# Introduction to APA format for Electronic Resources

There are several different editorial guidelines that are used by academic institutions to present and cite written materials. For example the Chicago Manual of style, The Modern Language Association (MLA) Style and the American Psychological Association (APA) are three styles that are widely used. Different styles may be adopted by different schools and departments within the same university. The Communication Studies Department at UMass Boston uses the APA Style.

Following are the APA Style Guidelines for the citation of common types of Electronic Resources found on the internet.  This is not a complete list. Visit the electronic references of the APA web site and read more about the APA Style:
http://www.apastyle.org/elecmedia.html

## A web site

Begin with the name of the author, moderator, or other responsible person or organization, if available, followed by the date of publication, the title of the site, the URL, and the date of retrieval. For example:

American Chemical Society.  (2006).  *Chemistry.org.*  Retrieved on 24 March  2006 from http://www.chemistry.org/portal/a/c/s/1/home.html  .

## A web page

To cite an individual Web page, give the author's name, the date of publication or last modification, enclosed in parentheses and followed by a period, and the title of the page, capitalizing only the first word, any proper nouns, and the first word after a colon in the title, if applicable.  Give the complete URL, including the protocol (e.g., "http"), and the date of access enclosed in parentheses and followed by a period.

Cressia, L. L. (1997).  Copyright and fair use: Future of fair use.  Retrieved on March 27, 2006 from http://www.cas.usf.edu/english/walker/courses/fall97/concl.html

### Newsvine column seeded from Newspaper web site

Cowell, A. (2007) In Parting Shot, Blair Calls Press a 'Feral Beast.' *The New York Times* [electronic version] Retrieved on June 13, 2007 from http://newsvine.com/

### Article in online journal

List the author's last name and initial(s), the year of publication, and the title of the article, capitalizing only the first word and all proper nouns.  Next, list the title of the journal, in italics, followed by a comma and the volume number, also in italics.  Give the issue number in parentheses in roman type, followed by a colon and the page numbers, if applicable.  Finally, provide the online publication information, including the URL and the date of access.  When the article can be located from the publication information

(e.g., the author, title, and publication date) from the main page of the online journal, then cite the URL for the main page of the journal. For example:

Trupe, A.L. (2002). Academic literacy in a wired world: Redefining genres for college writing courses. *Kairos: Rhetoric, Technology, Pedagogy, 7*(2). Retrieved on June 7, 2006 from http://english.ttu.edu/kairos/

**Personal email**

In scientific style, personal correspondence is not usually cited in the list of references but is noted in the text.

**Blogs and wikis**

Include the name or alias of the author, the date of posting, the title or subject line of the posting (if available), the title of the site, the URL, and the date of access, for example:

Bartow, A. (March 26, 2006) Parody is fair use! *Sivacracy.net.* Retrieved on March 30, 2006 from http://www.nyu.edu/classes/siva/

Mashup (web application hybrid) (2007) Retrieved on June 13, 2007 from
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mashups


**Photos, graphics, maps, audio, and video Files**

To cite a graphic, a map, audio, or video file in the context of the page on which it is published, provide information about the file as well as about the page or site on which it resides. The basic format is:

Artist or Copyright Holder (year, month, day of 1$^{st}$ publication) *Title* [Media type] Originally published. Retrieved (month, day, year) from [service] database ([database])

Here are some examples:

**Image from photosharing site:**

Steve Hobson (uploaded June 12 2007) *Rasta Dog [jpg.]* Flicker.com. Retrieved on June 12, 2007 from http://www.flicker.com

**Photos without titles or artist name**

For files without titles like photos, use the file name instead:

press-image4.jpg jpg (27 Mar. 2006). [Graphic]. Retrieved July 21, 2006 from
http://universe.nasa.gov/images/press-image4.

**Online sounds/music**

Immaculate Machine, song, (released June 12, 2007) *Small Talk* [.MP4] Itunes Cupertino, California, retrieved on June 12, 2007 from http://www.itunes.com

**Video on video sharing site**

Mysteryguitarman. (added June 5, 2007) *The Puzzle* [Video] Youtube. Retrieved on June 12, 2007 from http://www.youtube.com