



APA Style 7th Edition formatting and style guide

Reference List – Online Media

[Social Media/Webpage/Online Forum etc.]

<http://www.swinburne.edu.my/library>



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4.0 ONLINE MEDIA

4.1 Social Media

Cite only original content from social media sites such as X (formerly known as Twitter), Facebook, Reddit, Instagram, and more. That is, if you used social media to discover content (e.g., you found a link to a blog post on Pinterest or X) and you want to cite the content, cite it directly - it is not necessary to mention that you found it through a link on social media.

Social media posts may contain text only, text with audiovisuals (e.g., photos, videos), or audiovisuals alone. Include the text of a social media post up to the first 20 words. Note the presence of audiovisuals (in square brackets) after the text of the post.

Social media posts might also contain nonstandard spelling and capitalization, hashtags, links, and emojis. Do not alter the spelling and capitalization in a social media reference. Retain hashtags and links. Replicate emojis, if possible. If you are not able to create emoji, provide the emoji's name in square brackets, for example, "[face with tears of joy emoji]". The full list of emoji names can be found on the Unicode Consortium's website (<http://unicode.org/emoji/charts/index.html>). When counting the number of words in your paper, count an emoji as one word.

SOCIAL MEDIA				
Author	Date	Title	Source	
			Social media site name	URL
X, Instagram and TikTok: Author, A. A. [@username]. Name of Group [@username].	(Year). (n.d.).	<i>Content of the post up to the first 20 words.</i>	Site Name.	https://xxxxx Retrieved Month Date, Year, from https://xxxxx
Facebook and others: Author, A. A. Name of Group. Name of Group [Username]. Username.	(Year, Month Date). (Year, Month Date).	<i>Content of the post up to the first 20 words [Description of audiovisuals].</i> <i>[Description of audiovisuals].</i>		

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ONLINE MEDIA		
INFORMATION SOURCE	TEMPLATE	EXAMPLES
	References	References
Social Media		
1. X post	Name of Group [@username]. (Year, Month Date). Content of the post up to the first 20 words [Description of audiovisuals]. Site Name. https://xxxxx *If the post includes images (including animated gifs), videos, thumbnail links to outside sources, links to other posts (as in a retweet with comment), or a poll, indicate that in square brackets after the title: [Image attached], [Video attached], [Thumbnail with link attached]. *Include the description [Post] in square brackets after the title. *For X replies, do not include the "replying to" information; if that is important to note, do so within the in-text citation.	APA Database [@APA_Databases]. (2020, September 2). <i>We have curated a collection of journal articles from APA PsycArticles on #COVID19. View: https://bit.ly/2QrWj76 for recent coverage</i> [Image attached] [Post]. X. https://x.com/APA_Databases/status/1301175576703664128 CDC [@CDCgov]. (2020, June 11). Scientists do not know if having antibodies to the virus that causes #COVID19 can protect someone from getting infected again [Image attached] [Post]. X. https://x.com/CDCgov/status/1271180413134876672 Gates, B. [@BillGates]. (2019, September 7). Today, it's difficult for researchers to diagnose #Alzheimers patients early enough to intervene. A reliable, easy and accurate diagnostic would [Thumbnail with link attached] [Post]. X. https://x.com/BillGates/status/1170305718425137152
2. X profile	Name of Group [@username]. (n.d.). Posts [X profile]. Site Name. Retrieved Month Date, Year, from https://xxxxx	APA Style [@APA_Style]. (n.d.). Posts [X profile]. X. Retrieved November 8, 2023, from https://twitter.com/APA_Style

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	*Provide a retrieval date because the contents of the page can change over time. *X profiles begin on the “Posts” tab by default. To cite one of the other tabs (“Replies,” “Highlights,” “Media,” or “Likes”), use the name of that tab rather than “Posts” in the title element of the reference *Include the notation “[X profile]” in square brackets.	Swinburne Sarawak Library (Information Resources) [@swinsarawaklib]. (n.d.). Replies [X profile]. X. Retrieved November 24, 2023, from https://x.com/swinsarawaklib
3. Facebook post *This format can be used for posts to other social media services, including Tumblr, LinkedIn, and so forth.	Author, A. A. (Year, Month Date). <i>Content of the post up to the first 20 words</i> [Description from outside sources] [Description of post]. Site Name. https://xxxxx *If a status update includes images, videos, thumbnail links to outside sources, or content from another Facebook post (such as when sharing a link), indicate that in square brackets.	Gaiman, N. (2018, March 22). <i>100,000+ Rohingya refugees could be at serious risk during Bangladesh's monsoon season. My fellow UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador Cate Blanchett is</i> [Image attached] [Status update]. Facebook. http://bit.ly/2JQxPAD National Institute of Mental Health. (2018, November 28). <i>Suicide affects all ages, genders, races, and ethnicities. Check out these 5 Action Steps for Helping Someone in Emotional Pain</i> [Infographic]. Facebook. http://bit.ly/321Qstq News From Science. (2018, June 26). <i>These frogs walk instead of hop:</i> https://scim.ag/2KlriwH [Video]. Facebook. https://www.facebook.com/ScienceNOW/videos/10155508587605108/
4. Facebook page *This format can be used or adapted for	Name of Group. (Year). <i>Page title</i> [Facebook page]. Site Name. Retrieved Month Date, Year, from https://xxxxx	Smithsonian's National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute. (n.d.). <i>Home</i> [Facebook page]. Facebook. Retrieved July 22, 2019, from https://www.facebook.com/nationalzoo

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references to other platform or profile pages, including YouTube, Instagram, Tumblr, LinkedIn, and so forth.	*Use the page title in the reference (e.g., "Timeline," "Home," "Photos," "About"). *Include the notation "Facebook page" in square brackets.	Swinburne Sarawak Library. (n.d.). <i>Home</i> [Facebook page]. Facebook. Retrieved November 24, 2023, from https://www.facebook.com/Swinsarawaklib
5. Instagram photo or video	Author, A. A. [@username]. (Year, Month Date). <i>Content of the post up to the first 20 words</i> [Description of audiovisuals]. Site Name. https://xxxxx	Swinburne University Sarawak [@swinburnesarawak]. (2023, November 21). <i>Swinburne Sarawak has once again excelled at the MASISWA Games! We clinched the Overall Champion title for the 10th consecutive</i> [Photograph]. Instagram. https://www.instagram.com/p/Cz2o_IWLeWB/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link
6. Instagram highlight	Name of Group. [@username]. (Year). <i>Content of the post up to the first 20 words</i> [Description of audiovisuals]. Site Name. Retrieved Month Date, Year, from https://xxxxx *Use "n.d." for the date; although each story within a highlight itself is not dated and may include stories from multiple dates. *Because a highlight can change at any time, include the retrieval date.	The New York Public Library [@nypl]. (n.d.). <i>The raven</i> [Highlight]. Instagram. Retrieved April 16, 2019, from https://bitly.com/2FV8bu3 *Because the URL was long and complex, it has been shortened. Either the long or the short form of the URL is acceptable.

7. TikTok video	Author, A.A. [@username]. (Year, Month Date). <i>Content of the post up to the first 20 words</i> [Description of audiovisuals]. Site Name. https://xxxxx <i>*Include the description "Video" in square brackets.</i>	Washington Post [@washingtonpost]. (2019, December 3). <i>News is all around us #frozen #newsroom #newspaper</i> [Video]. TikTok. https://www.tiktok.com/@washingtonpost/video/6765886712896818437
8. TikTok profile	Author, A.A. [@username]. (n.d.). <i>First 20 words of the profile description</i> [TikTok profile]. Site Name. Retrieved Month Date, Year, from https://xxxxx <i>*For the title in the reference, use the first 20 words of the description (in the example, the title is "CEO of #RockTok").</i> <i>*If profile page has no description in the bio, include the bracketed description "TikTok profile" in the title element of the reference.</i>	The Rock. [@therock]. (n.d.). <i>CEO of #RockTok</i> [TikTok profile]. TikTok. Retrieved February 22, 2022, from https://tiktok.com/@therock
9. Online forum post	Name of Group. [Username]. (Year, Month Date). <i>Content of the post up to the first 20 words</i> [Description of audiovisuals]. Site Name. https://xxxxx	National Aeronautics and Space Administration [nasa]. (2018, September 12). <i>I'm NASA astronaut Scott Tingle. Ask me anything about adjusting to being back on Earth after my first spaceflight!</i> [Online forum post]. Reddit. https://www.reddit.com/r/IAmA/comments/9faggy/im_nasa_astronaut_scott_tingle_ask_me_anything/

4.2 Webpages and Websites

Use the webpages and websites category if there is no other reference category that fits and the work has no parent or overarching publication (e.g., journal, blog, conference proceedings) other than the website itself. If you site multiple webpages from a website, create a reference for each. To mention a website in general, do not create a reference list entry or an in-text citation. Instead, include the name of the website in the text and provide the URL in parentheses.

WEBPAGES AND WEBSITES				
Author	Date	Title	Source	
			Website name	URL
Author, A. A., & Author, B. B. Name of Group.	(Year). (Year, Month). (2020, August). (Year, Month Date). (2020, September 28). (n.d.). (Year).	<i>Title of work.</i>	Site Name.	https://xxxxx Retrieved August 27, Year, from https://xxxxx

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ONLINE MEDIA		
INFORMATION SOURCE	TEMPLATE	EXAMPLES
	References	References
Webpages and Websites *Provide the most specific date possible – for example, a year, month, and day; year and month; or year only. *When the author name and the site name are the same, omit the site name from the source element. *Include a retrieval date only when the content is designed to change over time and the page is not archived.		
10. Webpage on a news website *Use this format for articles published in online news sources (e.g., BBC News, Bloomberg, CNN, HuffPost, MSNBC, Reuters, Salon, Vox).	Author, A. A. (Year, Month Date). <i>Title of work.</i> Site Name. https://xxxxx	Willingham, A.J. (2023, November 6). <i>What it's like to work with ADHD.</i> CNN. https://edition.cnn.com/2023/11/01/health/working-with-adhd-personal-essay-wellness-cec/index.html Funk, J. (2023, November 25). <i>Ohio egg farm slaughters 1.35 million chickens over bird flu.</i> HuffPost. https://www.huffpost.com/entry/bc-us-birdflu_n_656214eee4b05f498ba08196
11. Webpage on a website with a group author	Name of Group. (Year, Month Date). <i>Title of work.</i> Site Name. https://xxxxx *When the author and site name are the same, omit the site name from the source element.	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2023, August 25). <i>Who is at higher risk of flu complications.</i> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. https://www.cdc.gov/flu/highrisk/ World Health Organization. (2018, May 24). <i>The top 10 causes of death.</i> https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/the-top-10-causes-of-death
12. Webpage on a website with an individual author	Author, A. A. (Year, Month Date). <i>Title of work.</i> Site Name. https://xxxxx	Schaeffer, K. (2021, October 1). <i>What we know about online learning and the homework gap amid the pandemic.</i> Pew Research Center.

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	*When the author and site name are the same, omit the site name from the source element.	https://www.pewresearch.org/facttank/2021/10/01/what-we-know-about-online-learning-and-the-homework-gap-amid-the-pandemic/
13. Webpage on a website with no date	Author, A. A., & Author, B. B. (n.d.). <i>Title of work</i>. Site Name. https://xxxxxx *When the author and site name are the same, omit the site name from the source element.	The Cornell Lab. (n.d.). <i>Citizen science</i>. https://www.birds.cornell.edu/citizenscience/ Swinburne University of Technology. (n.d.). <i>Discover Kuching</i>. https://www.swinburne.edu.my/study/campus-life-study/discover-kuching.php
14. Webpage on a website with a retrieval date	Name of Group. (Year). <i>Title of work</i>. Site Name. Retrieved Month Date, Year, from https://xxxxx *When the author and site name are the same, omit the site name from the source element. *Include a retrieval date because the contents of the page are designed to change over time and the page itself is not archived.	U.S. Census Bureau. (n.d.). <i>U.S. and world population clock</i>. U.S. Department of Commerce. Retrieved July 3, 2019, from https://www.census.gov/popclock/
15. Open Educational Resource References *Create a reference to an OER only when the materials are available for download directly. If you are directed to another website, create a reference to the specific webpage on that	Author, A. A. (Year, Month Date). <i>Title of work</i>. Site Name. Retrieved Month Date, Year, from https://xxxxx	Fagan, J. (2019, March 25). Nursing clinical brain. OER Commons. Retrieved January 7, Year, from https://www.oercommons.org/authoring/53029-nursing-clinical-brain/view

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website where the materials can be retrieved. *Use this format for material in any OER repository, such as OER Commons, OASIS, or MERLOT.		
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