

## APA Style 7<sup>th</sup> Guide – Citing Social Media

### APSU Writing Center Handout

#### Citing Social Media Videos

**Basic Format:** Author, A. A. [@username]. (Year, Month Day). *First 20 words of caption.*

[Video]. Site Name. URL

#### Instructions

Use the creator's real name if available; if not, use the screen name as the author.

Provide the specific date of the post.

Use the first 20 words of the caption as the title.

Write [Video] in square brackets after the title.

Count hashtags, emojis, and URLs as one word each.

Do not italicize emojis.

Use TikTok, Instagram, or Twitter/X as the site name.

#### Examples

Cook, P. [@chemteacherphil]. (2021, September 17). *Fighting fire with fire. #sciencetok*

*#learnontiktok* [Video]. TikTok.

<https://www.tiktok.com/@chemteacherphil/video/7008953610872605957>

Washington Post [@washingtonpost]. (2019, December 3). *News is all around us. #frozen*

*#newsroom #newspaper* [Video]. TikTok.

<https://www.tiktok.com/@washingtonpost/video/6765886712896818437>

## In-Text Citations

**Parenthetical citations:** (Cook, 2021; Washington Post, 2019)

**Narrative citations:** Cook (2021) and Washington Post (2019)

## Citing Social Media Profile Pages

**Basic Format:** Author, A. A. [@username]. (n.d.). *First 20 words of bio.* [TikTok profile].

TikTok. Retrieved Month Day, Year, from URL

## Instructions

Use the first 20 words of the bio as the title.

If there is no bio, use only [TikTok profile] as the title.

Include a retrieval date as profiles change over time.

Use (n.d.) if no date is provided.

## Examples

The Rock. [@therock]. (n.d.). CEO of #RockTok [TikTok profile]. TikTok. Retrieved February 22, 2022, from <https://tiktok.com/@therock>

Witherspoon, R. [@reesewitherspoon]. (n.d.). [TikTok profile]. TikTok. Retrieved February 18, 2022, from <https://tiktok.com/@reesewitherspoon>

## In-Text Citations

**Parenthetical Format:** (Author, Publication Year)

- **Examples:** (The Rock, n.d.; Witherspoon, n.d.)

**Narrative Format:** Author (Publication Year)

- **Examples:** The Rock (n.d.) and Witherspoon (n.d.)

## References

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

Purdue Owl Writing Lab. (2022). *APA Formatting and Style Guide (7th edition)*. Purdue University.  
[https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research\\_and\\_citation/apa\\_style/apa\\_formatting\\_and\\_style\\_guide/index.html](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_formatting_and_style_guide/index.html)

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[https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research\\_and\\_citation/apa\\_style/apa\\_formatting\\_and\\_style\\_guide/apa\\_legal%20references%20.html](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_formatting_and_style_guide/apa_legal%20references%20.html)