

WelTec Writing Series

APA Referencing Quick Guide

Referencing is an important part of academic writing. Unless clearly stated otherwise in your assignment brief, your tutor will expect you to use accurate referencing in your assignments. Read on for information about referencing practices at WelTec.

What is referencing?



Whenever you use another author's ideas in your writing, you must give credit to that person. This is called referencing. When you reference, you use a special format to show your reader the source of the borrowed ideas. At WelTec we use the American Psychological Association, APA (6th edition) referencing format.

Why reference?

Referencing shows your reader (your tutor) which ideas in your writing have come from another author and which are your own. In addition, a reference shows anyone who is reading your work where your information comes from and what research you have done. When you borrow ideas without referencing, it is academic dishonesty or plagiarism – stealing others' work. You may be accused of academic dishonesty if you do not use proper referencing in your writing.

How to reference?



Referencing is a two part process: first, whenever you use information from another source in your writing you must include an **in-text citation**. This means that when you paraphrase the author's idea you must include in the same sentence the author's last name and the year of publication for the source. If you are quoting you will also need to include the page the quote came from. See below for examples.

Direct Quote:

"The first settlers set out from a place called Hawaiki, a homeland that recurs in stories throughout Polynesia" (Smith, 2005, p. 7).

Paraphrase:

Smith (2005) states that the original settlers of New Zealand came from a place called Hawaiki, which is a homeland mentioned in traditional stories from many Polynesian islands.

Second, you must also include a properly formatted **references list** at the end of your work. This section should be titled *References* and always starts on a new page. In the references list you should include all the important information about each of your research sources, such as the name of the author, the name of the book or article, the year of publication and details of the publisher.

See the other side of this page for a list of examples of reference list entries and in-text citations for commonly used research sources.

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Below are examples of the references and in-text citations for the most common types of research sources. Note that the in-text citations are for paraphrased ideas and you will need to add a page number if using a quote. For a more comprehensive explanation of APA Referencing, see the WelTec Library APA Guide.

Jones (2007) notes that or (Jones, 2007). Claiborne and Drewery (2010) stated that or (Claiborne & Drewery, 2010). First citation Hubbard, Thomas and Varnham (2010) claimed that Then in all subsequent citations Hubbard et al. (2010) reported Fox (2006) states or (Fox, 2006). According to Lyons (2003) or (Lyons, 2003) Tait (2014) indicates or (Tait, 2014). First citation Millard, Nicholas and Cook (2008) explain Then in all subsequent citations
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The Department of Conservation (n.d.
estimates that
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communication, March 14, 2014).
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