

APA 6TH EDITION: NOTABLE CHANGES AND ADDITIONS
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There is a certain relief in change, even though it be from bad to worse! As I have often found in travelling in a stagecoach, that it is often a comfort to shift one's position, and be bruised in a new place. ~Washington Irving

Mechanics/ Structure

- *Spacing* (p. 87): All terminal punctuation (e.g., period, question mark) is now followed by *two* spaces. One space is used in reference citations, initials, abbreviations, and with commas, colons, and semicolons.
- *Running Head* (p. 41): Several changes have been made to the formatting of this.
 - It now appears in the header, is left justified, and on the same line as the page number throughout the document.
 - The term “Running head:” appears on every page in the header.
 - The running head always appears in all capital letters.
- *Headings* (p. 62): Have been simplified to five sequential levels. Note that the title of the paper appears on the first page (centered and in upper and lower case letters), but does not count as a level of heading. The rest of the headings are as follows:

Centered, Bold, Upper and Lower Case Heading

Left Justified, Bold, Upper and Lower Case Heading

Indented, bold, lower case, paragraph heading ending with a period.

Indented, bold, italics, lower case paragraph heading ending with a period.

Indented, italics, lower case paragraph heading ending with a period.

- *Bias* (p.71): A more detailed section is provided with key changes relating to the degree to which authors are specific both in the identification of populations and sub-populations as well as in “loaded” terms (e.g., at-risk) that are open to misinterpretation.

Citations

- *Repeated Citation of Same Source in Same Paragraph* (pp. 174-175): In APA 5th Edition the year is dropped when the same source is used in the same paragraph and cannot be confused with other sources. In APA 6th Edition, if the name of an author appears as part of the narrative (i.e., in text) then the year follows in parentheses and it is *not* necessary to include the year again when the author’s name is repeated in the narrative of the same paragraph and cannot be confused with any other citations in the same paragraph. *But*, any parenthetical references (i.e., the citation appears in parentheses) in the same paragraph *should* include the year.

In a recent study of reaction times, Walker (2000) found no interaction amongst variables in the cross-sectional data. Walker’s research supports the work of others studying similar variables (James & King, 2004; Salinger, 1999). However, interactions among variables were identified in the longitudinal data (Walker, 2000).

However, if the full citation appears in parentheses *first*, subsequent citations should always present the year along with the author's last name.

In a recent study of reaction times, no interaction amongst variables in the cross-sectional data (Walker, 2000). Walker's (2000) research supports the work of others studying similar variables (James & King, 2004; Salinger, 1999).

However, interactions among variables were identified in the longitudinal data (Walker, 2000).

- *Publisher Location* (p. 186): You are required to list the publisher's city and state for all books. Note that APA 5th Edition allowed for the use of only the city for common publication cities (e.g., New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco). There is no mention of this in the 6th Edition and a statement to always provide the city and state. However, if you look closely at the 6th Edition's examples they consistently omit the state for Los Angeles, but seemingly provide it for all other cities.
- *Sources with Six or More Authors in the Reference List- Not in Text* (p. 184): For references with six or seven authors, list all of them in the reference citation. For references with eight or more authors, list the first six authors, then insert three ellipses, and add the last author's name.

Engberg, M., Dugan, J. P., Haworth, J., Williams, T., Kelly, B., Johnson, W., ... Stewart, S. (2009). *Navigating the complexity of higher education preparation program administration*. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass.

- *Electronic Sources in Reference List* (p. 187): A key addition to APA 6th Edition is an expanded section on citing electronic sources. Central to this in a reference list is the inclusion of digital object identifiers (DOIs). These are codes assigned to many, but not all, electronically published sources that allow for the more accurate retrieval of electronic documents. They are sometimes found on the actual electronic document (e.g., PDF), but may also be listed in the retrieval system (e.g., web database listing). Any sources that are retrieved electronically and provide a DOI should list it following the sample below:

Avolio, B. J., & Gardner, W. L. (2005). Authentic leadership development: Getting to the roots of positive forms of leadership. *Leadership Quarterly*, 16, 315-338. doi:10.1016/j.leaqua.2005.03.001

If no doi is assigned to the online document, include the homepage URL for the periodical. Also note that the retrieval date for electronic sources is no longer listed in the reference list:

Avolio, B. J., & Gardner, W. L. (2005). Authentic leadership development: Getting to the roots of positive forms of leadership. *Leadership Quarterly*, 16, 315-338. Retrieved from http://www.elsevier.com/wps/find/journaldescription.cws_home/620221/description

Note that there are many additional changes to APA 6th Edition that are not covered in this handout, which is largely designed to function for use with graduate student writing. Additional content in the new edition addresses recommendations for publication ethics, presentation of statistical findings, and table formatting, among other topics. Please share any comments, inaccuracies, or suggestions with me via email (jdugan1@luc.edu). Feel free to share widely, but credit appropriately.