

GSA Style Guide – Citing Websites

APSU Writing Center Handout

GSA In-Text Citations (11th Edition)

- Cite any quoted or paraphrased information from a source.
- Use author–year format (not superscript numbers).
- Place citations either in the sentence (narrative) or in parentheses.
- For three or more authors, use *et al.*
- Separate multiple citations with semicolons and list alphabetically.
- Include page, figure, or section numbers when needed.

Example:

Research has expanded our understanding of migraine pathophysiology (Smith, 2020).

References Cited

- Include all works cited in text, figures, tables, captions, and appendixes.
- Arrange **alphabetically by author surname**.
- Use **hanging indents** and double spacing.
- Spell out journal titles and publisher names.
- List **all authors** (GSA does *not* limit to 10 + et al. in references).
- Include DOI when available.

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In-Text Citation Format:

- **Narrative:** Author (Year)
- **Parenthetical:** (Author et al., Year)

Sentence with In-Text Citation Example:

Helmuth (2009) describes several of the most spectacular geologic sites around the world.

Reference Format

Author surname, Author first initial(s), Year, Website title: URL (date last accessed [Month Year]).

Example

Helmuth, L., 2009, The ten most spectacular geologic sites: Smithsonian Magazine:

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/the-ten-most-spectacular-geologic-sites-38476122/> (May 2024).

Citing a Thesis or Dissertation

Sentence with In-Text Citation Example:

Land movement hazards in a changing climate have been recently analyzed (Witscher, 2024).

Reference Format

Author surname, Author first initial(s), Year, Thesis/dissertation title [Master's thesis or Ph.D. dissertation]: City of university, University name, total pages.

Example

Witscher, E., 2024, Land movement hazards in a changing climate: Speaking of Geoscience:

<https://speakingofgeoscience.org/2024/01/31/land-movement-hazards-in-a-changing-climate/> (accessed May 2024).

References

Golden West College. (2025, August 13). Citations: GSA Style

Guide. <https://goldenwestcollege.libguides.com/gsa>

The Geological Society of America. (2024). Reference Guidelines and

Examples. https://www.geosociety.org/GSA/Publications/Info_Services/guidelines-and-policies/GSA/Pubs/ref-guide-examples.aspx?

University of South Carolina. (2025, August 5). GSA Style.

<https://guides.library.sc.edu/sciencecitationstyles/gsa>