Transcript: Identifying information for an APA citation

What the heck is an APA?

APA citation style is a way to show your professors what information you are using. And whatever citation style you use, you need to record things like title of the work, author, and date of publication.

[Male Voice]: Hmm. Oh yeah?

Ya. So I’ve learned to try and keep track of all the articles, books and websites I use when researching my papers. If I can, I email them to myself.

[Male voice] I found this book in the Seneca catalogue - what information do I need to cite it?

Here is the Author. Title. Publisher. Place of publication. and Publication date. And if it’s an electronic book make sure you say what database it came from.

[Male voice] Really?!What about an article from a library database?

Same rule of thumb - author, title, publication date. With an article you also need title of the journal or magazine AND the volume, issue and page number. Plus you need to say what database it came from.

[Male voice.] The book says I also need a doi.

Right. If it’s an online article you also need to look for the DOI. It means digital object identifier – it’s a unique number that acts a bit like a URL.

[Male voice] Anything else I need to know?

Well…occasionally you can’t find all the information you need. Sometimes there isn’t an author or a date listed. But there is a rule book that can help you figure out what to do in those situations.

That doesn’t sound too bad. Thanks.

If you need more help, visit us, call us, e-mail us or chat. We’ve got you covered.