

CITATION AND FORMATTING

DIFFERENT STYLES OF CITATION

Magazine Articles

Many guidelines for citing journal magazine articles.

In most cases, cite weekly or monthly magazines by volume and issue. Do not use parentheses. If you cite a specific passage in a magazine article, use the article's page number. But you may omit the article's page number if the article is the only one in the issue.

American Psychological Association (APA), 7th edition

The way social networking affects academic performance varies according to how they use social networking sites. Studies has found a curvilinear relationship between moderate and excessive use of social networks, suggesting that moderate use promotes academic performance while excessive use creates distractions (Tafesse, 2022). Studies indicate that digital connections and collaboration through social media shift how we communicate with each other and gain knowledge about the world around us (van Dijck, 2013). Qualitative findings demonstrate that students utilise social media to facilitate collaboration, but may not improve academic performance for every student (Mathias, 2019). Excessive use of social media has negative impacts on students' ability to concentrate and study (Onyeka et al., 2022). However, the effective and structured use of social media in a blended learning environment may contribute positively toward increased participation and engagement (Rodríguez, 2022); furthermore, institutional reports are documenting the growing importance of social media for higher education fire communication and participation (Phuangsuwan & Rakpathum, 2024).

Illustrative APA Citations for Various Sources

| Source Type | In-Text Citation Example | Reference List Example |
|-----------------------|---|---|
| Book | (van Dijck, 2013) | van Dijck, J. (2013). <i>The culture of connectivity: A critical history of social media</i> . Oxford University Press. |
| Journal Article | (Tafesse, 2022) | Tafesse, W. (2022). Social networking sites use and college students' academic performance: Testing for an inverted U-shaped relationship using automated mobile app usage data. <i>International Journal of Educational Technology in Higher Education</i> , 19(1), Article 16. https://doi.org/10.1186/s41239-022-00322-0 |
| Website | (Universitat Oberta de Catalunya, 2022) | Universitat Oberta de Catalunya. (2022). <i>The appropriate use of social media improves academic performance in blended learning</i> . https://www.uoc.edu/en/news/2022/048-socialmedia-elearning |
| Thesis / Dissertation | (Mathias, 2019) | Mathias, A. (2019). <i>The use of social media and the academic performance of students: A study of Taraba State University Jalingo</i> (Master's thesis). GRIN Publishing. |
| Conference Paper | (Onyeka et al., 2022) | Onyeka, N., Ateko, B., Ugwu, J., & Amosa, B. M. (2022). Impact of the use of social media on students' academic performance. In <i>Proceedings of the International Conference on Sciences, Engineering & Environmental Technology</i> (Vol. 6, pp. 77–86). |
| Report | (Phuangsuwan & Rakpathum, 2024) | Phuangsuwan, P., & Rakpathum, W. (2024). <i>Social media and its effect on higher education</i> . Research report. https://www.researchgate.net/publication/381831576 |

In-text citation rules for authors

- **One author:** Cite the author's surname and year.
- **Two authors:** Cite both surnames joined by an ampersand (&).
- **Three or more authors:** Cite the first author's surname followed by *et al.*

Note:

- Use et al. in all in-text citations for three or more authors.
- The reference list includes up to 20 authors in full.
- Page numbers are added only for direct quotations.

American Medical Association(AMA)

The way social networking affects academic performance varies according to how they use social networking sites. Studies has found a curvilinear relationship between moderate and excessive use of social networks, suggesting that moderate use promotes academic performance while excessive use creates distractions¹. Studies indicate that digital connections and collaboration through social media shift how we communicate with each other and gain knowledge about the world around us². Qualitative findings demonstrate that students utilise social media to facilitate collaboration, but may not improve academic performance for every student³. Excessive use of social media has negative impacts on students' ability to concentrate and study⁴. However, the effective and structured use of social media in a blended learning environment may contribute positively toward increased participation and engagement;⁵ furthermore, institutional reports are documenting the growing importance of social media for higher education fire communication and participation⁶.

Illustrative AMA Citations for Various Sources

| Source Type | Reference List Example (AMA) |
|------------------------------|---|
| Book | van Dijck J. <i>The Culture of Connectivity: A Critical History of Social Media</i> . Oxford University Press; 2013. |
| Journal Article | Tafesse W. Social networking sites use and college students' academic performance: testing for an inverted U-shaped relationship using automated mobile app usage data. <i>Int J Educ Technol High Educ</i> . 2022;19(1):16. doi:10.1186/s41239-022-00322-0 |
| Website | Universitat Oberta de Catalunya. The appropriate use of social media improves academic performance in blended learning. Published 2022. Accessed January 5, 2026. https://www.uoc.edu/en/news/2022/048-socialmedia-elearning |
| Thesis / Dissertation | Mathias A. <i>The Use of Social Media and the Academic Performance of Students: A Study of Taraba State University Jalingo</i> . Master's thesis. GRIN Publishing; 2019. |
| Conference Paper | Onyeka N, Ateko B, Ugwu J, Amosa BM. Impact of the use of social media on students' academic performance. In: <i>Proceedings of the International Conference on Sciences, Engineering & Environmental Technology</i> . 2022;6:77–86. |
| Report | Phuangsuwan P, Rakpathum W. <i>Social Media and Its Effect on Higher Education</i> . Research report; 2024. Accessed January 5, 2026. https://www.researchgate.net/publication/381831576 |

In-text citation rules for AMA style:

- Use superscript Arabic numerals in the text.
- Numbers reflect order of citation, not source type.
- Reuse the same number for repeated citations.

Notes:

- Author names are not included in the text.
- References are numbered sequentially, not alphabetized.
- Page numbers are included only when required.

Modern Language Association(MLA)

The way social networking affects academic performance varies according to how they use social networking sites. Studies has found a curvilinear relationship between moderate and excessive use of social networks, suggesting that moderate use promotes academic performance while excessive use creates distractions(Tafesse). Studies indicate that digital connections and collaboration through social media shift how we communicate with each other and gain knowledge about the world around us(van Dijck). Qualitative findings demonstrate that students utilise social media to facilitate collaboration, but may not improve academic performance for every student(Mathias). Excessive use of social media has negative impacts on students' ability to concentrate and study (Onyeka et al.).However, the effective and structured use of social media in a blended learning environment may contribute positively toward increased participation and engagement;(Rodríguez)furthermore, institutional reports are documenting the growing importance of social media for higher education fire communication and participation(Phuangsuwan and Rakpathum).

Illustrative MLA Citations for Various Sources

| Source Type | In-Text Citation | Works Cited Entry (MLA 9th) |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| Book | (van Dijck) | van Dijck, José. <i>The Culture of Connectivity: A Critical History of Social Media</i> . Oxford UP, 2013. |
| Journal Article | (Tafesse) | Tafesse, Wondwesen. "Social Networking Sites Use and College Students' Academic Performance: Testing for an Inverted U-Shaped Relationship Using Automated Mobile App Usage Data." <i>International Journal of Educational Technology in Higher Education</i> , vol. 19, no. 1, 2022, article 16, doi:10.1186/s41239-022-00322-0. |
| Website | (Universitat Oberta de Catalunya) | Universitat Oberta de Catalunya. "The Appropriate Use of Social Media Improves Academic Performance in Blended Learning." <i>UOC</i> , 2022, www.uoc.edu/en/news/2022/048-socialmedia-elearning . |
| Thesis / Dissertation | (Mathias) | Mathias, Aondona. <i>The Use of Social Media and the Academic Performance of Students: A Study of Taraba State University Jalingo</i> . Master's thesis, GRIN Publishing, 2019. |
| Conference Paper | (Onyeka et al.) | Onyeka, N., et al. "Impact of the Use of Social Media on Students' Academic Performance." <i>Proceedings of the International Conference on Sciences, Engineering & Environmental Technology</i> , vol. 6, 2022, pp. 77–86. |
| Report | (Phuangsuwan and Rakpathum) | Phuangsuwan, P., and W. Rakpathum. <i>Social Media and Its Effect on Higher Education</i> . Research report, 2024, www.researchgate.net/publication/381831576 . |

In-text citation rules for MLA style:

- Cite the author's surname in the text or parentheses.
- Include page numbers only when available.
- If no page number exists (e.g., websites), use author name only.

Notes:

- Do not include the year in MLA in-text citations.
- Use et al. for three or more authors.
- The Works Cited list is alphabetized by author surname..

Vancouver Style

The way social networking affects academic performance varies according to how they use social networking sites. Studies has found a curvilinear relationship between moderate and excessive use of social networks, suggesting that moderate use promotes academic performance while excessive use creates distractions[1]. Studies indicate that digital connections and collaboration through social media shift how we communicate with each other and gain knowledge about the world around us[2]. Qualitative findings demonstrate that students utilise social media to facilitate collaboration, but may not improve academic performance for every student[3]. Excessive use of social media has negative impacts on students' ability to concentrate and study[4]. However, the effective and structured use of social media in a blended learning environment may contribute positively toward increased participation and engagement;[5] furthermore, institutional reports are documenting the growing importance of social media for higher education fire communication and participation[6].

Illustrative Vancouver style Citations for Various Sources

| Source Type | Reference List Entry (Vancouver) |
|------------------------------|--|
| Book | 2. van Dijck J. <i>The Culture of Connectivity: A Critical History of Social Media</i> . Oxford: Oxford University Press; 2013. |
| Journal Article | 1. Tafesse W. Social networking sites use and college students' academic performance: testing for an inverted U-shaped relationship using automated mobile app usage data. <i>Int J Educ Technol High Educ</i> . 2022;19:16. |
| Website | 5. Universitat Oberta de Catalunya. The appropriate use of social media improves academic performance in blended learning [Internet]. 2022 [cited 2026 Jan 5]. Available from: https://www.uoc.edu/en/news/2022/048-socialmedia-elearning |
| Thesis / Dissertation | 3. Mathias A. <i>The use of social media and the academic performance of students: a study of Taraba State University Jalingo</i> [master's thesis]. Munich: GRIN Publishing; 2019. |
| Conference Paper | 4. Onyeka N, Ateko B, Ugwu J, Amosa BM. Impact of the use of social media on students' academic performance. In: <i>Proceedings of the International Conference on Sciences, Engineering & Environmental Technology</i> ; 2022; vol 6. p. 77–86. |
| Report | 6. Phuangsuwan P, Rakpathum W. <i>Social media and its effect on higher education</i> . Research report. 2024. |

In-text citation rules for Vancouver style:

- Use Arabic numerals in brackets or superscript.
- Example: ...academic performance [1].
- Cite sources in the order they appear in the text.

Notes:

- Author names and years do not appear in the text.
- The reference list is numbered, not alphabetical.
- Page numbers are included only when required (e.g., quotations).

Chicago Style

The way social networking affects academic performance varies according to how they use social networking sites. Studies has found a curvilinear relationship between moderate and excessive use of social networks, suggesting that moderate use promotes academic performance while excessive use creates distractions(Tafesse 2022). Studies indicate that digital connections and collaboration through social media shift how we communicate with each other and gain knowledge about the world around us(van Dijck 2013). Qualitative findings demonstrate that students utilise social media to facilitate collaboration, but may not improve academic performance for every student(Mathias 2019). Excessive use of social media has negative impacts on students' ability to concentrate and study(Onyeka et al. 2022). However, the effective and structured use of social media in a blended learning environment may contribute positively toward increased participation and engagement;(Rodríguez 2022)furthermore, institutional reports are documenting the growing importance of social media for higher education fire communication and participation(Phuangsuwan and Rakpathum 2024).

Illustrative Chicago style Citations for Various Sources

| Source Type | In-Text Citation Example | Reference List Entry (Chicago Author–Date 17th ed.) |
|-----------------------|--|---|
| Book | (van Dijck 2013) | van Dijck, José. 2013. <i>The Culture of Connectivity: A Critical History of Social Media</i> . Oxford: Oxford University Press. |
| Journal Article | (Tafesse 2022) | Tafesse, Wondwesen. 2022. "Social Networking Sites Use and College Students' Academic Performance: Testing for an Inverted U-Shaped Relationship Using Automated Mobile App Usage Data." <i>International Journal of Educational Technology in Higher Education</i> 19 (1): 16. https://doi.org/10.1186/s41239-022-00322-0 |
| Website | (Universitat Oberta de Catalunya 2022) | Universitat Oberta de Catalunya. 2022. "The Appropriate Use of Social Media Improves Academic Performance in Blended Learning." <i>UOC</i> . Accessed January 5, 2026. https://www.uoc.edu/en/news/2022/048-socialmedia-elearning . |
| Thesis / Dissertation | (Mathias 2019) | Mathias, Abubakar. 2019. <i>The Use of Social Media and the Academic Performance of Students: A Study of Taraba State University Jalingo</i> . Master's thesis, GRIN Publishing. |
| Conference Paper | (Onyeka et al. 2022) | Onyeka, N., B. Ateko, J. Ugwu, and B. M. Amosa. 2022. "Impact of the Use of Social Media on Students' Academic Performance." In <i>Proceedings of the International Conference on Sciences, Engineering & Environmental Technology</i> , vol. 6, 77–86. |
| Report | (Phuangsuwan and Rakpathum 2024) | Phuangsuwan, Phornpimon, and Watcharaporn Rakpathum. 2024. <i>Social Media and Its Effect on Higher Education</i> . Research report. https://www.researchgate.net/publication/381831576 |

In-text citation rules for Vancouver style:

- Include author surname + year in parentheses.Example: (van Dijck 2013)
- For two authors, list both: (Phuangsuwan and Rakpathum 2024)
- For three or more authors, use first author + et al.: (Onyeka et al. 2022)

Notes:

- Page numbers only for quotations or specific references.
- References are alphabetized by author.