The following are guidelines for the documentation style recommended by the American Medical Association (AMA). AMA style may be required for some courses in the health sciences, including community health and nursing. Check with your course instructor if AMA documentation style is required for your particular course.

The AMA uses an endnote documentation style, which means that in the text each source is indicated by number, and at the end of the text, there is a numbered list giving full bibliographic information of the sources. This list is titled References.

IN-TEXT CITATION

When citing sources in your text, each reference should be cited in consecutive numerical order by means of superscript Arabic numerals.

The findings\(^1\) show that...

If the author’s name is included in your citation, the superscript reference citation immediately follows the name.

Gilman\(^1\) reported that...

If you use a direct quotation, place the superscript reference citation immediately following the close-quote.

According to Gilman, “The treatment is only advised in the absence of depression.”\(^1\)

When citing different page number(s) from the same source more than once in your text, the page number(s) are included in the superscript citation and the source appears only once in the list of references. Note that all spaces in the superscript citation are closed up.

Altman\(^3\) reported that the aversion to organ donation decreased in pietistic denominations, which supported Gilman\(^3(p33)\) and LaFollete’s\(^4\) earlier findings.

When more than two references are cited at a given place in the text, use hyphens to join the first and last numbers of a closed series; use commas without space to separate other parts of a multiple citation.

As reported previously,\(^1,3-8,19\)

Note that AMA documentation style does not use citation abbreviations common to other documentation styles like Chicago and Notes-Bibliography (e.g., “ibid.” and “op cit.”).
THE LIST OF REFERENCES

Reference listings are numbered according to their number in the text. Listings should include basic information about author(s), title(s) of sources included in text, publishing information, as well as specific information, such as volume and issue numbers, page numbers, and URL, and date of access, depending on the type of source.

References to information that is retrievable should be listed in the reference list. References to unpublished material or to personal communications (oral, written, or electronic) are not to be included in the reference list. Instead, if appropriate, they should be included parenthetically in the text.

Citing Nonperiodical Print Publications

Entries for nonperiodical print publications (i.e., books, pamphlets, or works by a corporate, institutional, or governmental author) consist of several elements in a prescribed sequence as follows:

- **Author’s surname followed by first and middle initials without periods**. The author citation is followed by a period.
- **Chapter title** (when cited). Capitalize only the first word of the chapter title.
- **Surnames and first and middle initials of book authors, editors, or translators**, separated by commas
- **Title of book and subtitle**, if any, in italics. Capitalize words other than prepositions and articles.
- **Volume number and volume title**, when there is more than one volume
- **Place of publication**, followed by a colon
- **Name of publisher**, followed by a semi-colon
- **Year of copyright**, followed by a period (or by a colon, if page numbers are cited)
- **Page numbers**, when specific pages are cited, followed by a period

**A Work by a Single Author**


**A Work by a Single Author, Later Edition**


**A Work by Two or More Authors:** do not use the word “and” between names.

A Work by Six or More Authors: names of the first three are cited, followed by “et al.”


A Work by a Corporate, Institutional, or Governmental Author: when citing a selection from a larger work, use initial capital letters; do not use quotation marks.


A Work by an Editor, Compiler, or Translator


A Work with More than One Volume


A Selection from a Collection or Anthology: as above, when citing a selection, use initial capital letters; do not use quotation marks.


Citing Periodical Print Publications

Basic information for a periodical source includes the following, if applicable:

- **Author’s surname followed by first and middle initials without periods.** The author citation is followed by a period.
- **Title of article and subtitle,** if any, in sentence style (using initial capital letters).
- **Abbreviated name of journal,** in italics, followed by a period. Abbreviate names of journals according to the listing in the PubMed Journals database.
- **Year,** followed by a semi-colon, or **Date of newspaper issue,** followed by a colon
- **Volume number,** followed by a colon
- **Part or supplement number** (when pertinent) followed by a colon, and **issue number** (in parentheses), followed by a colon
- **Inclusive page numbers,** followed by a period.

Note: In AMA style, there are no spaces following punctuation marks indicating publication information of periodicals.
An Article from a Print Journal, Author Given


An Article from a Print Journal with No Volume or Issue Numbers


An Article from a Print Journal with an Issue Number but No Volume Number


An Article from a Supplement in a Print Journal


An Article in a Newspaper


Citing Electronic Sources

An Article in an Online Journal, Author Given


An Online Book


An Online Book in CD-ROM Format