

Using the American Psychological Association (APA) Style Guidelines to Report Experimental Results

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Empirical Software Engineering does not exist in a vacuum. Other fields have developed techniques for both conducting empirical studies and reporting results and theories to practitioners and researchers. Our field can learn much by observing and, in some cases, adopting other fields' best practices and proven solutions.

Two current problems that we are facing center around the issues of replication and meta-analysis. Studies need to be replicated to ensure that the results are generalizable to other situations. Meta-analysis allows us, as researchers, to combine results across several studies to test theories and again ensure generalizability of results.

However, without adequate reporting, these problems will never be resolved. One cannot replicate a study unless one completely understands the method used to conduct the study. Likewise, one cannot conduct meta-analyses unless one understands the design of the study.

The problems of reporting and its relation to replication and meta-analysis have been faced in psychology. The APA Style Guidelines were created to resolve these issues. They have evolved over approximately seventy years to allow for adequate reporting of experimental results. Thus, it behooves us as empiricists to understand the issues addressed in the APA Style Guidelines and either adopt their solutions, adapt them, or create our own.

This paper will therefore provide an introduction to the APA Style Guidelines talking about each part of a research report in some detail.¹

APA Style Guidelines

The APA Style Guidelines focus on two primary issues. Firstly, the guidelines address typographic features of a manuscript, such as how many spaces to include, how to indent different subsections, how to write numbers, etc. Secondly, the guidelines address content of a manuscript, which includes what to write about and with what specificity. This paper will only review the second of these issues.

¹ Note that both the Modern Language Association and the Chicago Style Guidelines also offer solutions to bibliographic references, etc. This paper will focus only on the APA Style Guidelines.

American Psychological Association Report

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Reports of the American Psychological Association's Project on Scientific Information Exchange in Psychology American Psychological Association,1963 Reports of the American Psychological Association's Project on Scientific Information Exchange in Psychology American Psychological Association,1965 *The American Psychological Association Annual Report 1999* American Psychological Association,2000 **Report** American Psychological Association. Division of School Psychology. Project on Scientific Information Exchange Psychology,1968 **Report of the Committee of the American Psychological Association on the Teaching of Psychology** American Psychological Association. Committee on the Teaching of Psychology. [from old catalog],1910 **Reports of the American Psychological Association's Project on Scientific Information Exchange in Psychology** American Psychological Association,1965 **APA Annual Report 1997** American Psychological Association,1998 Report of the APA task force on the sexualization of girls American Psychological Association,2007 The proliferation of sexualized images of girls and young women in advertising merchandising and media is harming girls self image and healthy development This report explores the cognitive and emotional consequences consequences for mental and physical health and impact on development of a healthy sexual self image Violence and the Family American Psychological Association. Presidential Task Force on Violence and the Family,1996 **Report of the Committee of the American Psychological Association on the Teaching of Psychology** American Psychological Association. Committee on the Teaching of Psychology,1910 **Report** ,1963 Reports of the American Psychological Association's Project on Scientific Information Exchange in Psychology American Psychological Association. Project on Scientific Information Exchange in Psychology,1965 *Reporting Quantitative Research in Psychology* Harris M. Cooper,2020 This updated edition provides practical guidance for implementing APA s Journal Article Reporting Standards for Quantitative Research JARS Quant and Meta Analysis Reporting Standards MARS Report of the Committee of the American Psychological Association on the Standardizing of Procedure in Experimental Tests American Psychological Association,1910 **Health Planning Reports Corporate Author Index** United States. Bureau of Health Planning,1981 Lists citations to the National Health Planning Information Center s collection of health planning literature government reports and studies from May 1975 to January 1980 *Contemporary Psychotherapies for a Diverse World* Jon Frew,Michael D. Spiegler,2012-05-04 This unique text is the first to provide an introduction to the theory and practice of the major theories of psychotherapy and at the same time illustrate how these approaches are dealing with the ever increasing diversity of today s clients Frew and Spiegler have assembled the leading contemporary authorities on each theory to offer an insider s perspective that includes exposure to the style and language used by adherents of the approach which is not available in any other text The history of each approach and the latest cutting edge theory and practice are integrated with an emphasis on an awareness of the needs of diverse non majority clients creating a comprehensive practical and invaluable

text for any counseling theories course The major psychotherapeutic approaches are presented in roughly the chronological order in which they were developed and each chapter follows the same basic format to ensure consistency throughout the text Along with traditional theories there are chapters on reality therapy feminist therapy and narrative therapy and the chapter on ethics includes multicultural and feminist perspectives Each chapter includes the origin and evolution of the theory theoretical foundations and how the theory is manifested in practice an evaluation of the evidence for the theory's success limitations blind spots and challenges The Author's Journey in which authors describe what led them to adopt their approach and how their own practice has evolved over time multicultural competencies and their importance in the context of the theory Resources are available online for instructors to supplement the material in the text and include a test bank and PowerPoint lecture slides

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recommendations and guidelines for addressing the memory controversy in clinical practice the fascinating case history cautionary tale of the child molester Robert Halsey who was convicted and sentenced to two life sentences in 1993 and how public and academic resources were misused to claim he was wrongly convicted The Oxford Handbook of Clinical Psychology David H. Barlow, 2011 The exponential growth of clinical psychology since the late 1960s can be measured in part by the extensive perhaps exhaustive literature on the subject This proliferation of writing has continued into the new century and the field has come to be defined as much by its many topics as its many voices The Oxford Handbook of Clinical Psychology synthesizes these decades of literature in one extraordinary volume Comprising chapters from the foremost scholars in clinical psychology the handbook provides even and authoritative coverage of the research practice and policy factors that combine to form today's clinical psychology landscape In addition to core sections on topics such as training assessment diagnosis and intervention the handbook includes valuable chapters devoted to new and emerging issues in the clinical field including health care reforms cultural factors and technological innovations and challenges Each chapter offers a review of the most pertinent literature outlining current issues and identifying possibilities for future research Featuring two chapters by Editor David H Barlow one on changes during his own 40 year odyssey in the field the other projecting ten themes for the future of clinical psychology The Oxford Handbook of Clinical Psychology is a landmark publication that is sure to serve as the field's benchmark reference publication for years to come It is an essential resource for students clinicians and researchers across the ever growing clinical psychology community

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