This guide will help you when you need to use the American Psychological Association (APA) referencing style and ....

- Cite a case,
- Cite an Act, or
- Create a reference list or bibliography.

This is a quick guide to the APA referencing conventions explained in ECU Referencing Guide as they apply to legal material.

- Within the ECU School of Law and Justice, you may be required to use either the Australian Guide to Legal Citation, or the APA style.
- Your lecturer will always nominate the referencing style to be used in your unit outline.
- As a general rule, all LLB subjects use the AGLC, whereas most Justice and most Business Law subjects use the APA style.
- For information on using footnotes (the AGLC style) for legal citations, consult the Guide to Legal Referencing (AGLC), available on the library web site.

I need to... see the full ECU Referencing Guide.

From the Library home page Referencing link (under workshops and training), go to the ECU Referencing Guide. Or, go straight to:

Page 20 of the ECU Referencing Guide refers to citing legal material.

I need to... cite a case.

A case citation looks like this –

Northern Sandblasting Pty Ltd v. Harris (1997) 188 CLR 313

1. In your assignment, refer to the case, and add an in-text reference.

   - If you’re referring to a particular page, include a “pinpoint reference” to the actual page.
   - If you’re referring to the judgment as a whole, leave out the page number.
   - If you haven’t mentioned the case name, include that in your in-text reference.

   In Northern Sandblasting Pty Ltd v. Harris (1997, p.334) the High Court held that the landlord was in breach of a contractual duty of care owed to the tenants and to their family.

   Gummow and Kirby JJ noted that medical advances have made it easier to distinguish the genuine from the spurious (Annetts v. Australian Stations Pty Ltd, 2002, p.378).

2. In your reference list, enter the complete citation – both case name and citation.

   - Don’t enter any pinpoint references.
   - Create a list of case references separate from your list of journal articles and books, and from your list of legislation.

   Northern Sandblasting Pty Ltd v. Harris (1997) 188 CLR 313.
I need to... **cite an Act.**

An Act citation looks like this –

*Native Title Act 1993 (Cth) s 223*

1. **In your assignment** when referring to the Act for the first time write the full citation.
   - If you’re referring to a particular section, include it in your writing.
   - At the very least, the Act name, year and jurisdiction are required the first time you refer to an Act.
   
   ... by virtue of s 10(2) of the *Legal Profession Practice Act 1958 (Vic)*.

2. **The next time you refer to that Act** you can omit the year and jurisdiction.
   
   The *Legal Profession Practice Act* also sets out...

3. **In the reference list** enter the citation for the Act as a whole.
   - Don’t enter any section numbers.
   - Create a list of legislation references separate from your list of journal articles and books, and from your list of cases.

   *Legal Profession Practice Act 1958 (Vic)*.

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I need to... **create a reference list or bibliography.**

A **reference list** – is a list of references you have cited in the body of your assignment.

A **bibliography** – is a list of all the material you have read while researching your assignment, even if you haven’t cited all of them in your assignment.

The APA style requires you to include a **reference list** in your work. This means that you must cite in your assignment every work that is included in your reference list.

Your reference list should be divided into the following sections –

1. Articles/Books/Reports
2. Case Law
3. Legislation
4. Other Sources

Within each list, arrange the sources alphabetically by author, by the first party to the case, or by the first word in the Act title.

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For more information or clarification...

Consult the *ECU Referencing Guide*:


For information on using footnotes (the AGLC style) for legal citations, consult the *Guide to Legal Referencing (AGLC)*, available on the library web site, under referencing.