Documenting Sources in APA

The APA style guide is a date-oriented citation system used primarily by the social sciences. Authors' names are usually incorporated into the sentences in which their sources are used, followed immediately by the year of publication in parentheses. It is also permissible to place the author or authors' last names and the year of publication in parentheses at the end of the sentence. If the information is found on a specific page or pages, cite these as well. If page number is not provided, give the paragraph number followed by the abbreviation *para*. The following examples show the precise punctuation of four possible ways to incorporate material into a text:

	A direct quotation...	A paraphrase...
...introduced with the author's name	As researchers Yanovski and Yanovski (2002) have explained, obesity was once considered "either a moral failing or evidence of underlying psychopathology" (p. 592).	Yanovski and Yanovski (2002) point out that obesity at one time was thought to be caused by immorality or mental sickness (p. 592).
...not introduced with the author's name	Obesity was once considered "either a moral failing or evidence of underlying psychopathology" (Yanovski and Yanovski, 2002, p. 592).	At one time obesity was thought to be caused by immorality or mental sickness (Yanovski and Yanovski, 2002, p. 592).

If a quotation fills more than four lines of your text, format it as follows:

- Indent ten spaces (two tabs) from the left margin
- Single-space the quotation
- Do not use quotation marks
- The parenthetical citation appears after the final period:

> [I]f we describe a world to compass these things, a world that is a long, brute game, then we bump against another mystery: the inrush of power and light, the canary that sings on the skull. Unless all ages and races of men have been deluded . . . there seems to be such a thing as beauty, a grace wholly gratuitous. (Dillard, 1988, p. 7)

The References page

Any sources that you quote or paraphrase in your text must appear on a separate page entitled "References" at the end of your paper:

- List only works you have quoted or paraphrased (do not list those which you have read but not cited).
- Provide the last name of each author. Use initials for the first and middle names.
- Give the date in parentheses immediately following the name of the author.
- List your sources alphabetically using the authors' last names. Do not number your entries.
- Capitalize only the first letter in the titles of books and articles.
- Each entry begins at the left margin (no indentation). If an entry fills more than one line of text, indent each additional line five spaces (one tab).
- Double-space each entry and between each entry (do not quadruple-space).

The following examples show the precise punctuation for some of the more common kinds of sources you might list on a reference page.

A book	Dillard, A. (1988). *Pilgrim at tinker creek*. New York: Harper & Row.
An article in a periodical	Hoxby, C. M., & Calis, K. A. (2002). The power of peers. *Education Next*, 2(2), 57-63.
An article in a weekly magazine	Winerip, M. (1998, February 22). Schizophrenia's most zealous foe. *The New York Times Magazine*, 26-29.
An article in a daily newspaper	Farah, Douglas. (1998, January 17). Talk show helps knit El Salvador. *The Washington Post*, pp. A23, A28.

The reference page would alphabetize these entries and format them with hanging indentation (entries over one line are indented a half-inch after the first line):

Dillard, A. (1988). *Pilgrim at tinker creek*. New York: Harper & Row.

Farah, Douglas. (1998, January 17). Talk show helps knit El Salvador. *The Washington Post*, pp. A23, A28.

Hoxby, C. M., & Calis, K. A. (2002). The power of peers. *Education Next*, 2(2), 57-63.

Winerip, M. (1998, February 22). Schizophrenia's most zealous foe. *The New York Times Magazine*, 26-29.