APA -- Introduction


The basic structure of a Reference list remains intact (e.g., author, title, publication information). However, recognizing the fluid nature of electronic sources, APA uses the DOI or publisher website for more stable scholarly article connections. The 2012 update:

1. added the prefix http://dx.doi.org/ to the DOI, making it an actionable link, and
2. recommended using the DOI for both print and electronic items.

The heart of a reference list provides the details a reader needs to reach the information source. To that end, APA recognizes the need to adjust an entry to meet that goal. Such adjustments must be consistently applied.

Check with your course faculty to confirm the citation system, edition, and format details to be used.

Copies of the APA Style Guide (6th ed., second printing) are available in Ready Reference (Library Service Desk). The APA Style Guide to Electronic References is available through this Libguide (APA subtab "Citing Sources").