APA Style: In-Text Citations
Harford Community College Library

Remember—Your instructor has the last say in how to create citations. APA has changed. Please look over the new citations carefully.

3 Types of In-Text Citations for the citation below:


Type 1

"Politicians and medical policy makers are going to have to do a lot of catch-up to keep pace with the science of genetic research" (Keenan, 2005, p. 143).

The author is not mentioned in the text.

Type 2

According to Keenan (2005), "Politicians and medical policy makers are going to have to do a lot of catch-up to keep pace with the science of genetic research" (p. 143).

The author is mentioned in the text with the copyright date. The page number is at the end of the quote.

Type 3

Keenan (2005) stated the following:

In the United States, DNA collection for law enforcement is coordinated and supported by the federal government ... if it matches any person in the database or any evidence from other crime scenes. (p.144)

Blocked quotes of 40 words or more are double spaced from the paper’s text and then double spaced and indented 1/2 inch. Notice no quotation marks are used.

(Over)
• Your in-text citation should always refer your reader to your References. The first word in the in-text citation should be the first word in the reference citation. If you have to include more than one word to avoid confusion, that is acceptable.

• If a word has quotes or is italicized in your reference citation, it should have quotes or be italicized in your in-text citation.

• In-text citations should include Name, year, p. number(s). Use p. for page. If there are no page numbers, but there are paragraph numbers, para.

• Except for a blocked quote of 40 words or more, a quote should end with the quotation marks and then the in-text citation and finally the period outside the final parenthesis.

• Include only the year of publication in parentheses, even if more of a date is given in the reference citation.

For more help with in-text citations refer to the online tutorial, APA, or visit or call the Reference Desk at 443-412-2131.