Basic APA for Social Work Students

Journals, Books, and Websites: Reference and in-text citation
For academic journal articles:

Basic Reference:

In-text citation:
Ford (2016) complains that students do not reference correctly, or

Some educators do not think that students are learning to use APA style correctly (Ford, 2016).

Citations and references should “match up”—for each citation there should be a reference* and for each reference, there should be a citation. See example above: If you cite Ford (2016) in the text of your paper, I should find Ford, J.P. (2016) in your reference list.
For articles with more than one author

Basic Reference with two authors:

In-text citation:

Ford and Loeffler (2015) attempt to convince students that they can master the APA style.

or

Some professors actually think students should enjoy doing APA style in their papers (Ford & Loeffler, 2015)
For journal articles with 3 to 5 authors

Basic Reference with 3 to 5 authors:


Subsequent citations: Ford et al. (2015) or (Ford et al., 2015).

With 6 or more authors, just cite and reference the first author, with et al.
For Books

Basic Reference for book with one author:

Citation:
Ford (2017) or (Ford, 2017).
For 2 authors

Reference:

Citation:
Ford & Loeffler (2016) or (Ford & Loeffler, 2016).
For 3 or more authors

Reference:


Subsequent citations: Ford et al. (2015) or (Ford et al., 2015)
Books with more than one edition

Reference:

Citation:
Royse (2008) or (Royse, 2008)
Books where an organization is the author & publisher

Reference:

Citation:
American Psychological Association (2010) or (American Psychological Association [APA], 2010) or (APA, 2010) if you have established that APA is the acronym for the American Psychological Association.
Chapter in an **edited book**

**Reference:**

**Citation:**
Delva & Castillo (2010) or (Delva & Castillo, 2010).
Websites and Web Resources

Reference:

Citation:
National Association of Social Workers [NASW] (2008), or (NASW, 2008)
Despite what some websites (Blurtit, n.d.) indicate, NASW should **not** be referenced as:


Citation for Blurtit is shown above.

Reference:

Not all websites have accurate information!!
Citing more than one reference at a time

Many social work students think qualitative research will be easier since it doesn’t require statistical analysis (Royse, 2008; Thyer & Jones, 2009).
Reference List

The reference list should list references in alphabetical order, e.g.:


