APA Style Sixth Edition Template: This Is Just an Example Title That Has a Colon In It

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Author Note

A brief author note (which should be omitted in Paul Rose’s courses) goes here. This note may include acknowledgment of funding sources, expressions of gratitude to research assistants, and contact information for the author who will handle requests. I have a few notes of my own to share. First, thanks to everyone who has suggested improvements; I’m sorry I can’t acknowledge you all here. If anyone else badly needs to email me, try searching with “paul rose siue”. Second, you are hereby granted permission to use (and adapt) this document for learning and research purposes. You may not sell this document either by itself or in combination with other products or services. Third, if you use this document, you use it at your own risk. The document’s accuracy and safety have been thoroughly evaluated, but they are not guaranteed. Fourth, if you find this document helpful, I would be grateful if you would click on this URL: <http://goo.gl/DGHoZ>. It directs to a harmless Department of Psychology web page at SIUE, and records click-through data that give me an idea of how many people have found this document helpful.

Abstract

An abstract is a single paragraph, without indentation, that summarizes the key points of the manuscript in 150 to 250 words. For simpler papers in Paul Rose’s classes, a somewhat shorter abstract is fine. The purpose of the abstract is to provide the reader with a brief overview of the paper. When in doubt about a rule, check the sixth edition APA style manual rather than relying on this template. (Although I prefer only one space after a period, two spaces after a period are suggested by the sixth-edition APA manual at the top of page 88.) This document has a history that compels me to give credit where it’s due. Many years ago I downloaded a fifth-edition template from an unspecified author’s web site at Northcentral University. I modified the template extensively and repeatedly for my own purposes and in the early years I shared my highly-modified templates only with my own students. By now, I have edited this document so many times in so many ways that the current template bears virtually no similarity to the old Northcentral document. I want to be clear, however, that I am in debt to an unknown author who spared me the inconvenience of having to create my own templates from scratch.

*Keywords:* writing, template, sixth, edition, APA, format, style, self-discipline

Title of Paper Gets Repeated Here Exactly As It Appears On The First Page

This is where the body of your paper begins. Note that the title of your paper appears at the top of your introduction even though other sections begin with headings like “Method”, “Results” and so on. The rest of the text in this template provides hints about properly generating the parts of your APA-formatted paper. Notice that there is no extra spacing between the paragraphs or sections.

The major components of your paper (abstract, body, references, etc.) each begin on a new page. These components begin with centered headings at the top of the first page. (You can see how major components of text get divided in this freely available sample document: http://www.apastyle.org/manual/related/sample-experiment-paper-1.pdf ). Some papers have multiple studies in them so the body could have multiple sections and subsections within it.

Sections can have subsections with headings. For example, a Method section might have Participants, Materials, and Procedure subsections if there are enough details to explain to warrant such headings. The sixth edition of the APA manual, unlike earlier editions, tells you to bold some headings. Below are examples.

# **Heading Level 1**

**Heading Level 2**

**Heading level 3.** (Note the indent and period, and note how the capitalization works. You will probably never go deeper than the third heading level.)

***Heading level 4.***

*Heading level 5.*

# **Citations and References**

Check your assigned reading materials for rules about citations (which occur within the text of the paper) and references (which are listed in their own separate section at the end of the paper). Remember that you can find a lot of answers to formatting questions with a careful search. When you’re looking at information online, check the source, and consider whether the information might refer to an older edition of APA format. When in doubt, follow the latest edition of the APA manual.

**About a References Section**

An example of a References section is on the next page. Take note of the "hanging indent" style and double-spacing (with no extra spacing between references). The easiest way to create hanging indents is to type your references without worrying about indentation and when you are finished, select all the references at once and apply the hanging indents with your word processor.

Many APA format rules are not mentioned or demonstrated in this document. You should plan to spend a lot of time looking up formatting rules (<http://www.apastyle.org/> is helpful). If APA formatting is driving you crazy and you want a distraction, how about alleviating people’s suffering with a simple click? Check out The Hunger Site *(*<http://www.thehungersite.com/>).

References

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\* On p. 189, the 6th ed. manual says “We recommend that when DOIs are available, you include them”—so you can skip the DOI if you can’t find it. Footnotes like this aren’t appropriate in a real references section.

Footnotes

1 Some professional journals ask authors to avoid using footnotes. In an undergraduate paper they are almost never necessary.

Table 1

*Correlations Among and Descriptive Statistics For Key Study Variables*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Variables | *M* (*SD*) | Sex | Age | Income | Educ. | Relig. | Dist. Intol. |
| Sex | 1.53 (.50) |  | .07 | -.09 |  .02 |  .14 |  .06 |
| Age | 31.88 (10.29) |  |  |  .08 |  .19\* |  .20\* |  .01 |
| Income | 2.60 (1.57) |  |  |  | .04 | -.14 | -.09 |
| Educ. | 3.44 (1.06) |  |  |  |  |  -.29\* | -.06 |
| Relig. | 1.21 (.30) |  |  |  |  |  |  -.19\* |
| Dist. Intol. | 3.75 (1.19) |  |  |  |  |  |  |

*Notes. N*’s range from 107 to 109 due to occasional missing data. For sex, 0 = male, 1 = female. Educ. = education. Dist. Intol. = distress intolerance. Relig. = religiosity.

\* *p* < .05.

Alcohol Consumption

Frugality

Amount that Gets Spent on Alcohol

Figure 1. This simple path model, adapted from results in a *Journal of Consumer Behaviour* paper, is an example of a figure. The figure appears on the last page (although in the rare case that you have an appendix, the appendix would follow the figure).