Writing Tip #5

APA References: Journal Articles

Introduction
Formatting your paper according to the American Psychological Association (APA) publication is common in the College of Education for research papers and essays. These are the basic guidelines for referencing articles found in academic journals. Complete guidelines for these and less common examples can be found in Chapter 7 of the new 6th Edition of the APA Manual.

Required Elements
Author(s): Last name first, with first initial of first and middle names. Multiple authors separated by commas, the last one preceded by “&” (not the word “and”). If more than seven authors, list the first six in the usual way, then an ellipsis, then the last author.

Date of publication: In parentheses with year first, followed by month and day if applicable (e.g., for magazines, newsletters, or newspapers).

Article title: No quotes, sentence case (i.e., first letter of title and subtitle capitalized along with proper nouns).

Journal title: In italics.

Volume number: The volume number is in italics and the issue number is not.

Issue number: If applicable, in parenthesis immediately after the volume number with no space separator.

Page numbers: Page range: first page and last page of the article connected by a hyphen.
Optional Element
The 6th Edition of the APA Manual has added a digital object identifier (doi) to the end of a journal reference if one has been assigned. If no doi has been assigned, and you retrieved the article online, include the home URL thusly: Retrieved from http://www.xxxxxxxxx. Note that there are no periods after either the doi or the url.

Examples
In the following examples, each period and comma should fall exactly as they are demonstrated below. Remember to place a period at the end of the reference but not after a doi or url.

Journal Article, one author (with doi)

Journal Article, two authors (with URL)

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