APA Citation

What is Plagiarism and Why is it Important?
In college courses, we are constantly exposed to other people’s ideas: we read them in texts, hear them in lecture, discuss them in class, and incorporate them into our own writing. As a result, it is extremely important that we give credit where it is due. Plagiarism is using others’ ideas and words without clearly acknowledging the source of that information.

How Can Students Avoid Plagiarism?
To avoid plagiarism, you must give credit whenever you use:

- Another person’s idea, opinion, or theory, even when paraphrased
- Any facts, statistics, graphs, drawings—any pieces of information—that are not common knowledge
- Quotations of another person’s actual spoken or written words
- Paraphrase of another person’s spoken or written words
- When in doubt, CITE!
- To read more about plagiarism, look in the APA manual on pages 15-16 and 170.

To avoid plagiarism at ResU, you must use APA citation and know exactly how to cite information. Improper formatting in your paper will cause you to lose points. There are 2 copies of the APA 6th Edition in the ResU library to use.
Look at the chart below to see how you can cite within your paper.

You can cite at the beginning of a sentence or the end of a sentence, but be careful of the formatting.

Smith (2012) stated that the surveys conducted in Hospital A among the nursing staff in the ICU showed that 12 hour shifts and limited staff resulted in more sick days and work related injuries than compared to Hospital B, where shifts were 10 hours long and had a sufficient number of staff on hand.

OR

The surveys conducted in Hospital A among the nursing staff in the ICU showed that 12 hour shifts and limited staff resulted in more sick days and work related injuries than compared to Hospital B, where shifts were 10 hours long and had a sufficient number of staff on hand (Smith, 2012).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Citing at the beginning</th>
<th>Citing at the end</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Book (includes textbooks too)</td>
<td>Smith (2010) found that nurses made more mistakes during 12 hour shifts than in 8 hour shifts.</td>
<td>Nurses made more mistakes during 12 hour shifts than in 8 hour shifts (Smith, 2010).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article, Chapter in a book, Journal, Newspaper, and Magazine (1-2 authors should be cited every time)</td>
<td>Smith and Jacobson (2010) found that nurses made more mistakes during 12 hour shifts than in 8 hour shifts.</td>
<td>Nurses made more mistakes during 12 hour shifts than in 8 hour shifts (Smith &amp; Jacobson, 2010). <strong>Take note of use of “and”</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article, Chapter in a book, Journal, Newspaper, or Magazine with 3-5 authors</td>
<td><strong>First citation within your paper:</strong> Smith, Jacobson, Andrews, Geode and Carpenter (2010) found that nurses made more mistakes during 12 hour shifts than in 8 hour shifts. <strong>Succeeding citations within your paper:</strong> Smith et al. (2010) found that nurses made more mistakes during 12 hour shifts than in 8 hour shifts.</td>
<td><strong>First citation within your paper:</strong> Nurses made more mistakes during 12 hour shifts than in 8 hour shifts (Smith, Jacobson, Andrews, Geode, &amp; Carpenter, 2010). <strong>Succeeding citations within your paper:</strong> Nurses made more mistakes during 12 hour shifts than in 8 hour shifts (Smith et al., 2010).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Article, Chapter in a book, Journal, Newspaper, or Magazine with MORE than 5 authors</td>
<td><strong>First citation within your paper:</strong> Smith et al. (2010) found that nurses made more mistakes during 12 hour shifts than in 8 hour shifts. <strong>Succeeding citations within your paper:</strong> Smith et al. (2010) found that nurses made more mistakes during 12 hour shifts than in 8 hour shifts.</td>
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</table>
Website**

Smith (n.d.) found that nurses made more mistakes during 12 hour shifts than in 8 hour shifts. Nurses made more mistakes during 12 hour shifts than in 8 hour shifts (Smith, n.d.).

Interview (Personal Communication)

J. F. Smith (personal communication, April 18, 2010) found that nurses made more mistakes during 12 hour shifts than in 8 hour shifts (J. F. Smith, personal communication, April 18, 2010).

**n.d. means no date. If you find a resource that has no date of publication, use n.d.

**Direct Quotes**

When quoting directly from a source, there are different rules than if you paraphrase from a direct source. To view the rules in more detail, please look in the APA manual on pages 170-173.

**Rule 1:** If a quote is less than 40 words, incorporate it into your text. See example below:

After looking at the results, Smith et al. (2010) suggested that “skin to skin contact after an infant is born can greatly increase the mother-child bonding and improve breast feeding success” (p. 564), proving that immediate contact is better for child and mother.

**Rule 2:** If the quotations appear at the end of a sentence, close the quoted line with quotations marks, cite the source in parentheses, and a period at the end. See example below:

After looking at the results, “skin to skin contact after an infant is born can greatly increase the mother-child bonding and improve breast feeding success” (Jones & Smith, 2010, p. 564).

**Rule 3:** If a quote is more than 40 words, display it in a free standing block of text with NO quotation marks. Start the block of text on a new line and indented about a half inch from the left margin. The quotation is at the end of the page. Make sure it is double spaced in your paper too! See example below:

Others have contradicted this view:

Co-presence does not ensure intimate interaction among all group members. Consider large-scale social gathering in which hundreds or thousands of people gather in a location to perform a ritual or celebrate an event. In these instances, participants are able to see the visible manifestation of the group. (Peterson, 2006, pp. 112-113)

However, APA describes quotes as acceptable for emphasis ONLY. This means that the information should be paraphrased to demonstrate comprehension unless the essential quality of the words is important to the meaning. Long story short: Paraphrase!
Creating your Reference Page

- Put the word References at the top of the last page, centered, not bold (see APA paper example).
- Make sure your references are alphabetized.
- When referencing an article, capitalize the first word after the colon or any punctuation within the article title.
- When referencing a website, break apart the URL after a period or a slash.
- If you grabbed the APA citation from EBSCO, be sure to double check that everything is according to the APA manual (I guarantee there is at least ONE thing wrong with it).
- Do not include information (such as the URL) about EBSCO or any other database in the citation.

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<td>Chapter in a book (The first set of authors listed are the authors of that chapter; the second set of authors are the authors of the book.)</td>
<td>McEwen, M., Jackson, F., &amp; Willis, E. (2012). Overview of selected middle range nursing theories In M. Zuccarini, H. Kogut, &amp; E. Kors, <em>Theoretical basis for nursing</em> (2nd ed.), (pp. 263-264). Retrieved from <a href="http://www.xxxx">http://www.xxxx</a></td>
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<td>Journal, Newspaper, or Magazine (Periodical)</td>
<td>Smith, J. (2012). Overburdened nurses in the ICU are more accident prone: How to ensure the safety of nurses and their patients. <em>Mental Health for Nurses</em>, 39(6), 32-46. doi:xxxx.xxxx</td>
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<td>Interview (Personal Communication)</td>
<td>Smith, A. J. (2010, December 1). Interview by V. A. Jones [Tape recording]. Professor Apple’s Ethics Project, Resurrection University. Nursing Ethics, Chicago, IL.</td>
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