APA References for Books
Handout courtesy of Angela Gulick

Some General Reminders about the APA System of Documentation

- References lists only contain sources directly mentioned in your work that are recoverable (published in some way). Don’t include personal communications such as interviews, email messages, and letters on the References list. However, do include them in the document.
- References entries are alphabetized by the last name of the first listed author. If there is no author, the entry is alphabetized by the first major word of the title (not counting a, the, an, etc.).
- References entries are double-spaced within and between entries and are not numbered.
- References entries use a hanging indent pattern where the first line extends all the way to the left margin and each subsequent line is indented five spaces.
- References lists use title capitalization for names of magazines, newspapers, journals, and websites. Title capitalization means capitalizing all major words in the title not counting words such as a, the, an.
- References lists us sentence capitalization for all other titles (chapters, articles, books). Sentence capitalization means capitalizing only the first word of the title, any proper nouns, and any word that immediately follows a colon (:).

Print: Book with One Author
Author, A. A. (year of publication). Title of book. Location: Publisher.

Print: Book with Two to Seven Authors (list all named authors in the order they appear on book)
Location: Publisher.

Print: Book with Eight or More Authors (list first six authors, . . . last named author)

Print: Entire Edited Book
Editor, A. A., & Editor, B. B. (Eds.). (year of publication). Title of book. Location: Publisher.


