ names are not inverted. There is an “and” before the last author in a list as opposed to an ampersand (&).
- The first citation is for a *book*. Book titles are in italics, followed by the location of the publisher and the name of the publisher.
- The second citation is an example for *websites*. These can be very tricky, since websites do not need to follow a set format. At the very least, the citation should include an author (or an affiliated organization), year of publication (or last updated date / year for the website), a title, and the url.
- The third and fourth citations are examples for *journal articles*. The article title comes first, followed by the journal name, the volume, the issue number (in parentheses), and the page numbers. Notice that the journal name is italicized. *Note*: “Issue” or “volume” could also be identified as “No.,” depending on the journal’s format.