What is APA Style?

APA Style sets up guidelines for written communication:
- the organization of content
- writing style
- citing references
Why do we use APA?

- Easy for readers to understand a text because the discipline is familiar with APA.
- By following APA, you can:
  - allow readers to follow your ideas easily instead of being distracted by unfamiliar formats
  - provide cues for readers to follow your ideas and locate information in your paper
  - establish credibility in your writing and field by knowing your audience
A running head consists of a shortened title (no more than 50 characters) in all capital letters. It is preceded by the words “Running head.”

An Empirical Study of College of Education Faculty’s Perceptions, Beliefs, and Commitment to the Teaching of Diversity

Jane Smith
University of Miami

Full title, writer’s full name, and school name are centered halfway down the page. All text is Times New Roman in 12 pt. size. Double space lines.
Abstract

This study argues that U.S. college populations are becoming more diverse, yet faculty works from a monocultural perspective. This fault is addressed by an examination of the features, involvements, viewpoints, and commitments to diversity of educational leaders and teachers trained in diversity programs in four urban college institutions. The study includes 116 participants with majority in the middle of their teaching career. Using a MANOVA, the authors found that there was significant support for the goals of diversity programs but a significantly weak assurance in implementing the trainings. It is suggested that a comprehensive training strategy be implemented: recruiting multicultural staff members, providing field experiences with diverse students for teacher candidates, and providing ongoing diversity training for faculty.

The abstract appears on a separate page. It should be no more than 120 words and summarize the main points of your paper.
An Empirical Study of College Education Faculty’s Perceptions, Beliefs, and Commitment to the Teaching of Diversity

Introduced in the 1980’s, digital stories have become an effective method of teaching in the secondary English classroom. Digital storytelling promotes literacy in media, reading, and writing, while giving students the ability to personally connect with traditional texts. Used as an effective technology in the English classroom, digital stories can guide a student into the realm of critical and analytical thinking while actively engaged with their peers in the learning process. Digital storytelling is a successful tool and supportive system for diverse learners struggling to read and write in the traditional paper and pencil manner.

Digital stories use the foundations of the ancient art of storytelling and have evolved into the modern expression of storytelling. They gain their power from intertwining images, music, deep dimension, and vivid color of characters, situations, experiences and insights into a beautifully crafted piece of digital literature. Woven intricately together, voice-overs, sound effects, music, videos, and still images make up the foundations of a digital story in which the student uses age-old steps in writing the story (Rule, 2010). As the creation of a story has changed (Rule, 2010), digital storytelling combines the old literacy of traditional storytelling...
Formatting

Using Headings

- Headings can be used, especially in long papers, to divide sections and make the content easier for readers to follow.
Note: This chart gives data on how faculty feel the college handles diversity. This data is taken from "An Empirical Study of College of Education Faculty’s Perceptions, Beliefs, and Commitment to the Teaching of Diversity in Teacher Education Programs at Four Urban Universities" by L. A. Smolen, S. X. Colville-Hall, & L. Mac Donald, 2006, *Urban Review*, 38, pp. 45-61. doi:10.1007/s11256-005-0022-2

*This chart gives data on how faculty feel the college handles diversity.*

A note gives the source of the data. Notice the format of the source. It is different than the reference page.
FACULTY VIEWS ON DIVERSITY

References

Center the title “References.” Double space throughout list.


Stylistics

Point of View:

• Use the first person point of view when referring to yourself and discussing the steps you’ve taken to research.
  • "I interviewed..." not "An interview was conducted..."
• Use the third person when not discussing yourself or something you did.
• Avoid passive voice.
  • "Experiments have been conducted..." is inaccurate (passive).
  • "We conducted experiments ..." is better because you are using the active voice, where the subject performing the action is distinctly identified.
Stylistics

Clarity/Conciseness:

- Important because you don’t want to confuse readers with wordiness or nonessential complex sentences.
- Be specific in descriptions and explanations.
- Take out unnecessary words and condense information.

Wordy: “I found that when interviewing the restaurant’s owner, the married man and woman, that they believed it was too difficult to be able to predict lunch and dinner rush hours.”

Fix: “I interviewed the restaurant’s owners, and they stated that it was difficult to predict busy lunch and dinner hours.”