



## **APA References: Unconventional Sources (APA 7)**

APA citation style is typically used in social science fields. These include psychology, sociology, education, and communication.

### **General Format**

- Begin your references page on a new page at the end of your paper.
- The title of your references page should be References. Do not bold, underline, italicize, put in quotes, or increase the font size. The title should be centered.
- Use the same margins and header as the rest of your paper.
- Double-space the entire works cited page. Do not skip an extra space between citations.
- Left-align all citations. Indent every line after the first of each citation by a half-inch to create a hanging indent.
- Arrange your citations in alphabetical order by author last name (or the first word of the citation if the author's name is unknown).
- Most words in the title of your source will be lowercase. Only capitalize the first word of the title, the first word after a colon or dash and proper nouns.



## Unconventional Sources

### Online Discussion Forum:

Feifoo213. (2023, September 21). UMD professor to co-lead project to diversify math departments at universities [Online forum post]. Reddit.  
[https://www.reddit.com/r/education/comments/16oetlv/umd\\_professor\\_to\\_colead\\_project\\_to\\_diversify\\_math/](https://www.reddit.com/r/education/comments/16oetlv/umd_professor_to_colead_project_to_diversify_math/)

### Tweet:

@\_\_TEAM\_USA. (2023, September 21). *NEW: Trump is vowing to close the Department of Education if reelected. Do you support this?* [Tweet; image attached]. X.  
[https://twitter.com/\\_\\_TEAM\\_USA/status/1704945506651173225](https://twitter.com/__TEAM_USA/status/1704945506651173225)

### Twitter Profile:

U.S. Department of Education [ @usedgov ]. (n.d.). *Tweets* [X, formerly known as Twitter, profile]. Retrieved September 9, 2023, from  
<https://twitter.com/usedgov>

### Facebook Post:

Smile Foundation. (2023, August 15). *"I know that education can help me achieve what I want in life. My dad has a small business and* [Image attached] [Facebook post]. Facebook.  
[https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story\\_fbid=pfbidoH9bK9yen2TPLpHiqWCb7YYQH7NJuzWSKAy5bqcTE9JHk6quZqHwbo7iJcXSZDwYU1&id=100064234553203&eav=AfYN-](https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=pfbidoH9bK9yen2TPLpHiqWCb7YYQH7NJuzWSKAy5bqcTE9JHk6quZqHwbo7iJcXSZDwYU1&id=100064234553203&eav=AfYN-)

**Speaking and Writing Center [1]:** If the author's real name (or organization name) is unknown, include only the username (without brackets) as is shown here. If the author's real name is known, the real name should be listed first in last name, first initial format followed by the username in brackets (See "YouTube or Other Streaming Video" for an example).

**Speaking and Writing Center [2]:** The title of the post should be formatted in plain text.

**Speaking and Writing Center [3]:** Note that "Online forum post" is included here in brackets.

**Speaking and Writing Center [4]:** Here, include the publisher or the name of the website hosting the discussion forum.

**Speaking and Writing Center [5]:** If the real name (or organization name) of the account holder is known, the name should be placed before the username in last name, first initial format and the username should be placed in brackets (See "YouTube or Other Streaming Video" for an example). If the real name of the account holder is not known, however, only the username should be used (without brackets).

**Speaking and Writing Center [6]:** Here, you should include the content of the tweet up to the first twenty words. If the tweet does not have any ending punctuation, do not include any before the bracket.

**Speaking and Writing Center [7]:** Here, you should indicate if the tweet includes images, videos, or links to external sources. If the tweet includes none, you may omit this section and close the brackets after the word "Tweet."

**Speaking and Writing Center [8]:** Since Twitter has recently changed its name to X, X is listed here as the title of the site.

**Speaking and Writing Center [9]:** Note that there is no punctuation before the brackets

**Speaking and Writing Center [10]:** Note that there is a comma after the date.

**Speaking and Writing Center [11]:** Here, you should include the content of the post up to the first 20 words. In this example, the post began with a quote, but you would not usually use quotation marks.

**Speaking and Writing Center [12]:** If the post has an image, video, or a link to an external source, you should indicate that here.

**Speaking and Writing Center [13]:** Here, you should indicate the type of post.



fEwYEFeJ\_XK\_MmdWGInUXbiQwtbHAEa5IFtHEDqnfOPqTzmE2S61rv  
pI9ziFBw&paipv=0

Facebook Page:

U.S. Department of Education. (n.d.). *Home* [Facebook page]. Facebook.

Retrieved September 22, 2023 from

<https://m.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064362236684>

**Speaking and Writing Center [14]:** Because a whole page will never have a specific date, you will always use the n.d. abbreviation when citing an entire page.

**Speaking and Writing Center [15]:** Note that when citing an entire Facebook page, the title of the page here will always be "Home."

**Speaking and Writing Center [16]:** Because pages don't have a specific date associated with them, it's necessary to include the retrieval date. The retrieval date is formatted in month date, year format.

Instagram Photo or Video:

UMW Theatre [@umwtheatre]. (2023, September 20). *Can you believe*

*MURDER ON THE ORIENT EXPRESS opens tomorrow?! 🎬 Final*

*touches on the set and costumes are underway* [Photograph]. Instagram.

<https://www.instagram.com/p/Cxa2ZiCsjeO/?hl=en>

**Speaking and Writing Center [17]:** Here you should include the content of the post up to the first 20 words. You should do your best to replicate emojis if possible.

**Speaking and Writing Center [18]:** Here, you should indicate whether the post was a photo or video.

**Speaking and Writing Center [19]:** Note that a blog post follows a slightly different format than a standard website article.

Blog Post:

Peterson, R. (2023, August 18). Five small ways to contemplate creativity in the

classroom. *PBS*. [https://www.pbs.org/education/blog/five-small-ways-to-](https://www.pbs.org/education/blog/five-small-ways-to-cultivate-creativity-in-the-classroom)

[cultivate-creativity-in-the-classroom](https://www.pbs.org/education/blog/five-small-ways-to-cultivate-creativity-in-the-classroom)

**Speaking and Writing Center [20]:** Note that the title of the post is in plain text and the publisher is italicized (this is the opposite of how typical web articles are formatted).

YouTube or Other Streaming Video:

Greene, R. [@RobertGreeneOfficial]. (2023, January 11). *Understanding Human*

*Behavior* [Video]. YouTube.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PjKJRa1369s>

**Speaking and Writing Center [21]:** Here, the poster's real name is known, so it is listed first and the username is in brackets. If the real name of the poster is unknown, omit the name and list the username without brackets (see "Tweet" for an example)

**Speaking and Writing Center [22]:** Note that to see the exact date of publication for a video on YouTube, you need to hover over where it says "... months ago" or "... years ago."

**Speaking and Writing Center [23]:** Note that the title of the video should be italicized. No punctuation should come before the brackets.



TEDtalk:

Pierson, R. (2013, May). *Every kid needs a champion* [Video]. TED.  
[https://www.ted.com/talks/rita\\_pierson\\_every\\_kid\\_needs\\_a\\_champion](https://www.ted.com/talks/rita_pierson_every_kid_needs_a_champion)

Podcast Episode:

Mills, K. (Host). (2021, October). ADHD among children and adults, with Margaret Sibley, PhD (No. 161) [Audio podcast episode]. In *Speaking of Psychology*. American Psychological Association.  
<https://www.apa.org/news/podcasts/speaking-of-psychology/children-adults-adhd>

Film or Video:

Lowman, S. (Director). (2017). *Teach us all* [Film]. Lowell Milken Center for Unsung Heroes.

TV Series:

Skoll, J. & Wyermann, D. (Executive Producers). (2018). *America to Me* [TV Series]. Participant Media; Kartemquin Films; Ro\*Co Films.

TV Series Episode:

James, S. (Director). (2018). What's the big deal about Oak Park? (Episode 1) [TV series episode]. In Skoll, J. & Wyermann, D. (Executive Producers), *America to Me*. Participant Media; Kartemquin Films; Ro\*Co Films.

Music Album:

Swift, T. (2020). *Evermore* [Album]. Republic Records.

**Speaking and Writing Center [24]:** The author of a TED Talk is the main person giving the speech.

**Speaking and Writing Center [25]:** You should also include the date after the month if one is available.

**Speaking and Writing Center [26]:** The title of the video should be in italics.

**Speaking and Writing Center [27]:** Either the executive producer or the host can be listed in this slot. If you are using an executive producer, place "Executive Producer" in the parentheses.

**Speaking and Writing Center [28]:** This example source did not provide a specific day, but if the source you are using does, you would include the number of the date after the month.

**Speaking and Writing Center [29]:** The title of the episode should not be italicized or placed in quotation marks.

**Speaking and Writing Center [30]:** The abbreviation "No." is used to denote the episode number.

**Speaking and Writing Center [31]:** This exact phrase will be included in your citation.

**Speaking and Writing Center [32]:** Make sure to include the word "In" before the title of the podcast.

**Speaking and Writing Center [33]:** The title of the podcast should be italicized.

**Speaking and Writing Center [34]:** The production company is listed after the title of the podcast in plain text.

**Speaking and Writing Center [35]:** If you accessed the podcast through an app rather than a browser, you may omit the URL.

**Speaking and Writing Center [36]:** Here, you should list the production company in plain text.

**Speaking and Writing Center [37]:** For series spanning multiple years, you should list the date range of releases. If the show is still being aired, you should list the beginning year to present (i.e. 2018-present).

**Speaking and Writing Center [38]:** The title of the series should be italicized.

**Speaking and Writing Center [39]:** Here, you should list the production companies separated by semicolons.

**Speaking and Writing Center [40]:** For a scripted show, the writer would also be listed here before the director. The example is an unscripted documentary and therefore does not have a writer. The writer and director should be separated by an &.

**Speaking and Writing Center [41]:** The episode title should be listed in plain text.

**Speaking and Writing Center [42]:** For shows with multiple seasons, the season would be listed before the episode and the two would be separated by a comma.

**Speaking and Writing Center [43]:** Note that the word "In" should appear before the names of the executive producers.

**Speaking and Writing Center [44]:** The name of the series should be italicized.

**Speaking and Writing Center [45]:** Here, you should list the production companies separated by semicolons.



Single Song or Track:

Swift, T. (2020). *No body, no crime* [Song]. On *Evermore* [Album]. Republic Records.

**Speaking and Writing Center [46]:** Note that the title of the individual song should be in plain text.

**Speaking and Writing Center [47]:** Note that the word "On" is included before the album title.

**Speaking and Writing Center [48]:** Note that album titles are italicized.

Artwork in a Museum or on a Museum Website:

Gentileschi, A. (1620). *Judith beheading Holofernes* [Painting]. Le Gallerie Degli Uffizi, Florence, Italy. <https://www.uffizi.it/en/artworks/judith-beheading-holofernes>

**Speaking and Writing Center [49]:** Here, you should describe the medium of the artwork.

**Speaking and Writing Center [50]:** Here, you should list the name of the museum in which the artwork is housed.

**Speaking and Writing Center [51]:** Here, you should list the location of the museum. For museums in the United States, you should also include the state after the city.

Photograph (Not Associated with a Museum):

Faircloth, R. (2014). *Ninth grade students are seen in a segregated classroom in Summerton, S.C., in 1954* [Photograph]. Frontline. <https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/article/the-return-of-school-segregation-in-eight-charts/>

**Speaking and Writing Center [52]:** If you saw the work in an actual museum, you should check to see if the museum has a website associated with it where the artwork can be viewed. If the museum does not have a website associated with it, you may omit the URL.

**Speaking and Writing Center [53]:** Here, list the name of the photographer if known.

**Speaking and Writing Center [54]:** If the image does not have a title, you should describe the image in square brackets. This should be the same set of brackets in which the medium is specified. For example, you might say [Photograph of protesters in DC]. Note that image descriptions, when used in place of a title, are not italicized.

Presentation at a Conference or Symposium:

Milu, E. (2023, March 4). *A transnational Black language pedagogy for all students* [Keynote address]. The Global Writing Center, Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, PA, United States.

**Speaking and Writing Center [55]:** Here, you should list the source where the image was published.

**Speaking and Writing Center [56]:** This format applies to presentations that you actually observe that do not have a print or online publication.

**Speaking and Writing Center [57]:** Here, you should describe the kind of presentation.

Conference Proceedings:

Messmick, D. M., & Kramer, R. M. (Eds.). (2004). *The psychology of leadership: New perspectives and research*. Taylor and Francis Group.

**Speaking and Writing Center [58]:** Note that every significant word in the title of the conference is capitalized (title case).

**Speaking and Writing Center [59]:** Here, you should include the name of the institution hosting the conference and the location where the conference was held.

**Speaking and Writing Center [60]:** This format applies to proceedings that have been published either in print or online. Note that this format is the same as that of an anthology or collection. If citing only one presentation, you should follow the format for a work within an edited collection.

**Speaking and Writing Center [61]:** Note that for an electronically published source, you would include the URL here after the publisher.