APA Formatting Guidelines (6th ed.)

Overview

- American Psychological Association (APA) style is commonly used in behavioral sciences, social sciences, and business.
- APA is currently in its 6th edition.

Formatting and Style

General Formatting

- Include a page header (also known as a “running head”) at the top of every page.
  - Include “TITLE OF YOUR PAPER” using all capital letters.
    - Title page should read:
      - Running head: TITLE OF YOUR PAPER
      - Example: Running Head: WHY CATS ARE AMAZING
    - After the title page, the header should read:
      - TITLE OF YOUR PAPER
      - Example: WHY CATS ARE AMAZING
- Pages should be numbered in the top right corner of every page with only a numeral (1, 2, 3, 4, etc.)
- Titles of large works—books, movies, television shows, magazine titles, entire websites—should be italicized or underlined.
  - Romeo and Juliet, YouTube, Barefoot Contessa, Hamlet, New Yorker
- Titles of smaller works—magazine articles, essays, poems, webpages, television episodes—will usually be in “quotation marks.”
  - “Lure of the Lost City,” “In Praise of Margins,” “Ode on a Grecian Urn,”

Title Page

- Title should be in uppercase and lowercase letters, centered, in the upper half of the page.
- Under the title, include the author’s name.
  - First name, middle initial(s), and last name.
    - Do not include titles (Dr.) or degrees (PhD).
  - Include the institutional affiliation which indicates where the research was done.

Additional Resources and References:

- Purdue OWL: APA Formatting and Style:
  https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/
The Academic Resource Center’s Sample Title Page:

American Psychological Association’s Guidelines

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