

**Quick Help for Referencing Nursing/Medical/Health Materials**  
**Using Guidelines from the *Publication Manual* of the APA, 6<sup>th</sup> ed. (2010)**  
**Adapted from the [Olson Library APA Guide](#) on October 23, 2009**  
**by [Prof. Mike Strahan](#)**

**The purpose of this Quick Help Guide is to assist NMU Nursing students to understand and more easily prepare references for materials according to APA style.** This guide is a subset of the Library's APA Guide, and also addresses APA's stronger emphasis of related concepts in the *Publication Manual* 6<sup>th</sup> edition.

**Most Important Notes:**

1. Do not rely solely on online databases or most citation generators to create references. Instead, use the [Library's APA Guide – Nursing Examples](#), [Zotero Firefox Plug-in](#), or [EndNote](#) software.
2. As of July 1, 2009, APA no longer uses database names as the source of holding online articles.

**Continued on next page**

Since July 2007, APA has emphasized the DOI (Digital Object Identifier). **Not all publishers participate in the DOI initiative;** as a result, your article may or may not have a DOI assigned.

**APA presents a simple approach for referencing online articles:**

Article is assigned a DOI

OR

Article is not assigned a DOI

Currently, only journals—primarily scholarly/research, and some online books—are assigned a DOI. Magazines, newspapers, and most online documents/reports do not have a DOI.

Since research is scholarly by nature, APA assumes that most online article references are assigned a DOI.

- **When an article has a DOI, the APA standard is that researchers (including students) will always locate the DOI, and use the DOI reference format. This is not an “either-or” situation where the researcher may choose to ignore a DOI. See page 3 for resources & examples.**
- When there is no DOI assigned, provide the journal home page web address (URL). See page 4 for resources & examples.
- When an article is not assigned a DOI, does not have a journal web page, and is **ONLY** available in an electronic database such as CINAHL or JSTOR, provide the entry page URL of the database. Although this type of reference is rare for articles, it may occur when the journal is discontinued. See p. 5 for example and electronic database entry page URLs.

**It is unacceptable to substitute an assigned DOI with the journal URL or database URL.**

## Locate the Assigned DOI

Use the table below to determine where/how to locate the DOI

<p>Locate DOI on first page of article (usually in smaller print near journal logo, copyright, or near author email address).</p> <p>If not on article, check database record/abstract (sometimes labeled as DOI).</p>	<p><b>If DOI does not appear on either article or in database:</b>  <a href="#">Click here to search Cross/Ref DOI Lookup using article author/title</a></p> <p><b>To determine DOIs for an entire list of references:</b>  <a href="#">Click here, then copy &amp; paste entire list into Simple Text Query box</a></p> <p><b>DOI may be verified/searched by entering number in:</b> <a href="#">Cross/Ref DOI Resolver</a></p>
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**If you locate the assigned DOI, format your reference according to the following examples; otherwise, skip to page 4.**

**(journal uses continuous pagination throughout volume)**

Wilens, T. E., & Biederman, J. (2006). Alcohol, drugs, and attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder: A model for the study of addictions in youth. *Journal of Psychopharmacology*, 20, 580-588. doi:10.1177/0269881105058776

**(each journal issue begins with page 1)**

Klimoski, R., & Palmer, S. (1993). The ADA and the hiring process in organizations. *Consulting Psychology Journal: Practice and Research*, 45(2), 10-36.  
doi:10.1037/10614087.45.2.10

**Cochrane Database Report retrieved from Cochrane Library, using DOI**

Shaw, K., O'Rourke, P., Del Mar, C., & Kenardy, J. (2005). Psychological interventions for overweight or obesity. *The Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews*, (2).  
doi:10.1002/14651858.CD003818.pub2

## **No DOI Assigned, So Locate Journal Home Page Web Address (URL)**

**Use the table below to determine where/how to locate journal home page URL**

<p>Locate URL on database record/abstract (sometimes labeled as Resource Location).</p> <p>or</p> <p>Locate URL on the article (usually on page footer, in small print near journal logo, or supplemental page).</p>	<p><b>If journal home page address does not appear on either article or in database, then perform the following as applicable:</b></p> <p>Search complete journal title as a phrase using general search engine such as <a href="#">Google</a></p> <p>Search complete article title using <a href="#">Google Scholar</a></p>
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### **Notes:**

1. Avoid sites such as Questia, FindArticles, Ingentaconnect, InfoQuest, Infotrieve, HighBeam, etc. They are vendors who index and sell articles—they are not journal publishers.
2. Use caution when locating articles that appear on personal web pages—even on the author's web site—because the article you see may not be the final published version.
3. Do not provide an entire URL that leads directly to article, but rather just the journal web page address.
4. URLs are not underlined (to remove, highlight URL then do Ctrl-U twice)

**If you located the journal home page web address (URL), format your reference according to the following examples on page 5; otherwise skip to page 6.**

**APA reference examples of articles not assigned a DOI, but have journal home page**

**Journal Article (continuous pagination throughout volume)**

Coopmans, V. C., & Biddle, C. (2008). CRNA performance using a handheld, computerized, decision-making aid during critical events in a simulated environment: A methodologic inquiry. *AANA Journal*, 76, 29-35. Retrieved from <http://www.aana.com/aanajournal.aspx>

**Journal Article (each issue begins with page 1)**

Roman, L. (2008). Nursing shortage: Looking to the future. *RN*, 71(3), 34-36, 38-41. Retrieved from <http://www.rnweb.com>

**Magazine Article**

Nutrient checklist for prenatal multis. (2007, May). *Better Nutrition*, 69(5), 12. Retrieved from <http://www.betternutrition.com/>

**Newspaper Article:**

Heinlein, G. (2007, July 24). Michigan smoking ban takes big step. *Detroit News*. Retrieved from <http://www.detnews.com>

**Article Does not have a DOI, is either  
Published in a Discontinued Journal or Journal Web Page Does Not Exist  
And ONLY Available in an Electronic Database**

As previously indicated in this Guide, use of this reference format is rare for articles.

Style format is similar to journal home page examples, but focus on the database home page URL.

<b>NMU Olson Library Database Name Which May Contain Unique Discontinued Online Journals</b>	<b>Database Home Page URL (copy &amp; paste into reference)</b>
CINAHL Plus with Full Text	<a href="http://search.ebscohost.com">http://search.ebscohost.com</a>
GALE/CENGAGE databases	<a href="http://find.galegroup.com">http://find.galegroup.com</a>
JSTOR	<a href="http://www.jstor.org">http://www.jstor.org</a>
ERIC	<a href="http://www.eric.ed.gov/">http://www.eric.ed.gov/</a>
ABI/INFORM Global	<a href="http://proquest.umi.com">http://proquest.umi.com</a>
Access World News	<a href="http://infoweb.newsbank.com">http://infoweb.newsbank.com</a>

**Journal Article (continuous pagination throughout volume)**

Billson, C. J. (1892). The Easter hare. *Folklore*, 3, 441-466. Retrieved from

<http://www.jstor.org>

Langdon, S. W., & Preble, W. (2008). The relationship between levels of perceived respect and bullying in 5th through 12th graders. *Adolescence*, 43, 485-503.

Retrieved from <http://find.galegroup.com>

## Articles in Print Professional/Scholarly Journals, Magazines, & Newspapers

**Note:** APA (6th edition) now recommends that when an assigned DOI is available (print or online), it should be included on the reference. (Manual, p. 189, & p. 198). If an article was not assigned a DOI, then end the reference with page numbers.

### Article in a journal (continuous pagination throughout volume)

Limb, G. E., & Hodge, D. R. (2008). Developing spiritual competency with Native Americans: Promoting wellness through balance and harmony. *Families in society*, 89, 615-622. doi:10.1606/1044-3894.3816

### Article in a journal (paginated by issue)

Klimoski, R., & Palmer, S. (1993). The ADA and the hiring process in organizations. *Consulting Psychology Journal: Practice and Research*, 45(2), 10-36. doi:10.1037/1061-4087.45.2.10

### Article in a Popular Magazine

Caloyianis, N. (1998, September). Greenland sharks. *National Geographic*, 194(3), 60-71.

### Article in a Newspaper (Discontinuous pages)

Von Drehle, D. (2000, January 15). Russians unveil new security plan. *The Washington Post*, pp. A1, A21.

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## Web Site/Page - Informally Published or Self-archived Work (Manual, p. 212)

**When discussing an entire web site** (as opposed to a specific page on the web site), an entry does not appear in the reference list, but is cited within text as shown in the following sample sentence:

The International Council of Museums web site provides many links to museums, codes of ethics, and the museum profession (<http://www.icom.org/>).

### Individual web page with personal author

Since web pages and documents are similar to print, references to them include the same elements such as author, date, title, etc. Note that proper names and acronyms are capitalized. **Date of retrieval is included because the content is likely to change (apastyle.org).**

Landis, B. (1996). *Carlisle Indian Industrial School history*. Retrieved September 10, 2009, from

<http://home.epix.net/~landis/histry.html>

## Online Technical/Research Report, Electronic/e-book, e-book Chapter

*If you need to continue a web address/URL onto another line, make sure to turn off automatic hyphenation in word processing software, and break before most punctuation, (e.g., a forward slash / ) not after (see example below) [Manual, p. 192].*

### Report/Document available on the web, authored by individual(s)--not agency, has publication date & report number

Russo, C. A., & Jiang, H. J. (2006). *Hospital stays among patients with diabetes, 2004* (Statistical Brief #17).

Retrieved from Agency for Healthcare Research & Quality website:

<http://www.hcup-us.ahrq.gov/reports/statbriefs/sb17.jsp>

### Report/Document available on the web, no author identified, no publication date (provide title first)

*Elementary school math instruction questionnaire results. Most significantly improved schools.* (n.d.).

Retrieved from [http://www.sharingsuccess.org/code/highperf/2002-03/es\\_math/msi/index.htm](http://www.sharingsuccess.org/code/highperf/2002-03/es_math/msi/index.htm)

### Report/Document available on the web, authored by a nongovernmental organization, no publication date (provide title first)

Accreditation Commission for Programs in Hospitality Administration. (n.d.). *Handbook of accreditation.*

Retrieved from <http://www.acpha-cahm.org/forms/acpha/acphahandbook04.pdf>

### Report/Document from institutional archive or university department web site

Trapp, Y. U. (2005). *Multiple intelligences: The learning process in our students.* Retrieved from Yale

University, Yale-New Haven Teachers Institute website:

<http://www.yale.edu/ynhti/curriculum/units/2001/6/01.06.10.x.html>

### Electronic version of print book, retrieved from STAT!Ref

Nieswiadomy, R. M. (2008). *Foundations of nursing research* (5th ed.) [STAT!Ref version].

Retrieved from <http://online.statref.com>



### Electronic version of print book, retrieved from netLibrary

Vogel, C. G. (1999). *Legends of landforms: Native American lore and the geology of the land* [Adobe Reader version]. Retrieved from <http://www.netlibrary.com/>

### Electronic book - direct link unavailable or URL leads to information on how to obtain the item. Note use of "Available from" instead of "Retrieved from"

Gonzalez-Mena, J. (2007). *Diversity in early care and education: Honoring differences*. Available from <http://mhprofessional.com/product.php?isbn=007722289X>

### Electronic version of book chapter from an edited book

Symonds, P. M. (1958). Human drives. In C. L. Stacey & M. DeMartino (Eds.), *Understanding human motivation* (pp. 11-22). doi:10.1037/11305-002

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## Online Government Documents & Legal Sources

### U.S. Government executive document

*Note that the agency publication number may appear on the web document or in the library catalog.*

Environmental Protection Agency. (1999). *Smog-Who does it hurt? What you need to know about ozone and your health* (EPA Publication No. EPA-452/K-99-001). Retrieved from <http://www.epa.gov/airnow//health/smog.pdf>

### Court Decision with record number identifier (Note source abbreviations - WestLaw: WL & Lexis-Nexis: LEXIS)

*Note: If screen numbers are assigned, precede with an asterisk.*

Hornback v. U.S., No. 03-5099, 2004 WL 68510, at \*1 (C. A. Fed. Jan. 13, 2004).

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## Theses & Dissertations (*Manual*, p. 208)

### Master's thesis from a commercial database

Saarivirta-Kolpack, M. (2006). *A history of early teacher training practices at Northern (Michigan University), 1899-1953* (Master's thesis). Available from ProQuest Dissertations & Theses database. (UMI No. 1439820)

### Doctoral Dissertation from an institutional database

Harper, E. B. (2007). *The role of terrestrial habitat in the population dynamics and conservation of pond-breeding amphibians* (Doctoral dissertation). Retrieved from <http://edt.missouri.edu/>

### Doctoral Dissertation from the web

Bartel, T. M. C. (2005). *Factors associated with attachment in international adoption* (Doctoral dissertation, Kansas State University). Retrieved from <http://hdl.handle.net/2097/131>

## Online Reference Materials

### Online Encyclopedia, no entry author

Boss brass. (2009). In H. Kallmann & G. Potvin (Eds.), *Encyclopedia of music in Canada*. Retrieved from <http://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.com/index.cfm?PgNm=TCE&Params=U1ARTU0000367>

### Online Encyclopedia, entry author, multi-volume

Hanegraaff, W. (2005). New Age movement. In L. Jones (Ed.), *Encyclopedia of religion* (2nd ed., Vol. 10, pp. 6495-6500). Retrieved from <http://find.galegroup.com/gvrl/>

### Online Dictionary

Terrorism. (2002). In *The New Dictionary of Cultural Literacy*. Retrieved July 20, 2007, from <http://www.bartleby.com/59/>

## Meetings and Symposia

### Conference presentation slides

Clumpner, K. E. (2007, April). *Interdisciplinary blog for liaisons* [PowerPoint slides]. Paper presented at the annual conference of the Wisconsin Association of Academic Librarians, Wisconsin Dells, WI. Retrieved from <http://www.wla.lib.wi.us/waal/conferences/2007/postconference/clumpner.pdf>

### Conference panel abstract retrieved online

Freier, M., Bennett, T., & Riley, A. C. (2009, March). *Gender, generation, and toxicity: The implications for academic libraries of gender and generational attitudes toward competition and workplace behavior*. Panel presented at the ACRL 14th National Conference, Seattle, WA. Abstract retrieved from [http://www.eshow2000.com/acrl/2009/e\\_pop\\_profiles.cfm?session=1&session\\_id=112539&class\\_id=113811](http://www.eshow2000.com/acrl/2009/e_pop_profiles.cfm?session=1&session_id=112539&class_id=113811)

### Graphic representation of data derived from a data set / data bank

When a figure (graph, map, chart, etc.) or table is generated/created from a data set/data bank available online, use the following to reference the data set. Since data sets/banks are frequently updated, provide the URL of the initial web page used to generate the graphic. Note to also properly caption & cite the resulting graphic or table. [See examples of how to caption & cite tables & figures from another source.](#)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. National Center for Injury Prevention and Control. (2007).

*Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System. Trends Data* [Data file]. Retrieved from

<http://apps.nccd.cdc.gov/brfss/>

### Abstract of a work

Although referencing the full-text of an article is preferred, abstracts may be used as sources (Manual, p. 202).

### Abstract found in database - Abstract as secondary source:

Johnson, P.D. (1998). Rural stroke caregivers: A qualitative study of the positive and negative response to the caregiver role. *Topics in Stroke Rehabilitation*, 5(3), 51-68. Abstract retrieved from CINAHL database. (Accession No. 1999045958)

**Abstract found on publisher web site - Abstract as original source:**

Wang, J. L., Lesage, A., Schmitz, N., & Drapeau, A. (2008). The relationship between work stress and mental disorders in men and women: Findings from a population-based study. *Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health*, 62, 42-47. Abstract retrieved from <http://jech.bmj.com/>

**Message posted to an electronic mailing list (archived)**

SaFeddern, T. (2004, May 10). Summary: EBN (nursing) resources [Electronic mailing list message]. Retrieved from Nursing & Allied Health Resources Section of the Medical Library Association (NAHRS), <http://listserv.kent.edu/cgi-bin/wa.exe?LIST=NAHRS>

**Personal & Other Communications**

*The APA Publication Manual (6th ed., p. 179) indicates that personal communications include letters, memos, telephone conversations, interviews (unpublished), presentations (not published in proceedings), some electronic communications (e.g., e-mail or messages from nonarchived discussion groups or electronic bulletin boards), etc. Personal communications are not cited in the reference list, but are cited within text as follows:*

D. Walch (personal communication, January 19, 2007).

(L. Brothen, personal communication, June 6, 2004).

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## **Printed Book, Technical/Research Report, & Book Chapter**

### **Book, no author or editor**

*Place title in the author's position; alphabetize by the first significant word in the title; cite in text using a few words of the title, or the whole title if it is short, in place of the author's name.*

*Professional guide to diseases.* (1982). Springhouse, PA: Intermed Communications.

### **Book, one author**

McKibben, B. (1992). *The age of missing information*. New York, NY: Random House.

### **Book, multiple authors**

Larson, G. W., Ellis, D. C., & Rivers, P. C. (1984). *Essentials of chemical dependency counseling*.  
New York, NY: Columbia University Press.

### **Edited book (editor in place of author)**

Inness, S. A. (Ed.). (1998). *Delinquents and debutantes: Twentieth-century American girls' cultures*.  
New York, NY: New York University Press.

### **Edited book, multiple authors (editor in place of authors)**

Moriarty, L. J., & Carter, D. L. (Eds.). (1998). *Criminal justice technology in the 21st century*.  
Springfield, IL: Charles C. Thomas.

### **Book, subsequent edition (2nd, 3rd, etc.)**

Lemay, L. (1997). *Teach yourself web publishing with HTML 4 in a week* (4th ed.). Indianapolis, IN: Sams.net.

### **Report from a private organization (author & publisher same)**

National League for Nursing. (1990). *Self-study report for community health organizations*  
(Pub. No. 21-2329). New York, NY: Author.

### Article or chapter in an edited book

Hartley, J. T., Harker J. O., & Walsh, D. A. (1980). Contemporary issues and new directions in adult development of learning and memory. In L. W. Poon (Ed.), *Aging in the 1980s: Psychological issues* (pp. 239-252). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

### Entry in an encyclopedia

*This includes both general and specialized encyclopedias. If an entry does not have a byline, begin the reference with the entry title and publication date.*

Moore, C. (1991). Mass Spectrometry. In *Encyclopedia of chemical technology* (4th ed.) (Vol. 15, pp. 1071-1094). New York, NY: Wiley.

### Entry in Mental Measurements Yearbook (MMY)

*Title of the review and authorship appears in italics at the beginning of the review narrative (example provided below). Also note that many entries published in MMY contain more than one review.*

*Review of the Comprehensive Assessment of School Environments by NANCY L. ALLEN, Research Scientist, Educational Testing Service, Princeton, NJ:*

Allen, N. L. (1992). Review of the Comprehensive Assessment of School Environments. In J. J. Kramer & J. C. Conoley (Eds.), *The eleventh mental measurements yearbook*. Lincoln, NE: Buros Institute, University of Nebraska Press.

### Master's Theses & Dissertations

#### Unpublished master's thesis

Paulosky, K. A. (1997). *Knowledge and attitudes of pain and activities of nurse administrators* (Unpublished master's thesis). Northern Michigan University, Marquette, MI.

#### Doctoral dissertation abstracted in Dissertation Abstracts International (DAI).

Gould, J. B. (1999). Symbolic Speech: Legal mobilization and the rise of collegiate hate speech codes. *Dissertation Abstracts International*, 60(02), 533A.

## Government Publications & Law

**Note:** For government documents which do not have a personal author, the *Manual* 6th ed. indicates providing the parent agency, followed by the sub-agency/-agencies.

### U.S. Government executive document

*Note that the agency publication number may appear on the document or in the online catalog.*

Lindeman, D. A. (1984). *Alzheimer's disease handbook* (DHHS Publication No. OHDS 84-20813).

Washington, DC: Government Printing Office.

U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service. (2004). *Pictured rocks national lakeshore,*

*Michigan final general management plan, wilderness study, environmental impact statement.*

Washington, DC: Author.

### Michigan Government executive document

Michigan Department of Community Health. (2003). *Michigan dementia plan summary: Reducing the burden of dementia in Michigan.* Lansing, MI: author.

**Important Note:** For legislative and legal materials, APA uses the conventional legal citation format found in *The Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citation*. Guidelines and additional examples appear in the *Manual* on pp. 216-224.

### U.S. Government Congressional document

*For legislative materials such as hearings, reports, bills, etc., provide title, Congress, session, and date.*

*Charter schools: Hearing before the Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Youth, and Families of*

*the Committee on Education and the Workforce, House of Representatives, 105<sup>th</sup> Cong. 1 (1998).*

### Court decision

United States v. Nixon, 418 U.S. 683 (1974).

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# Proceedings of Meetings & Symposia

## Published Proceedings

*Capitalize the name of the symposium.*

Barlow, D. H., Chorpita, B. F., & Turovsky, J. (1996). Fear, panic, anxiety, and disorders of emotion. In R. Dienstbier (Ed.), *Nebraska Symposium on Motivation: Vol. 43. Perspectives on anxiety, panic, and fear* (pp. 251-328). Lincoln, NE: University of Nebraska Press.

## Proceedings published regularly (format similar to periodicals)

Wassenaar, L. I., & Hobson, K. A. (1998). Natal origins of migratory monarch butterflies at wintering colonies in Mexico: New isotopic evidence. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, USA*, 95, 15436-15439.

## Poster presented at conference

Raspe, P. D. (1991, April). *Relationship among given names in the Scilly Isles*. Poster session presented at the annual meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists, Milwaukee, WI.