**APSU Writing Center**

APA Style 7th Edition - Abstract

## Abstract

Confirm with your professor whether an abstract is required for your APA paper. The abstract

provides a concise summary of your paper's contents and should be no more than 250 words.

## Abstract Format

- **Margins:** 1-inch on all sides.

- **Font:** Times New Roman, 12 pt.

- **Title: Abstract** centered, bold, and on the first line.

- **Text:** One line below the title, not indented, single paragraph, double-spaced.

## Abstract Content

In 1–2 sentences per topic, briefly summarize:

- The research problem or question

- Key background or literature context

- Hypothesis or purpose

- Methods (design, sample, procedure)

- Major results

- Significance of the findings

## Keywords

- Begin one line below the abstract.

- **Label:** *Keywords* italicized, indented like a paragraph, and not bold

- List keywords on the same line as the label, lowercase (except proper nouns), separated by

  commas.

- Do not use ending punctuation.

- If the list continues to a second line, double-space but do not indent.

The word "Abstract" centered. Do not indent the first line of the abstract paragraph.

A brief summary of the paper between 150-250 words

Keywords address research topic, population, method, results.

VARYING DEFINITIONS OF ONLINE COMMUNICATION          2

Abstract

This paper explores four published articles that report on results from research conducted on online (Internet) and offline (non-Internet) relationships and their relationship to computer-mediated communication (CMC). The articles, however, vary in their definitions and uses of CMC. Butler and Kraut (2002) suggest that face-to-face (FtF) interactions are more effective than CMC, defined and used as "email," in creating feelings of closeness or intimacy. Other articles define CMC differently and, therefore, offer different results. This paper examines Cummings, Butler, and Kraut's (2002) research in relation to three other research articles to suggest that all forms of CMC should be studied in order to fully understand how CMC influences online and offline relationships.

*Keywords:* computer-mediated communication, face-to-face communication

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## References

American Psychological Association. (2020). *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th ed.). https://doi.org/10.1037/0000165-000

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