

The Portable Editor

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Citing Webinars and Web Videos

Information is increasingly being shared through Web-based lectures, workshops, conferences, and seminars—all of which are grouped under the label *webinar*. The big question in citing a webinar boils down to whether the source is archived and available to the public.

Formatting APA Citations for Archived Webinars (i.e., retrievable sources)

Author. When citing a webinar that is publicly available, such as a webinar archived on the Web or in university library holdings, the person (or organization) presenting the webinar would be listed as the author. Most webinars include an opening slide with the presenters' names and locations.

(Date). The date segment of the reference entry uses the date the webinar was **initially** presented (Year, Month Day), *not* the date that you viewed an archived presentation (American Psychological Association [APA], 2010, p. 210). Typically, the opening slide of a webinar will include the date of the presentation. However, if the date is unknown, use n.d. for "no date."

Title or Title? The use of italics for the title depends on whether the webinar was a stand-alone presentation or a part of a series. If the webinar is a stand-alone presentation, set the title in italics. If the webinar is part of a series, then set the title in regular font and reserve the italics for the name of the series. Use sentence-style capitalization for either type of title. Before closing off the title segment of the reference, insert square brackets and describe the type of resource: [Webinar].

Source. Provide the reader with information for retrieving the archived webinar. This part of the citation should use the phrasing "Retrieved from" followed by the URL address for the webinar. Be sure to **remove** the active hyperlink from all of your reference entries and *do not* add a period following the Web address.

Format:

Author Last Name, First Initial. Second Initial, & Author Last Name. First Initial. Second Initial. (Year, Month Day). Title of webinar [Webinar]. In *XXX Webinar Series*. Retrieved from URL

Examples

Stand-alone Webinar:

Orman, S. (2013, April 15). *Last minute investments before filing your tax return* [Webinar]. Retrieved from <http://xxxxxxx>

Webinar in a Series:

Schriefer, S., & Solsrud, C. (2013, May 5). Taking the resources tab for a spin [Webinar]. In *Rasmussen College LLC Webinar Series*. Retrieved from <http://xxxxxxx>

In-text citation format: Retrievable webinars use the standard APA (Author, Date) format. For the example above, the in-text citation would be (Schriefer & Solsrud, 2013)

Non-Retrievable Webinars

Many webinars are not archived on the Web or might be posted for a few days and then removed. If your reader cannot retrieve the webinar you are citing, then cite the webinar as you would personal communication. Use an in-text citation, giving the initials and surname of the presenter, the type of source, and date of the webinar.

Example: ...a leading cause of burnout among social workers (M. Giddings, webinar, October 10, 2013).

YouTube Videos

When citing videos from YouTube, the individual who posted the video should be included in the author position of the citation. The name may either be listed as the individual's real name or as a "screen name," which many video-posting websites require. To assist readers in retrieving the videos, be sure to include all available author information. In other words, if both the author's real name and screen name are listed, then your citation should list both.

Example: Schwartz, M. [youcanlearnguitar]. (2010, December 20). *Easy songs*. [Video file]. Retrieved from <http://xxxxx>

In text, use the author name that appears outside of the square brackets: (Schwartz, 2012).

Often, organizations or institutions are the authors of a video:

Example: School of Social Work. (2010, December 8). *Day in the life of a social worker* [Video file]. Retrieved from <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ggsz7qtPcoY>

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