

## Multiple authors in APA references

### APA Helps

#### How to write a reference when there are multiple authors

Regardless of the number of authors, the bibliographic information needed for a reference, such as date, title, and source, remains identical to that for a reference with a single author. Multiple authors are listed in the order in which they appear on the source. Remember to use an ampersand symbol and not the word “and” to separate the final two authors. When listing authors, use the full last name but only the initials of first and middle names. The following slides contain examples of references that have multiple authors. As you view each slide, note that: the year of publication, title of the article, name of the magazine, volume number, issue number, page numbers, and the DOI number or publisher web address are identical in each reference. The only difference in the references will be the number of authors listed.

If a work has two authors, both are listed at the beginning of the reference. Note the placement of the comma after the period, following the first author’s first initial. This is followed by an ampersand, to separate the names of the two authors.

If a work has three to seven authors, each author will be listed at the beginning of the reference. List the names in the exact order that they appear on the article. Note that you do not alphabetize the order in which the authors are listed within the reference.

If a work has 8 or more authors, start by listing only the first six authors, then an ampersand, following by three spaces ellipsis points. Then, list the final author.

OCLS has created an APA guide containing a variety of sample references. The guide is based on the official *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association*. The OCLS APA 6e Guide is located on the OCLS website. For help with APA format or other research needs, please call Off Campus Library Services toll-free at 1-800-521-1848 or email [ocls@indwes.edu](mailto:ocls@indwes.edu).