APA Format: Electronic References

This handout is based on the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, Sixth Edition, 2010.

General Guidelines:
- Electronic references have unique citation formats that may change over time. If you have a question about citations, consult your instructor.
- According to the *APA Publication Manual*, "include the same elements, in the same order, as you would for a reference to a fixed-media source, and add as much electronic retrieval information as needed for others to locate the sources you cited" (p. 187).
- Citations for articles from databases will vary depending on whether the article has a Digital Object Identifier (DOI). If a DOI is available, no additional retrieval information is needed.
- If the source has a **print equivalent**, but was retrieved from a website or database, include all relevant publication information including original page numbers, if indicated.
- Do not include personal communication (e.g., e-mail or interviews) on your References list; cite these in-text only.

Conventions:
- APA uses a hanging indent. The first line of each reference aligns with the margin; subsequent lines are indented.
- No period should appear at the end of a URL or DOI; otherwise, include an ending period after each citation. If you need to break a URL between lines, break **before** most punctuation (e.g., before a period or a slash).
- It is not necessary to include the name of a database from which you retrieved an article. If no DOI is available, include the homepage URL of the journal/publisher.
- Include retrieval dates only if the source material may change over time (e.g., wikis).
- Cite each web page or new document within a website separately.
- Do not create a hyperlink for a URL. (Right click on the URL; then click Remove Hyperlink.)
- Maintain double-spacing. (The following examples below are single-spaced only to conserve space.)

To identify <u>author</u> and <u>title</u> on a typical website:
- <u>Author:</u> Look for author's name at the beginning or end of articles, or on other pages in the website. Do not use the website manager (often appears at very bottom of page) as the author. If the author is an agency or organization, that full name should be used in the author position. If no author is identified, cite by the title.
- <u>Title:</u> When confronted with several titles on a single web page, choose the one that best describes the content you are citing. This title may not always be the "top" title on the page.

Microsoft Office Notes:
- The basic APA template in Office does not include a field for journal volume and issue number; add these manually or click the box for "Show All Bibliography Fields" for a complete template. Volume and issue number are included when citing journal articles.
- Change the default title of the page that lists sources to References. (It should **not** be Bibliography.) The heading References should match the rest of your paper in terms of font size and ink color.

Examples (single-spaced here to conserve space):

Online Journal Articles (see General Guidelines on front):

With Digital Object Identifier (DOI):
Gulicovski, J., Cerovic, L., Milonjic, S., & Popovic, I. (2008). Adsorption of itaconic acid from aqueous solutions onto alumina. *Journal of the Serbian Chemistry Society, 73*(8-9), 825-834. doi:10.2298/JSC0809835P

Without DOI and from a database:
MacDonald-Wilson, K.L. (2005). Managing disclosure of psychiatric disabilities to employers. *Journal of Applied Rehabilitation Counseling, 36*(4), 11-21. Retrieved from http://proquest.com/

Without DOI and from a web location:
Degner, H., Wojciechowski, K., & Giroux, C. (2015). Opening closed doors: A rationale for creating a safe space for tutors struggling with mental health concerns or illnesses. *Praxis, 13*(1), 27-37. Retrieved from http://praxisuwc.com/links-page-131

Web documents:
Note: Include retrieval date for content that may be changed or updated. Italics are used for titles of websites, but not web pages or articles.

Amnesty International USA. (2008). Putting human rights at the center of the UN's Millennium Development Goals. Retrieved November 2, 2011, from http://www.amnestyusa.org/our-work/campaigns/demand-dignity /millennium-development-goals
DeNoon, D.J. (2011). New device spots melanoma. Retrieved November 1, 2011, from http://www.webmd.com /melanoma-skin-cancer/news/20111102/melanoma-detection-device-approved-by-fda
Mims, F. (2009). Scientific research, books, articles, columns, lectures and photographs. Retrieved from http://www.forrestmims.org

An article in an online newspaper:
Note: Use the webpage URL when the article is permanently archived and can be accessed through the URL. If the article cannot be accessed via that URL, provide the URL for the newspaper's main website:

McGary, M. L. (2008, January 8). On balance: Soccer mom. *The Washington Post*. Retrieved from http://www.washingtonpost.com

Online government document (except the *Congressional Record*):

Proctor, B.D., Semega, J.L, & Kollar, M.A. (2015). *Income and poverty in the United States: 2015* (U.S Census Bureau Current Population Report No. P60-256[RV]). Retrieved from https://www.census.gov/content/dam/Census /library/publications/2016/demo/p60-256.pdf

Online report from nongovernmental organization:

Greenpeace Research Laboratories. (2016, April). *Bees in decline: A review of factors that put pollinators and agriculture at risk in Europe*. (Technical Report [Review] 01/2013). Retrieved from http://www.greenpeace.org/switzerland/Global/international/publications/agriculture/2013/BeesInDecline.pdf

Online reference work:

Lowe, E. (2009). Ontological dependence. In E. N. Zalta (Ed.), *The Stanford encyclopedia of philosophy* (Spring 2010 ed.). Retrieved from http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/dependence-ontological/

Post to a newsgroup or blog:

Hauser, R. (2011, August 9). Why nurses need professional liability insurance [Web log post]. Retrieved from http://www.thenursingsiteblog.com/2011/08/why-nurses-need-professional-liability.html

Map retrieved online:

Socioeconomic Data and Applications Center (Cartographer). (2005). The world: Population density, 2000 [Demographic map]. Retrieved from http://sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu/gpw/maps/globaldens.pdf

Electronic version of print book without DOI:

Austen, J. (1917). *Pride and prejudice* [HTML version]. Retrieved from http://www.bartleby.com/ (Original work published 1813)