Comparison Chart of APA-6 and APA-7

	APA 6th	APA 7th
Title page	Standardized across all forums Includes running head that differs on title page from rest of paper Centered in upper third of page with no extra spacing between: • Name of Paper (unbolded) • Student Name • Name of Institution	Separate format for students and professionals, with additional spacing between elements **LU administration has chosen to have undergraduate students follow APA-7 "student" version, and graduate/doctoral students follow APA-7 "professional" version.** Student Title Page • Title of paper (bolded) • Name of each author • Name of department and institution • Course number and name • Instructor name • NO running head • Page number in top right corner of header Professional Title Page • Title of paper (bolded) • Name of each author • Affiliation • Author note • Running head (without the phrase "Running head:") in top left corner; same for all pages of paper • Page number in top right corner of header
Required elements of paper	Title Page Abstract (unless otherwise noted) Body Reference List Possibly appendix/appendices	Student • Title Page • Body • Reference List Professional • Title Page • Abstract • Body • References • May also include footnotes, appendices, and supplemental materials.
Title of Paper	Limited to no more than 12 words	No limit.

	APA 6ᵗʰ	**APA 7ᵗʰ**
Running heads	Must be a shortened or abbreviated version of paper's title. Title page also includes extra section title denoting "Running head:" that is omitted on pages two+.	If the title is 50 characters or less, the entire title can now be used as the running head on professional papers. Running head is now the same on every page.
Abstract	Section title Abstract is not bolded. Required 150-250 words.	When included, the term Abstract is now bolded. It is limited to no more than 250 words, with no lower word-count mandates. No change in keyword requirements.
Title of Paper	Section title comprised of the title of the paper is not bolded.	Title of paper is now bolded and regarded as a "de facto Level 1 heading" for the introduction section. Any subheadings within the introductory section must begin as Level 2 headings.
Introduction	Optional section under title of paper, but writers are authorized to go right into a Level 1 heading beneath title.	"The body of a paper always opens with an introduction." Students may include subheadings within the introduction, but those are not required. When used, they would be Level 2 headings.

Levels of Heading	Mixed title and sentence case, as well as bolded versus unbolded
	
	Level 1 Title Case
	Level 2 Title Case
	    Level 3 sentence case. Text goes here…
	    Level 4 sentence case. Text goes here…
	    Level 5 sentence case. Text goes here…
		All levels are bolded and in title case. The paper's title is now named as a "de facto Level 1 heading" and any subheadings in the introductory section should be presented as Level 2 headings.
		
		Level 1 Title Case
		Level 2 Title Case
		Level 3 Title Case
		    Level 4 Title Case. Text goes here…
		    Level 5 Title Case. Text goes here…

References	Section title of References is not bolded.	Section title of References should be bolded
Annotated bibliographies	Not discussed.	New section altogether. Follow formatting rules for block quotes (if second paragraph, indent it ½").
Appendices	Not bolded	Bold appendices titles

	APA 6th	**APA 7th**
Footnotes	Rare	Encouraged. May be presented as footnotes at the bottom of each page or as endnotes following the reference list. ==LU administration prefers placement of footnotes, when used, at the bottom of each page for LU class papers==.
Font	Times New Romans 12-point font	APA no longer requires or recommends any font or size. It mentions several options, ranging in size from 8 to 14 point for figures. Instead, it recommends "using word count rather than page count to gauge paper length."
Line-spacing	Everything must be double-spaced, with no extra/blank lines between --- except tables and figures, which may be single-spaced	Add an extra blank double-spaced line on the title page between the title and author's name Table and figures may be single-, 1-1/2, or double-spaced Footnotes at the bottom of the page should be single-spaced. If they are on a separate page after the reference list, they should be double-spaced. Equations can be triple- or quadruple-spaced.
Spaces after punctuation	In body, two spaces after closing punctuation; only one space in reference list.	One space after all closing punctuation in body and reference list.
Citing resources with 3-5 authors in the body of the paper	Name all of the authors the first time you cite the source in the body of the paper. For the second+ citation(s), name the first author's last name and use et al.	Use et al. for all citations of all sources with three or more authors in the body of the paper.
References with 8+ or 21+ authors	List all authors up to seven. For resources with eight or more authors, name the first six, followed by an ellipsis, and then the final author's name.	List all authors up to 20. For resources with 21 or more authors, name the first 19, followed by an ellipsis, and then the final author's name.

	APA 6th	APA 7th
Citing and referencing the Bible	Include the full name of the version cited the first time you cite that version, and then omit unless/until you change versions.	Spell out name of version fully for all citations; include the original and republished year of publication, and the chapter/verse: The person vowed to "set me as a seal upon thine heart" (*King James Bible*, 1769/2017, Song of Solomon 8:6).
	Omitted from reference list.	Include reference entry in reference list (see next section for further details). Note that the name of the Bible is italicized even in citations.
Religious or Classical Works	Cite in the body of the paper but omit from reference list.	Cite like books. Religious works are treated as having no author. An annotated version of a religious work would be treated as having an editor. Include publication dates for the Bible and other classical works. See section 8.28 on p. 274 for more details. *NOTE: APA's Style Expert Stefanie clarified that Bible citations are required for both direct quotes and paraphrases*.
Citing and referencing plays	Not discussed.	For plays, cite the act, scene, and line(s). Include a reference entry as well.
Order of multiple citations in same parentheses.	Arrange alphabetically as they appear in the reference list, separated by colons.	"To highlight the work(s) most directly relevant to your point in a given sentence, place those citations first within parentheses in alphabetical order and then insert a semicolon and a phrase, such as 'see also,' before the first of the remaining citations… (Sampson & Hughes, 2020; see also Augustine, 2018; Melara et al., 2018)."
Corporate authors/ publishers	Use the word Author in place of the publisher's name.	Now omit the word *Author* (special rule in 6th ed.) in the publisher's place when it is the same as the author.
Location specifier	Provide page or paragraph number	No longer limited to just page or paragraph; now includes page, paragraph, section, tables, figures, footnotes, chapters, forewords, timestamps of videos, and slide numbers in PowerPoint presentations.

	APA 6th	**APA 7th**
Repeating year in narrative citations	Omit for subsequent narrative citations in the same paragraph provided the first citation in that paragraph is narrative and not parenthetical.	APA 7th makes the exception for years of publication in subsequent narrative citations in a paragraph clearer: The year of publication should be omitted from the second narrative citation in any paragraph; it should be included in all parenthetical citations.
Self-plagiarism	Expressly forbidden	"In specific circumstances, authors may wish to duplicate their previously used works without quotation marks or citation …, feeling that extensive self-referencing is undesirable or awkward and that rewording may lead to inaccuracies. When the duplicated material is limited in scope, this approach is permissible." APA 7th adds "Do not use quotation marks or block quotation formatting around your own duplicated material." Also specifies: "I have previously discussed" (with a citation to the prior class paper)
Unique author crediting	Not discussed.	The 7th details how to credit persons with one name (i.e., Prince) or a stage name (i.e., Lady Gaga), names with @ symbol in them, and authors whose real and stage names are both known. Maintain the author's preferred capitalization in 7th (i.e., cummings, e. for e.e. cummings). Check government report to see who to credit as author.
Title of resource	Not specifically addressed, in terms of italicizing webpages in the reference list. Concurrent edition and volume numbers are not expressly discussed.	Italicize webpage and website resources in the reference list. If both edition and volume numbers are given, the edition comes first (e.g., 2nd ed., Vol. 1); superscripting of the edition numbers is optional as long as consistent.

	APA 6ᵗʰ	**APA 7ᵗʰ**
		"If a numbered volume has its own title, the volume number and title are included as part of the main title, rather than in parentheses."
		Expands rules for bracketed descriptions, to include an example of one which has parenthetical content followed by bracketed content; it also specifies that back-to-back brackets are acceptable in the reference list, though section 9.22 then recommends to try and "specify the medium in the description of the untitled work … rather than including two bracketed descriptions."
		"For untitled comments on periodical articles include up to the first 20 words of the comment or post in addition to a description" in the name-of-the-resource place in the reference entry; as with social media posts.
Works with specific locations	Not discussed.	Conference presentations = include the location: city, ST, Country.
Dictionary entries	Cite the word searched in the author's place (e.g., Heuristic, n.d.) in both citation and reference list.	Name the dictionary itself in the author's place (e.g., Merriam-Webster, n.d.) and include the retrieval date. Use same format as chapter in an edited book.
Publisher sources	Include the publisher's city and state.	Omit the city and state of the publisher from all reference entries. Only include the city and two-letter state abbreviation "for works associated with a specific location, such as conference presentations."
Publishing information	Special rule for omitting the issue number when the volumes were numbered consecutively (i.e., each did not begin again with page 1). Omit Publisher, Company, Corporation, etc.	Include the issue number for all resources that have one Omit "designations of business structure (e.g., Inc., Ltd., LLC) in the publisher name" but do include Publisher or Publication.

	APA 6th	APA 7th
	Use only the location listed first or the location of the publisher's home office.	"If two or more publishers are listed on the copyright page, include all of them in the order shown on the work, separated by semicolons" (p. 296). Use the publisher's format as shown in the source(s) consulted, adding that "it is not necessary to standardize the presentation of a publisher's name if it appears in multiple entries in a reference list" (p. 296) ---i.e., SAGE Publishing vs. Sage Publications. Write the word "Article" (without the quotation marks) and then provide the article number for articles an eLocator number rather than volume/issue (i.e., Article e0158474).
	APA used to advise to italicize the punctuation that followed italicized text.	Do not italicize the punctuation (comma or period) that follows italicized text in the reference list. Databases are "seldom needed in reference list entries" (p. 296); specifically, regarding university databases and library-provided services. See section 9.30 for more specifics.
DOI or URL shorteners	Not discussed.	May use shortDOIs (http://shortdoi.org/) or shortened URL
URLS for databases	Not clear.	Do not include database URLs that require log-on credentials. "Provide database or other online archive information in a reference only when it is necessary for readers to retrieve the cited work from that exact database or archive."
Website sources	Not clear.	When the webpage has an author that is not the same as the overall website, provide the website name in title case with no italics after the name of the webpage (note to OMIT "Retrieved from":

	APA 6th	APA 7th
		Doe, J. (n.d.). Name of webpage. BBC News. https://URL
When to include DOIs or URLs	Less clear.	Use a DOI whenever available (no URL if there is a DOI) Use a URL for online resources with no DOI Do not use a URL for print resources that have no DOI **"For works from academic databases, do not include a URL or database information because these works are widely available**. The reference should be the same as the reference for a print version of the work."
Format of DOIs and URLs	doi:10.1037/0000092-001 **or** https://doi.org/10.1037/0000092-001 https://www.website.com include the "Retrieved from" Silent about whether links should be live or not.	Present both only as hyperlinks: https://doi.org/10.1037/0000092-001 or https://www.website.com Omit "Retrieved from" or "Accessed from" Acceptable to use either blue underlined or plain text that is not underlined, but links should be live.
Order of reference works with no author.	Alphabetically by first word in author's position. Less clear about titles beginning with numbers.	Alphabetize numerals as though they were spelled out (i.e., 22 = **t** for twenty-two)
Classroom lectures	Not discussed.	Classroom lectures and intranet sources should be cited as among personal communications, as they are nonrecoverable to outside readers.
Active vs. Passive voice	Specifies to use active voice rather than passive voice.	APA 7th advises that "both active and passive voices are permitted in APA Style" though active voice is preferred in academic writing.
Seriation	All options required punctuation; unclear mandates for indention.	APA 7th clarifies to use numbered lists for full sentences/paragraphs and bulleted lists for phrases (bottom of p. 189), but then includes instructions for "items that are complete

	APA 6th	APA 7th
		sentences" under section 6.52 for bulleted lists. APA 7th also advises in both 6.51 and 6.52 to "use the bulleted list function of your word-processor program to create the bulleted list; **this will automatically indent the list as well.**" *APA's Style Expert Stefanie clarified to use indentations.* APA 7th also allows for a bulleted list with no punctuation after each entry.
Orphaned headings	Inconsistent, even in clarifications from APA Style Expert. Because allowing a heading separate from its content did not align with APA's purpose and intent of organizing content in a cohesive manner, LU OWC has currently opted to advise students not to allow such, in order to keep the heading with its supporting content.	APA specifies to leave headings at the bottom of the page, separated from its content, if it falls that way.
Words beginning a sentence	Capitalize any word that begins a sentence.	"Do not capitalize a personal name that begins with a lowercase letter when the name begins a sentence." Likewise, for proper nouns and statistical terms.
Singular "They"	Silent; specifies that "each pronoun should refer clearly to its antecedent and should agree with the antecedent in number and gender."	Complete new section mandating that writers should use the singular "they" to refer to a person who has specified a preference to use "they" as their personal pronoun.
Italics of punctuation	Italicize websites but not webpages. Italicize the punctuation that follows italicized text.	Italicize webpages. Do not italicize the punctuation mark after an italicized word or phrase, except when part of a book title or heading.
Superscripting of ordinal numbers	Do not superscript (e.g., 2nd ed.)	Allows ordinal numbers with or without superscript (e.g., 2nd ed. or 2nd ed.), provided you are consistent throughout your paper.
Data display	The preferred font for text in figures "is either Arial, Futura, or Helvetica, and font size may range from 8 to 14 points."	The recommended fonts for figures are Arial, Calibri, or Lucinda Sans Unicode, also ranging from 8 to 14 point.
Color	Prefers grayscale	Approves the use of color in photographs and figures specifically in student papers.

	APA 6th	**APA 7th**
Citation frequency	Requires citation for every single instance of paraphrased content.	Does not require citations to be included for every instance. Instead, only cite a source in a paragraph "in the first sentence in which it is relevant and do not repeat the citation in subsequent sentences [of that same paragraph] as long as the source remains clear and unchanged."
Quotations from Research Participants	Not discussed.	New section. Clarifies to name as participants, not personal communications.
Direct Quotes	Only include ellipsis at beginning or end of a quote "unless, to prevent misinterpretation, you need to emphasize that the quotation begins or ends midsentence." Parenthetical citations must follow immediately after the direct quote, even if midsentence.	"Regardless of quotation length, do not insert an ellipsis at the beginning and/or end of a quotation unless the original source includes an ellipsis." NOTE: Page 271 includes a statement that a parenthetical citation should follow "either immediately after the quotation or at the end of the sentence." However, the second example on p. 272 shows the citation for the direct-quoted material falling at the end of the sentence, rather than after the direct quote itself. *APA's Style Expert Stefanie clarified that either is fine*.
Epigraphs	Not discussed.	New section. APA 7th instructs not to include "a reference entry for an epigraph from an academic source (e.g., scholarly book or journal) or a quotation used with permission." *This may add confusion since there will be no correlating reference entry.*
Correspondence Between Reference List and Text	Not discussed.	New section. "References included in a meta-analysis, which are marked with an asterisk in the reference list, may be cited in the text (or not) at the author's discretion…"
Primary and Secondary sources	Only include the publication year details for the secondary source.	"If the year of publication of the primary source is known [when citing a secondary source], also include it in the text."
Classroom or intranet sources	Not discussed.	Include URL to login page (i.e., myLU.liberty.edu, in the case of a course in Blackboard).