

# **Using the American Psychological Association (APA) Style Guidelines to Report Experimental Results**

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Empirical Software Engineering does not exist in a vacuum. Other fields have developed techniques for both conducting empirical studies and reporting results and theories to practitioners and researchers. Our field can learn much by observing and, in some cases, adopting other fields' best practices and proven solutions.

Two current problems that we are facing center around the issues of replication and meta-analysis. Studies need to be replicated to ensure that the results are generalizable to other situations. Meta-analysis allows us, as researchers, to combine results across several studies to test theories and again ensure generalizability of results.

However, without adequate reporting, these problems will never be resolved. One cannot replicate a study unless one completely understands the method used to conduct the study. Likewise, one cannot conduct meta-analyses unless one understands the design of the study.

The problems of reporting and its relation to replication and meta-analysis have been faced in psychology. The APA Style Guidelines were created to resolve these issues. They have evolved over approximately seventy years to allow for adequate reporting of experimental results. Thus, it behooves us as empiricists to understand the issues addressed in the APA Style Guidelines and either adopt their solutions, adapt them, or create our own.

This paper will therefore provide an introduction to the APA Style Guidelines talking about each part of a research report in some detail.<sup>1</sup>

## **APA Style Guidelines**

The APA Style Guidelines focus on two primary issues. Firstly, the guidelines address typographic features of a manuscript, such as how many spaces to include, how to indent different subsections, how to write numbers, etc. Secondly, the guidelines address content of a manuscript, which includes what to write about and with what specificity. This paper will only review the second of these issues.

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<sup>1</sup> Note that both the Modern Language Association and the Chicago Style Guidelines also offer solutions to bibliographic references, etc. This paper will focus only on the APA Style Guidelines.

# American Psychological Association Guidelines

**American Psychological Association.  
Task Force on Supervision Guidelines**

## American Psychological Association Guidelines:

**Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association** American Psychological Association (COR),2019  
**APA Guidelines for Clinical Supervision in Health Service Psychology** American Psychological Association. Task Force on Supervision Guidelines,2018 This document outlines guidelines for supervision of students in health service psychology education and training programs The goal was to capture optimal performance expectations for psychologists who supervise It is based on the premises that supervisors a strive to achieve competence in the provision of supervision and b employ a competency based meta theoretical approach to the supervision process Preface **General Guidelines for Providers of Psychological Services** ,1987 **Ethical Standards of Psychologists** American Psychological Association,1953 Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association American Psychological Association,2001 Style manual for writers in psychology other behavioral and social sciences nursing criminology and personnel areas **The Professional Psychologist's Handbook** Bruce D. Sales,2013-06-29 Concise Guide to APA Style American Psychological Association,2019-12 Designed specifically for undergraduate writing this easy to use pocket guide provides complete guidance for new writers on effective clear and inclusive scholarly communication and the essentials of formatting papers and other course assignments **Introduction to Clinical Psychology** Douglas A. Bernstein,Bethany A. Teachman,Bunmi O. Olatunji,Scott O. Lilienfeld,2020-10-29 Thoroughly updated and revised the ninth edition of this bestselling textbook introduces students to clinical psychology as a bridge between science and practice Extensive revisions since the previous edition have resulted in the most accessible up to date and thematically integrated edition of Introduction to Clinical Psychology yet while maintaining the authority and accessibility students and instructors have come to rely on Updates include three new co authors who are internationally recognized scholar practitioners illustrations of how psychologists use evidence based practices to help clients the fictional Jackson family case studies providing vivid examples of a family confronting numerous mental health challenges Thinking Scientifically sections in each chapter which break down how students can think critically with conflicting findings and use them to draw conclusions In Review tables at the end of each major section prompting students to review the material and test their comprehension and an expanded image program printed in color for the first time **Directory of the American Psychological Association** American Psychological Association,1981 Biographical information about members Also includes organization information e g officers annual meetings affiliates and certificate of incorporation Each entry gives address telephone numbers birthdate education areas of interest and academic or other positions held Geographical index divisional membership roster by areas of practice *Proposed Procedural Guidelines for State Psychological Association Ethics Committees* American Psychological Association. Committee on Scientific and Professional Ethics and Conduct,1972 **Ethics in Psychotherapy and Counseling** Kenneth S. Pope,Melba J. T. Vasquez,2010-11-17 Praise for Ethics in Psychotherapy and Counseling Fourth

Edition A stunningly good book If there is only one book you buy on ethics this is the one David H Barlow PhD ABPP Professor of Psychology and Psychiatry Boston University The Fourth Edition continues to be the gold standard a must read in every counseling therapy training program It is that good and valuable Derald Wing Sue PhD Professor of Psychology and Education Teachers College Columbia University A must have for therapists at every step of their career from student to wise elder Bonnie Strickland PhD former president American Psychological Association This Fourth Edition of the best book in its field has much timely new material A brilliant addition is an exploration of how reasonable people can conscientiously follow the same ethical principles yet reach different conclusions an essential sourcebook Patrick O Neill PhD former president Canadian Psychological Association Essential for all practicing mental health professionals and students Nadine Kaslow PhD ABPP President American Board of Professional Psychology I particularly enjoyed the chapter on ethical practice in the electronic world which was informative even to this highly tech savvy psychologist The chapter on responses to the interrogations issue is destined to be a classic Bravo Mandatory reading Laura Brown PhD ABPP 2010 President APA Division of Trauma Psychology There s no better resource to have at your fingertips Eric Drogin JD PhD ABPP former chair APA Committee on Professional Practice and Standards and APA Committee on Legal Issues Two of psychology s national treasures Drs Ken Pope and Melba Vasquez walk the walk of psychotherapy ethics Simply the best book in its genre John Norcross PhD ABPP Professor of Psychology and Distinguished University Fellow University of Scranton *Casebook on ethical standards of psychologists* American Psychological Association,1974 This book is an updated version of the 1967 edition of the Casebook

**APA/MLA guidelines for students : brief guide to American Psychological Association and Modern Language Association rules used in academic writing** BarCharts, Inc,2009 Anyone writing a paper will need to use one of these two forms of documentation Two main documentations forms in this guide Modern Language Association and American Psychological Association

**Ethical Standards of Psychologists** American Psychological Association,1953 *Legal Risk Management* American Psychological Association,1993 *Mastering APA Style* Harold Gelfand,Charles J. Walker,2002 This guide updated for use with the fifth edition of the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association is designed to help improve students understanding and use of APA style before they begin writing allowing instructors in academic settings to concentrate more on course material and less on correcting errors in students papers The resource contains eight multiple choice assessment surveys correction keys and answer sheets along with instructions on how to incorporate this material into a curriculum The text should also enable editorial trainers to help polish their copy editors skills as they gain knowledge of APA style and the Publication Manual Included are style points for references and citations grammar headings serialization statistical and mathematical copy italics and capitalization numbers style and table formatting The guide can be used as a learning module for the classroom or for independent study

**APA Ethics Code Commentary and Case Illustrations** Linda Frye Campbell,2010 The APA Ethics Code Commentary and Case

Illustrations is a comprehensive examination of the APA Ethics Code and the complex process of ethical decision making The authors describe the Standards of the Code their application and how the Code can guide psychologists when ethical dilemmas arise Case illustrations are used throughout the book to demonstrate the process a psychologist will need to work through when confronted with an ethical dilemma In a wide variety of case illustrations that address most of the 89 Standards of the Ethics Code the authors describe a realistic scenario identify the ethical dilemma map out the decision making factors and present appropriate resolutions to the dilemma This book is meant to specifically include commentary and case illustrations that are applicable to the many areas of psychology e g consulting forensic education and training research organizational public and private practice The authors also closely examine how the specific ethical standards in the Code relate to its general principles e g beneficence and nonmaleficence fidelity and responsibility The authors show that a thorough working knowledge of relevant rules regulations and professional codes of ethics combined with a systematic method of approaching and resolving dilemmas are essential for the ethical practice of psychology This book of commentary is a must read for psychologists at all levels of professional experience from beginning students to those whose entire professional lives have been devoted to the field of psychology The authors encourage psychologists to accept the invitation offered in the preamble to the APA Ethics Code to embrace a lifelong commitment to the highest ethical standards in the profession of psychology   **Ethics in Psychology** Gerald P. Koocher,Patricia Keith-Spiegel,1998 Written in a highly readable and accessible style this new edition retains the key features that have contributed to its popularity including hundreds of case studies that provide illustrative guidance on a wide variety of topics including fee setting advertising for clients research ethics sexual attraction how to confront observed unethical conduct in others and confidentiality Ethics in Psychology and the Mental Health Professions will be important reading for practitioners and students in training **BOOK JACKET**   National Library of Medicine Current Catalog National Library of Medicine (U.S.),1970   Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association American Psychological Association,2010 In addition to providing guidance on grammar the mechanics of writing and APA style this manual offers an authoritative reference and citation system It also covers the treatment of numbers statistical and mathematical data tables and figures

## Enjoying the Melody of Appearance: An Psychological Symphony within **American Psychological Association Guidelines**

In a global eaten by screens and the ceaseless chatter of fast connection, the melodic beauty and mental symphony created by the prepared term frequently fade in to the back ground, eclipsed by the constant noise and disturbances that permeate our lives. However, situated within the pages of **American Psychological Association Guidelines** an enchanting fictional prize full of fresh emotions, lies an immersive symphony waiting to be embraced. Constructed by an outstanding composer of language, this charming masterpiece conducts visitors on an emotional journey, skillfully unraveling the hidden songs and profound influence resonating within each carefully constructed phrase. Within the depths of this moving review, we can explore the book's key harmonies, analyze their enthralling publishing style, and surrender ourselves to the profound resonance that echoes in the depths of readers souls.

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