Reading a Citation

At the end of this module you will be able to:

- identify the elements of a citation
- identify a citation by format
- recognize a DOI

**Citations** are primarily used to:

1. give credit to an author for his/her ideas (intellectual property)
2. list the source where the researcher’s information comes from
3. allow the reader to be able to follow the author’s research trail (a bibliography)

**REFERENCES**

Citations take two basic forms.
One is as a reference list at the end of a paper (works cited / bibliography).

References


A second form of citations is:

**in-text, or parenthetical**, citations that are used with a paper to give credit for ideas.

In the example below, the yellow highlights are in-text, or parenthetical, citations where the author is referring to the published works of other scientists.

In addition to its well-described role in regulating social processes, OT modulates autonomic nervous system activity by exerting direct effects on preganglionic sympathetic (Gilbey et al., 1982; Pardini et al., 1989) and parasympathetic neurons (Higa et al., 2002). OT also may impact autonomic control through its influence on more rostral neural structures (e.g., cingulate cortex, amygdala); many of which express OT receptors and are known to orchestrate complex autonomic response patterns (Tribollet et al., 1992).

High frequency heart rate variability (HF HRV) is an index of parasympathetic control of the heart (Berntson et al., 1997) and was used as such in the present study. Reduced HF HRV is predictive of not just cardiovascular disease, but of all-cause mortality in both high and low risk patient populations (Thayer et al., 2009). Furthermore, factors that decrease HRV are associated with compromised health, whereas factors that increase HRV are associated with improved overall health (Thayer and Lane, 2007). Social environment may be an important modulator of HRV as prolonged social isolation in female prairie voles results in an increase in resting heart rate and a reduction in heart rate variability (Grippo et al., 2007), which can be reversed by chronic treatment with exogenous oxytocin (Grippo et al., 2009).
Regardless of the style differences, in a list of works cited, the elements of a **citation for a book** are:

- author(s) and/or editor(s)
- title
- publisher
- date of publication
- place of publication

**MLA (7th ed.)**

Journal citations include:

- author(s)
- title of the article
- title of the source (for example, Journal of Applied Physics)
- year of publication
- volume and issue number
- page numbers
- Depending on style, journal citations can also include a DOI.

Citation of a journal article

APA

**DOI = Digital Object Identifier**

If you are using APA, according to the current APA Manual, if the journal article has a DOI (Digital Object Identifier) you must include that in the citation.

You can paste a DOI in a search engine, like Yahoo or Google, and find the citation in question. The DOI system is used to assign any digital object information on a network, and will not change over time.

Many databases contain a **cite feature**.

The cite feature in Ebsco’s *Academic Search Complete*, for example, shows you how to cite in a variety of styles.
Citation styles are related to disciplines. If you major in Psychology, most of the core texts you read will use APA.

**MLA**, or Modern Language Association, style is commonly used in the liberal arts and humanities.

**Chicago** is also used in the humanities and many other disciplines, such as computer and information science. **Turabian** is derived from and closely related to this style.

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**Summary: Reading a Citation**

- You should now be able to identify the elements of a citation.
- You should be aware there are different citation styles, such as APA or MLA, that are related to disciplines.
- You should know that if you are citing using APA, if a journal article has a DOI, it should be the last element of the reference.
Sources used in this module:


