Notable Changes Between APA Style 6th Edition and APA Style 7th Edition and Resources

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Invited by Interim Dean Mel Haberman, PhD, RN, FAAN, and to several faculty who invited me to share
Greetings,

The WSU College of Nursing Program Directors decided that ALL graduate and undergraduate programs will transition to the APA Style 7th edition in Fall 2020. I developed this Power Point that is intended to be a resource for administrators, faculty, staff, and students who may find it to be helpful. I highlighted notable changes between the APA Style 6th edition and 7th edition and provided resources. The purpose is to facilitate a smooth transition to the APA Style 7th edition. A thank you to Interim Dean Mel Haberman and to several faculty who invited me to share.

I referred to the 7th Edition Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (2020) and APA Style Website at https://apastyle.apa.org/index. On the APA Style website, there are instructional aids in the form of electronic handouts (https://apastyle.apa.org/instructional-aids/), APA formatted sample papers in MS Word, and annotated APA formatted sample papers in PDF in both professional and student versions (https://apastyle.apa.org/style-grammar-guidelines/paper-format/sample-papers). An important note is that there are resources posted on websites and YouTube other than from the APA organization that may appear to be credible as a quick reference, however, I found some to contain errors of facts. The following are additional credible resources that you might find to be helpful.

- A one hour video session with members of the APA Style team on key updates for 12 chapters.

Respectfully,

Connie Kim Yen Nguyen-Truong, PhD, RN
2.19 Fonts

APA Style 7th ed.

- Accessible typography/a consistent font throughout the text of the paper. There are more font options.
  - Recommend:
    - Serif font 12-point Times New Roman
    - Serif font 11-point Georgia
    - Serif font 10-point normal Computer Modern
    - Sans serif font 11-point Calibri
    - Sans serif 11-point Arial
    - Sans serif 10-point Lucida Sans Unicode
2.3 Title Page for Professional and Student Paper


### Professional Paper Title Page (Figure 2.1)
- Paper title
- Full name of authors or author(s)
- Affiliation
  - Name of the University, e.g., College of Nursing, Washington State University
  - When different authors have different affiliations, use superscript numerals before affiliations to connect the affiliations to the appropriate author(s). Do not use superscript numerals if all authors share the same affiliations.
- Author note
  - Center and bold the label “Author Note.” Align the paragraphs of the author note to the left: ORCID iD, change in affiliation, disclosures, correspondence/contact information
- Running head
  - Do not use the label “Running head.” before the running head.
  - Running head is an abbreviated version of the paper title that is 50 characters or fewer, counting letters, punctuation, and spaces between words as characters. Appear in the page header, flush left and across from the right-aligned page number. Written in ALL-CAPITAL letters.
- Page number starting at 1 on the title page, top right corner in the header

### Student Paper Title Page (Figure 2.2)
- Paper title
- Full name of author or author(s)
- Affiliation
  - Name of the University, e.g., College of Nursing, Washington State University
- Course number and name
- Faculty name
  - Use the preferred designation, e.g., Dr., Instructor, Professor
- Assignment due date
  - Spell out the month, date, and year format used in your country, e.g., September 1, 2020
- Page number starting at 1 on the title page, top right corner in the header
- Running head (abbreviated version of the paper title) is not required unless requested by faculty or institution

Per APA (2020): Instructors or institutions provide different guidance, students should abide by those directions.
2.8 Running Head

**APA STYLE 6TH ED.**
The label "Running head" is required to be in the header on the title page.

**APA STYLE 7TH ED.**
The label "Running head" is not required to be in the header on the title page.

**Note:** Please see 2.3 Title Page and 2.18 Page Header for a Professional Paper and Student Paper.
2.26 and 2.27 Heading Levels

Table 2.3 Format for the Five Levels of Heading in APA Style

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Format</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Centered, Bold, Title Case Heading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Flush left, Bold, Title Case Heading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Indented, bold, lowercase paragraph heading ending with a period.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Indented, bold, italicized, lowercase paragraph heading ending with a period.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Indented, italicized, lowercase paragraph heading ending with a period.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 2.4 Use of Headings in a Sample Introduction

- **Note**: No “Introduction” heading before the first paragraph of introductory text

Figure 2.5 Format of Headings in a Sample Paper

8.17 Number of Authors to Include in In-Text Citations

Table 8.1 Basic In-Text Citation Styles

8.16 Omitting the Year in Repeated Narrative Citations. This guideline is specific on when the year can be omitted (i.e., multiple narrative citations to a work in a single paragraph) or not (i.e., multiple works by the same author or authors even if have different years) and the formatting in subsequent paragraphs. The year needs to be included in every parenthetical citation. See Figure 8.3 Example of Repeated Narrative Citations With the Year Omitted.


**APA STYLE 6TH ED.**

In-text citation: Three to five authors
- List all surnames the first time
- List first surname followed by et al. and copyright year for subsequent citations

In-text citation: Six or more authors
- List first surname followed by et al. and copyright year

**APA STYLE 7TH ED.**

In-text citation: Three or more authors
- Parenthetical citation: (Author et al., Copyright Year)
- Narrative citation: Author et al. (Copyright Year)
9.8 Format of the Author Element

APA Style 6th ed.
Provide surnames and initials for up to and including six authors
• When there are two to six authors, use an ampersand (&) before the final author's name.

Seven or more authors
• Provide surnames and initials for up to and including the sixth author. After the sixth author, use an ellipsis (no ampersand). Then provide the final author name. There should be no more than seven names.

APA Style 7th ed.
Provide surnames and initials for up to and including 20 authors. When there are two to 20 authors, use an ampersand (&) before the final author’s name.

When there are 21 or more authors, include the first 19 authors’ names, insert an ellipsis (no ampersand). Then provide the final author name.

Note: Do not include URLs that have restricted access.
9.29 Publisher Sources


APA STYLE 6TH ED.

Example: Whole Books or Book Chapters
Provide the publisher location.

APA STYLE 7TH ED.

Do not include the publisher location for reference categories, including whole books, edited book chapters, reports, computer software and mobile apps, and data sets.

Example:
Whole Book
Author, A. A. (Copyright Year). Title of the book (7th ed.). Publisher. DOI or URL

Chapter in an Edited Book
Author, A. A., & Author, B. B. (Copyright Year). Title of the book chapter. In A. A. Editor & B. B. Editor (Eds.), Title of the book (2nd ed., pp. #–#). Publisher. DOI or URL

Note: Do not include the actual pound sign, #. This represents the page numbers.
DOIs and URLs

9.34 When to Include DOIs and URLs
9.35 Format of DOIs and URLs
9.36 DOI or URL Shorteners  [Can choose to use short DOIs or shortended URLs. Go to International DOI Foundation at http://shortdoi.org/ to create short DOIs ]

APA STYLE 6TH ED.
Guideline does not specify whether to remove or use hyperlinks

APA STYLE 7TH ED.

DOIs and URLs
Include a DOI for all works that have a DOI for online version or the print version in a reference. Present both DOIs and URLs as hyperlinks (i.e., beginning with “http:” or “https:”).

Because a hyperlink leads readers directly to the content, do not include the label “Retrieved from” or “Accessed from” before a DOI or URL in a reference. https://apastyle.apa.org/style-grammar-guidelines/references/dois-urls

Example:

Note: Do not include URLs that have restricted access because this may not be retrievable.
Table 9.1 How to Create a Reference When Information is Missing


- A reference has 4 main elements: Author, Date, Title, and Source
- A reference needs to be retrievable.
6.1 Spacing After Punctuation Marks

**APA STYLE 6TH ED.**
Insert two spaces after periods or other punctuation marks at the end of a sentence

**APA STYLE 7TH ED.**
Insert one space after periods or other punctuation marks at the end of a sentence
Inclusion in Writing: Pronouns


4.16 First- Versus Third-Person Pronouns
• Use the first person rather than the third person when describing your work or your own views. Use the pronoun “I” and not “we” if you are writing the paper by yourself. Do not refer to yourself or your coauthors in the third person such as “the authors” or “the researchers”.

4.17 Editorial “We”
• Do not use “we” to refer to people in general. Use a more specific noun or clarify your usage.

4.18 Singular “They”
Use the singular “They” to refer to a person who uses “they” as their pronoun and use “they” as a generic third-person singular pronoun whose gender is unknown or irrelevant to the context

• Each student submitted their art portfolio to the committee.
  Not “Each student submitted his or her art portfolio to the committee.”

If writing about a specific, known person, always use that person’s pronouns
• Example: "she", "he", “they,” “zir,” “ze,” “xe,” “hir,” “per,” “ve,” “ey,” and “hen.”
Reducing Bias by Topic
Inclusion in Writing: Bias-Free Language

Emphasis in APA Style 7th ed. on Bias-free language for 5.3 age, 5.4 disability, 5.5 gender 5.6 participation in research, 5.7 racial and ethnic identity, 5.8 sexual orientation, and 5.9 socioeconomic status. https://apastyle.apa.org/style-grammar-guidelines/bias-free-language/

- **Disability.** Use person-first language if the person or group is emphasized and not the person’s or group’s disability or condition (e.g., use “a person with paraplegia” rather than “paraplegic”). Use identity-first language if the disability becomes the focus where the individual can claim or choose their identity instead of others naming or selecting terms with negative implications (example construction in identity-first language would be “autistic person” whereas in person-first language would be “person with autism”).

- **Gender is a social construct and a social identity.** Use the term “gender” when referring to people as social groups. Sex refers to biological sex assignment; use the term “sex” when the biological distinction of sex assignment (e.g., sex assigned at birth) is predominant.

- **Racial and ethnic identity.** Example: Racial and ethnic groups are designated by proper nouns and are capitalized. Therefore, use “Black” and “White” instead of “black” and “white”. Capitalize terms such as “Native American,” “Hispanic,” “Latinx”, “Indigenous”, “Aboriginal”, and more.
6.22 Use of Italics
8.25 to 8.36 Use of Quotations

APA Style 7th ed.
See the table for when to use and when not to use italics

See the table for when to use and when not to use quotation marks