

Writing Your Research Paper (APA Style)

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March ICCP involves a...

- Research paper competition!
 - Have fun!
 - Make the research paper your own, pick a topic that interests you
- Details
 - The March ICCP has you do an outline for your paper the actual paper isn't due until April 30th
 - Freshmen turn in a summary page but please do more if you would like
 - Sophomores turn in an abstract (basically a summary) but you do need to write more than a page and include more details
 - Juniors turn in a complete research paper (abstract, intro, body paragraphs, and conclusion)
 - Everyone will turn in a reference page with their final paper

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APA Style? What's that?

- Your teachers may have taught you MLA style for writing papers, however, when writing a scientific paper (including social and behavioral sciences) you will be using APA
- It stands for American Psychological Association, which sets the guidelines
- It will be used in college so let's go ahead and practice it!
- When you get to college there will be a few minor changes to APA style

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Format

- Standard paper with one-inch margins on each side
- Font: Times New Roman
- Lines on the title page and throughout the paper should be double-spaced
- At the top left of each page should be the title of your paper in all capital letters, and the page number should be at the top right
- But on your title page you should type "Running head: TITLE OF YOUR PAPER"

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Title Page

Running head: SMARTPHONES ON ATTENTION SPAN

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The Effects of Smartphones on the Attention Span of Young Adults

John T. Taylor, George Kotler and Dennis G. Parker

University of California, Berkeley

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Abstract Page

- Should summarize your research in a concise (clear) way
- Don't use unnecessary verbiage (wording) just stick to the facts and explain your research in a direct way
- Avoid using figurative language like metaphors, alliteration, poetic devices, etc.

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Abstract (summary) page

SHORT PAPER TITLE

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Abstract

What is the problem? Outline the objective, problem statement, research questions and hypotheses. What has been done? Explain your method. What did you discover? Summarize the key findings and conclusions. What do the findings mean? Summarize the discussion and recommendations. What is the problem? Outline the objective, problem statement, research questions and hypotheses. What has been done? Explain your method. What did you discover? Summarize the key findings and conclusions. What do the findings mean? Summarize the discussion and recommendations. What is the problem? Outline the objective, problem statement, research questions and hypotheses. What has been done? Explain your method. What did you discover? Summarize the key findings and conclusions. What do the findings mean? Summarize the discussion and recommendations. What is the problem? Outline the objective, problem statement, research questions and hypotheses. What has been done? Explain your method. What did you discover? Summarize the key findings and conclusions. What do the findings mean? Summarize the discussion and recommendations. What is the problem? Outline the objective, problem statement, research questions and hypotheses. What has been done? Explain your method. What did you discover? Summarize the key findings and conclusions. What do the findings mean? Summarize the discussion and recommendations. What is the problem? Outline the objective, problem statement, research questions and hypotheses. What has been done? Explain your method. What did you discover? Summarize the key findings and conclusions. What do the findings mean? Summarize the discussion and recommendations.

Keywords: medical, bio, innovation, engineering

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Using in Text Citations

- There are two types of in-text citations: narrative and parenthetical
 - Narrative: shows the author's name in the sentence itself
 - Silguero, Rodriguez, and Arias (2019) encourage students to stay in Upward because it exposes them to the college application process. In their study they found that 80% of students they surveyed who were in an Upward Bound were more likely to complete a college application compared to 50% of students who were not in an Upward Bound program.
 - Parenthetical: the author's name(s) are in parentheses, usually at the end of the **fact or quote**
 - In a study of 500 students Upward Bound 80% of them were more likely to complete a college degree compared to 50% of 500 non-Upward Bound students. (Silguero, Perez, & Arias, 2019, p. 22)

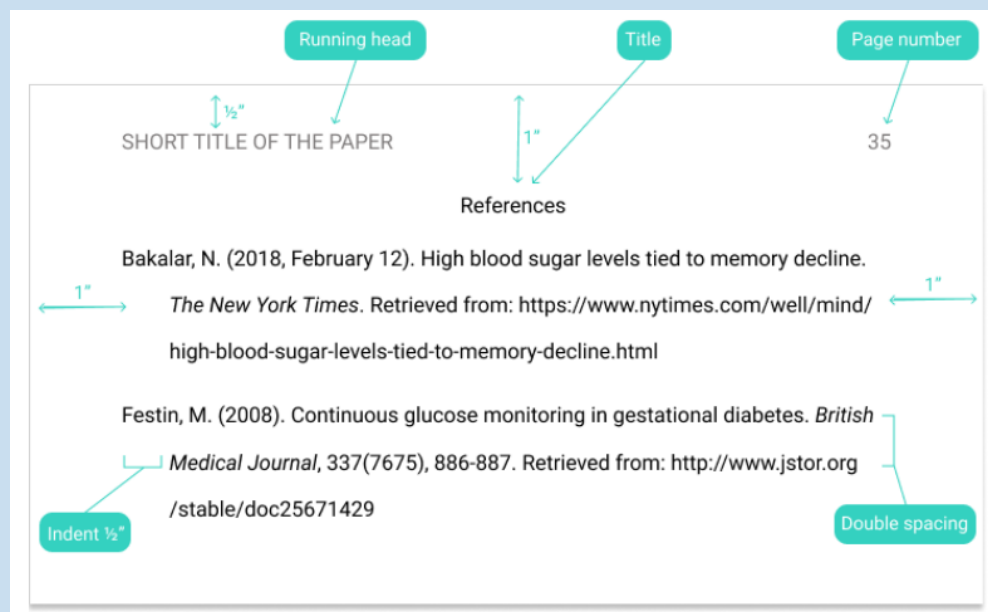
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Reference Page

- Is a separate page at the end of your paper where all sources you cited in the main text are listed
- The references are **sorted alphabetically**, **double spaced**, and formatted using a **hanging indent** of ½ inch
- Use **“References”** as page heading

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Reference Page



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How to Write Your Reference Page Based on the Type of Source

- **BOOK:** Last name, First name. (Year published). *Title*. Place of publication: Publisher
- **JOURNAL ARTICLE:** Last name, First name. (Year published). Article title. *Journal title, Volume number* (issue number), page numbers.
- **WEBSITE:** Last name, First name. (Year published). Article Title. *Journal title, Volume number* (issue number). Retrieved from <https://www.enteraddresshere.com/>
- **FILM:** Last name, First name (Producer), Last name, First name (Director). (Year published). *Film title* [Motion picture]. Country of publication: Studio name.
- **INTERVIEW:** Any interviews, emails, or letters need to be included in the Reference List. When you cite them in the body of your paper, simply include the following citation format at the end of the sentence: (Name of Interviewee, personal communication, date of communication).

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Writing Your Research Paper

- Step 1: Understand the Assignment
- Step 2: Select a Topic
- Step 3: Initial Planning, Investigation, and Outlining
- Step 4: Accumulate Research Materials
- Step 5: Make a Final Outline to Guide Writing
- Step 6: Write the Paper
- Step 7: Revise and Proofread

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Final Advice

- You may not be an expert (yet) on your chosen topic but it is better to do something even if you are afraid than to not do it at all
- It's great practice for college
- Don't hesitate to ask for help at school or with us