In-Text Citations – The Basics
CH 213L

What is the purpose of in-text citations? Located within the body of your report or paper, in-text citations let your reader know the source of the information provided, credit the source, and enable your reader to locate the information listed in your references.

When using APA format, follow the author-date method of in-text citation. This means that the author(s) last name and the year of publication for the source should appear in the text of your document and a complete reference should appear in the reference list at the end of the document. For example:

**In-Text:**
Students often struggle with a new citation style (Strunk & White, 2007).

*Or*

According to Strunk and White (2007), students often struggle with a new citation style.

**In Reference List:**

More examples can be found online at Purdue’s Online Writing Lab (OWL): https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/03/

Remember: Every idea that is not your own (or not common knowledge) must have a citation so the reader can distinguish your ideas from others’ ideas.

If you use two ideas from the same source, let your reader know, by citing twice. This may mean in-text citations WITHIN a paragraph. Here are some phrases you might use:

*Furthermore, the authors add….*

*The authors go on to say….*

Every citation in the reference list MUST be cited at least once as an in-text citation in the body of the paper or report.

Questions? Please contact an Alverno librarian at (414) 382-6062