

An Introduction to Writing in APA Style

This document provides an introduction to writing in American Psychological Association (APA) style. All of the information in this document is contained within the **seventh edition** of the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association. If you need more details, please refer to the APA manual available in the: Douglas College Library, Psychology Lab, and Learning Centre.

Student papers for psychology courses usually fall into 2 categories: a literature review or an empirical study.

Literature Review

A literature review, also referred to as a “narrative literature review”, provides a narrative summary or evaluation of the findings or theories of an area of research. A thorough, if not exhaustive, search of published work (qualitative, quantitative, mixed-model research) is conducted for a given topic within a defined time frame. The resulting list of research articles are carefully examined to find trends, similarities, differences, contradictions, gaps, and inconsistencies. The resulting literature review synthesises this information resulting in an overview of past research with suggestions for future research. In sum, the narrative literature review should:

- define and clarify the problem;
- summarise previous research by identifying trends, similarities, differences, contradictions, gaps, and inconsistencies; and
- suggest directions for future research.

The organisational structure of a narrative literature review is at the author’s discretion. The paper may be organised based on similarities in concepts, research methodology, outcomes, theoretical perspectives, etc., with subsections detailing specifics when necessary. A literature review consists of, at minimum:

- title page
- introduction
- body — divided into sections and/or subsections
- conclusion
- references list

Empirical Study

An empirical study is a report of original research (experimental or correlational) in which an hypothesis is tested; data is collected; and the results are presented and evaluated. An empirical study consists of, at minimum:

- | | |
|----------------|--------------|
| • title page | • results |
| • abstract | • discussion |
| • introduction | • references |
| • method | |

Formatting for a literature review and empirical study follows the same conventions. Because the sections within an empirical study are more prescriptive, this document focuses on writing an empirical study.

Apa Research Paper Introduction Example

James D. Lester,James D. Lester (Jr.)



Apa Research Paper Introduction Example:

Research Paper Handbook James D. Lester, James D. Lester (Jr.), 2005 The third edition of this perennial bestseller is for ANY student who needs to write a research paper Written for the student who isn't sure how to start as well as those who need a refresher Research Paper Handbook walks students through the nuts and bolts of writing an effective research paper while avoiding common pitfalls They'll learn how to Establish a research topic Gather information Search sources ranging from the Internet and television programs to books and newspapers Take notes and draft outlines Write using an academic style Create bibliographies and citations Use MLA and APA styles Take advantage of technological support Effective Writing in Psychology Bernard C. Beins, Agatha M. Beins, 2011-09-23 This book helps students writers and speakers at all levels refine their communication skills by guiding them at every stage of the process Focuses on principles of good writing and writing in APA style Offers tips on internet publishing poster presentations and making presentations to Institutional Review Boards IRBs Highlights methods for selecting a research topic organizing papers and communicating statistics in an accessible way **A Fresh Guide to Research Writing** Pasquale De Marco, 2025-07-23 Navigating the academic world can be a daunting task but with the right tools and techniques you can conquer the challenges of research writing and produce exceptional papers that will impress your professors and peers A Fresh Guide to Research Writing is your ultimate companion on this journey meticulously crafted to equip you with the knowledge and skills you need to excel in your academic endeavors This comprehensive guide empowers you to embark on your research journey with confidence providing a step by step approach to crafting effective research questions conducting thorough literature searches and synthesizing information effectively You will learn the art of writing a well structured research paper from developing an outline and writing a strong introduction to crafting a persuasive body and conclusion Beyond the basics A Fresh Guide to Research Writing delves into advanced research techniques such as qualitative and quantitative methods data analysis and meta analyses You will gain insights into ethical considerations in research ensuring that your work adheres to the highest standards of academic integrity Additionally this guide provides invaluable advice on presenting your research effectively whether through oral presentations or written reports Written in a clear and engaging style A Fresh Guide to Research Writing is an indispensable resource for students and researchers alike Its user friendly approach and practical examples make it an accessible guide for those new to research writing while its in depth coverage of advanced techniques provides valuable insights for experienced researchers seeking to refine their skills With A Fresh Guide to Research Writing by your side you will embark on your academic pursuits with newfound confidence and produce research papers that not only meet expectations but surpass them Elevate your research writing skills today and unlock your potential as a successful researcher If you like this book write a review **Research Methods for Industrial and Organizational Psychology** Richard N. Landers, Tara S. Behrend, 2024-04-04 This important and useful book offers a clear and comprehensive foundation for

research methods in industrial and organizational I O psychology The text provides readers with a key understanding of the research theory and practice needed towards becoming a research methods expert The use of trustworthy and rigorous research methods is foundational to advancing the science of industrial and organizational psychology and its practice in the field Understanding this the authors have paired straightforward plainly written explanations in a conversational tone with illuminating diagrams and illustrations Many descriptions are followed by in depth demonstrations and examples from relevant software including SPSS R and even Excel when it s the best option available Insightful and accessible the text covers the full gamut of I O research methods from theory to practice and everywhere between Paired with a detailed instructor s manual this book serves as a gentle but thorough introduction to the complex world of research methods in I O psychology for both master s and Ph D students as well as researchers academics and practitioners

Research Methods in Applied Settings Jeffrey A. Gliner, George Arthur Morgan, 2000 The authors of this unique text found that while most students can crunch the numbers quite easily and accurately with a calculator or computer many have trouble seeing the big picture or seeing how research questions and design influence data analysis As a result the authors developed a semantically consistent framework that integrates traditional research approaches experimental quasi experimental comparative into three basic kinds of research questions difference associational and descriptive which in turn lead to three kinds or groups of statistics with the same names This text helps students become good consumers of research by demonstrating how to analyze and evaluate research articles offers a number of summarizing diagrams and tables that clarify confusing or difficult to learn topics points out the value of qualitative research and how it should lead quantitative researchers to be more flexible divides all quantitative research questions into five logically consistent categories that help students select appropriate statistics and understand their cause and effect and classifies design into three major types between groups within subjects and mixed groups and shows that although these three types use the same general type of statistics e g ANOVA the specific statistics in between groups design are different from those in within subjects and mixed groups

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