

# Citing the World Wide Web in *S t y l e*

## American Psychological Association Style

This guide is intended to assist writers in preparing APA style references for articles and books retrieved from electronic databases.

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## THE BOOK:

Writing in APA style is much more than documentation (citations and references). The *Publication Manual* details all aspects of writing, e.g., page layout, headers, graphs and charts, line spacing, word usage, punctuation, and so on. The best way to learn and apply APA style is to obtain the book.

*Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, Sixth edition. Published by the American Psychological Association.

Spiral                \$36.95 (Retail price)    ISBN: 978-1-4338-0562-2

Hard cover        \$39.95 (Retail price)    ISBN: 978-1-4338-0559-2

Soft cover         \$28.95 (Retail price)    ISBN: 978-1-4338-0561-5

## HOW TO DOCUMENT SOURCES:

Where APA style meets the library is in the process of documentation—the process of creating references to the information sources used in writing a paper. While the *Publication Manual* is explicit and detailed in regard to formatting each of the individual elements of a reference, e.g., how to capitalize, italicize, and punctuate authors' names, publication titles, etcetera; it is relatively brief in its explanation of how to cite many of the electronic resources TROY students and faculty use in their research. That is where the guide you are reading right now comes in.

## ADDITIONAL SOURCES OF INFORMATION ON APA STYLE:

Troy University Writing Center <http://troy.troy.edu/writingcenter/>

In particular, look in the *Handouts* section for the guides to Research/Documentation. These materials include: APA Documentation Guide; APA —Levels of Heading; APA—Numbers and Tables; APA—Quoting; and APA-Sample Paper.

*The APA Style Blog* <http://blog.apastyle.org/>

Information, questions and answers.

*APA Formatting and Style Guide* from the Purdue University Online Writing Lab (OWL)

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>

## DIGITAL OBJECT IDENTIFIERS (DOIs):

A doi helps the reader find out more information about an information source, e.g., a journal article.

The use of a digital object identifier (doi) is APA's preferred method of identifying information sources. Therefore, the use of doi's is an important concept, one with which you should familiarize yourself.

**Please do not worry—it is not as complicated as it may sound.**

If an item (article or book) has a doi, it will be relatively easy to spot. If an item does not have a doi, this guide (and the *Publication Manual*) will tell you what to use. Depending on the item being referenced (and the instructor's preference), you may use nothing, a URL for a journal, or the name of a database and an accession number).

A doi looks like this.

10.1037/0022-3514.85.1.132

It is just a series of numbers (and often times, letters).

An APA style reference with a doi looks like this.

Rozin, P., Bauer, R., & Catanese, D. (2003). Food and life, pleasure and worry, among American college students: Gender differences and regional similarities. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 85(1), 132-141.  
doi:10.1037/0022-3514.85.1.132

The final two sections of this guide explain how to find a doi within the material you are reading (articles and books, in print and electronic format) as well as how to use a doi to locate information about the object (article, etc.) it identifies. It is probably best not to look at those sections just yet—the processes of finding and using doi's are a lot simpler than they look and may make more sense after reviewing the example references within this guide (beginning on the next page).

## EXAMPLES OF REFERENCES TO ARTICLES:

Let's look at some quick examples of references and then discuss them in greater detail, beginning on the next page. (Examples for books begin on page 6 of this guide.)

### **EXAMPLE 1: Article (print version without a DOI)**

Critcher, C., & Dunning, D. (2009). Egocentric pattern projection: How implicit personality theories recapitulate the geography of the self. *Journal of Personality & Social Psychology*, 97(1), 1-16.

### **EXAMPLE 2: Article (print version with a DOI)**

Critcher, C., & Dunning, D. (2009). Egocentric pattern projection: How implicit personality theories recapitulate the geography of the self. *Journal of Personality & Social Psychology*, 97(1), 1-16. doi:10.1037/a0015670

### **EXAMPLE 3: Article (electronic version with a DOI)**

Critcher, C., & Dunning, D. (2009). Egocentric pattern projection: How implicit personality theories recapitulate the geography of the self. *Journal of Personality & Social Psychology*, 97(1), 1-16. doi:10.1037/a0015670

### **EXAMPLE 4: Article (electronic version without a DOI [a journal for which you can identify its Web site])**

Critcher, C., & Dunning, D. (2009). Egocentric pattern projection: How implicit personality theories recapitulate the geography of the self. *Journal of Personality & Social Psychology*, 97(1), 1-16. Retrieved from <http://www.apa.org/journals/psp/>

### **EXAMPLE 5: Article (electronic version without a DOI [a journal for which you cannot identify its Web site])**

Critcher, C., & Dunning, D. (2009). Egocentric pattern projection: How implicit personality theories recapitulate the geography of the self. *Journal of Personality & Social Psychology*, 97(1), 1-16. Retrieved from Academic Search Complete database. (Accession No. 42518277)

**References for articles (from the preceding page) explained in greater detail.**



Pay special attention to the Key Concept detailed with example two.

**EXAMPLE 1, explained: Article (print version without a DOI)**

Critcher, C., & Dunning, D. (2009). Egocentric pattern projection: How implicit personality theories recapitulate the geography of the self. *Journal of Personality & Social Psychology*, 97(1), 1-16.

Explained: If you have an article from a print journal and the article does not list a digital object identifier (doi), then you will just do the standard reference as prescribed by the *Publication Manual*. No additional information needs to be provided.

**EXAMPLE 2, explained: Article (print version with a DOI)**

Critcher, C., & Dunning, D. (2009). Egocentric pattern projection: How implicit personality theories recapitulate the geography of the self. *Journal of Personality & Social Psychology*, 97(1), 1-16. doi:10.1037/a0015670

Explained: If you have an article from a print journal and the article does list a digital object identifier (doi), include it at the end of the reference, as shown above. If you need to break the doi, do so before a mark of punctuation. Note that the letters *doi*, and the colon that follow, are not part of the doi itself.

**KEY CONCEPT:** The digital object that is being identified by a doi is not the article or book chapter, it is the information about that article or chapter. Print articles, and print books and book chapters may have doi's. The doi for a print object is the same as the one for its electronic version. A doi helps identify the intellectual content, not the format in which the reader accesses it, nor the service from which he or she may have accessed it.

**EXAMPLE 3, explained: Article (electronic version with a DOI)**

Critcher, C., & Dunning, D. (2009). Egocentric pattern projection: How implicit personality theories recapitulate the geography of the self. *Journal of Personality & Social Psychology*, 97(1), 1-16. doi:10.1037/a0015670

Explained: If you have an article from an electronic database and the article does list a digital object identifier, include it at the end of the reference, as shown above. If you need to break the doi, do so before a mark of punctuation. **TO EMPHASIZE THE KEY CONCEPT (from example 2):** If it appears that this reference and the one above it are identical, that is because they are. If the

article has a doi, you will reference it the same exact way, whether you accessed it in print or electronically—whether you got it from an open-access Web site or from a commercial database.

**EXAMPLE 4, explained: Article (electronic version without a DOI [articles from a journal for which you can identify its Web site])**

Critcher, C., & Dunning, D. (2009). Egocentric pattern projection: How implicit personality theories recapitulate the geography of the self. *Journal of Personality & Social Psychology*, 97(1), 1-16. Retrieved from <http://www.apa.org/journals/psp/>

Explained: If you have an article from an electronic database and the article does not list a digital object identifier, include the complete Internet address of the home Web site of the journal, as shown above.

How do you find the home page for the journal? Good question. The simplest answer is to search the Google search engine <<http://www.google.com>> for the title of the journal. If you need additional data to search on (besides the journal title), here is a suggestion:

When you are looking at the brief entry (i.e., in the results list) for an article in a database, you can usually click on the title of the journal to find out more about it. A key piece of information is the International Standard Serial Number (ISSN). Try searching Google for the journal title and the ISSN. The other key piece of information provided will be the publisher of the journal (and, possibly, the Web address of the publisher). Locate the publisher's site, then look for the journal there. If you get stuck, ask a librarian (be prepared to provide him or her details about the article, including the name of the database that it came from).

**EXAMPLE 5, explained: Article (electronic version without a DOI [articles from a journal for which you cannot identify its Web site])**

Critcher, C., & Dunning, D. (2009). Egocentric pattern projection: How implicit personality theories recapitulate the geography of the self. *Journal of Personality & Social Psychology*, 97(1), 1-16. Retrieved from Academic Search Premier database. (Accession No. 42518277)

Explained: If you have an article from an electronic database but the article does not list a digital object identifier, and you are not able to find the home page of the journal, include the name of the database and an accession number, as shown above. FYI: The three largest database vendors from which TROY acquires access are EBSCO, ProQuest, and Gale:

For articles from EBSCO databases, e.g., *PsycArticles*, the access number for articles is, in fact, named the Accession Number (as illustrated above).

For articles from databases provided by the ProQuest Company, e.g., *ProQuest Psychology Journals*, the accession number will be the named ProQuest document ID, so look for that—and use that terminology in the reference, e.g., (ProQuest document ID 165047401)

For articles from databases provided by Gale Cengage Learning, e.g., *General OneFile*, it will be the Gale Document number, so look for that—and use that terminology in the reference, e.g., (Gale Document number A196325404)

## EXAMPLES OF REFERENCES TO BOOKS:

The vast majority of electronic books you will access from TROY-provided resources will fall into one of two categories:

Books in their entirety (not just a chapter). If a book has a doi, simply add that to the standard reference. The vast majority of the time, a doi will not be found; in such cases, end the reference with an access statement that includes the name of the database (as in the first example, B1). These books are provided to TROY patrons through databases such as *eBook Collection*, *Ebook Library*, and *Credo Reference*.

Chapters from edited books. These materials represent the vast majority of sources within the *PsycBooks* database and almost always include a digital object identifier. For these materials, the reference format is the same as for a chapter from an edited book in print format; only you add the doi information at the end, as in example B2. Note: The doi represents the chapter, not the entire book. If no doi is available, end the reference with an access statement that includes the name of the database, as in example B1.

### **EXAMPLE B1: Book from a database, e.g., *eBook Collection*, *Credo Reference*, *Ebook Library*.**

Howatt, W.A. (2005). *The addiction counselor's desk reference*. Retrieved from <http://www.wiley.com>

Howatt, W.A. (2005). *The addiction counselor's desk reference*. Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons. Retrieved from eBook Collection database.

### **EXAMPLE B2: Book chapter (with doi) from an edited book (mostly you will find these in the *PsycBooks* database):**

Tanner, J.L. (2006). Recentering during emerging adulthood: A critical turning point in life span human development. In J.J. Arnett & J.L. Tanner (Eds.) *Emerging adults in America: Coming of age in the 21st century* (pp. 21-55). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association. doi:10.1037/11381-002

## HOW TO LOCATE A DIGITAL OBJECT IDENTIFIER (DOI) IN PRINT AND ELECTRONIC SOURCES.

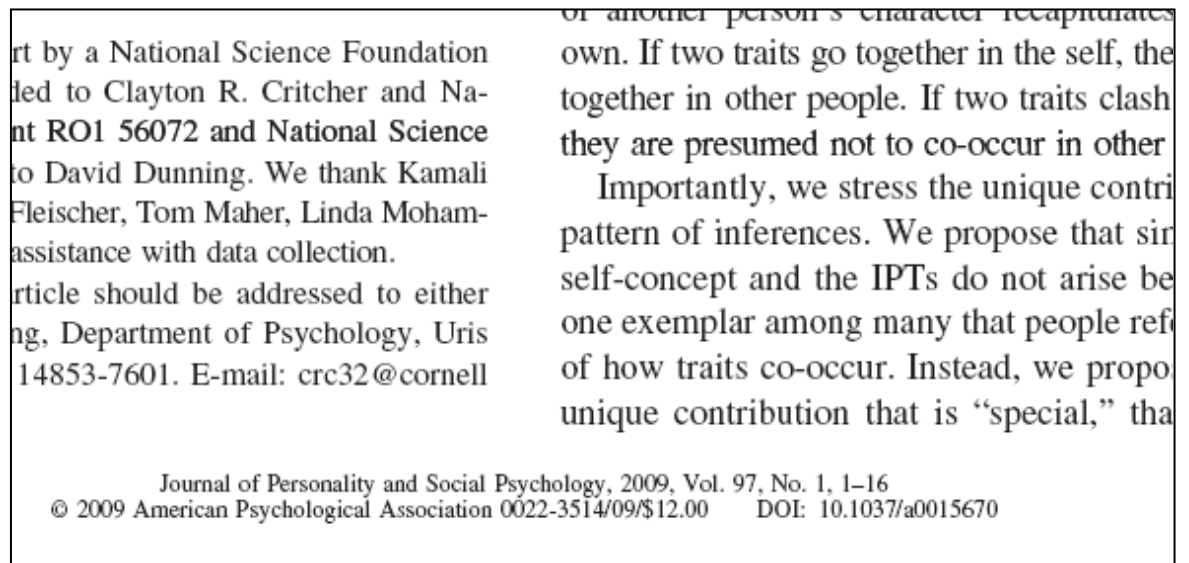
To use the doi in a reference, you will first need find it. When viewing a document in a library database, look at the beginning of the document itself (especially in PDF format) for the doi. Or, view the database's record for the item (usually by clicking on its title or on the word abstract), and look for a specific listing for digital object identifier.

The prevalence of doi's will vary greatly from one academic discipline to another. The most frequent use is within the fields of psychology and counseling (especially with regard to journals published by the APA).

NOTE: Bear in mind that first and foremost, the purpose of the *Publication Manual* is to assist researchers in the behavioral and social sciences in preparing scholarly publications. In terms of student papers, a college instructor may prefer one way of writing references over another, and therefore require his or her students to use that method. For example, while the doi system may work well in the world of professional publishing, instructors may feel that they and their students are better served by references that conclude with the name of the database rather than the doi of the article or the Web address of the journal.

### Examples from print journal articles.

The images below are from print articles. Note the doi at the top of the page in one example and the bottom at the bottom of the page in the other. In either case, the doi is easy to find.





## Examples from electronic journal articles.

If you access the Portable Document Format (PDF) version of an article, it should appear exactly as it does in print (as pictured on the previous page).

If you access the HTML version of the text, the doi (if there is one) will be provided along with the text—as shown in the two examples (from two different databases) below.

(South Korea), and general **life satisfaction** (South Korea). Results also revealed significant **response style di** effects were observed for both **mean score** and **response style differences**, although the effect sizes were sm "individualistic" vs. "collectivistic" cultural **differences**. [PUBLICATION ABSTRACT]

**References**

[References \(73\)](#)

**Indexing (document details)**

**Subjects:** [Attitude surveys](#), [Teenagers](#), [Cross cultural studies](#), [Quality of life](#)

**Author(s):** [Rich Gilman](#), [E Scott Huebner](#), [Lili Tian](#), [Nansook Park](#), [Jenny O'Byrne](#), [Miriam Schiff](#), [Dina](#)

**Document types:** Feature

**Publication title:** [Journal of Youth and Adolescence](#). New York: [Feb 2008](#). Vol. 37, Iss. 2; pg. 142, 13 pgs

**Source type:** Periodical

**ISSN:** 00472891

**ProQuest document ID:** 1412396241

**Text Word Count** 9799

**DOI:** 10.1007/s10964-007-9172-8

Simpson, C. A., & Vuchinich, R. E. (2000). Reliability of a measure of temporal discounting. *The Psycholo*

Smith, C. L., & Hantula, D. A. (2008). Methodological considerations in the study of delay discounting in 940–953.

Takahashi, T., Furukawa, A., Miyakawa, T., Maesato, H. Y., & Higuchi, S. (2007). Two-month stability *Neuroendocrinology Letters*, 28, 131–136.

Watson, D., Clark, L. A., & Tellegen, A. (1988). Development and validation of brief measures of positiv 163–170.

*Submitted: February 3, 2009 Revised: July 10, 2009 Accepted: July 15, 2009*




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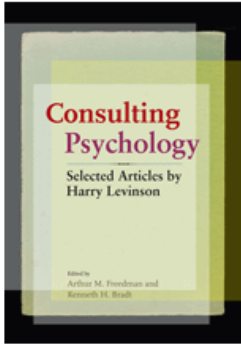
This publication is protected by US and international copyright laws and its content may not be copied without the copyright h for access. This content is intended solely for the use of the individual user.

**Source:** Experimental and Clinical Psychopharmacology. Vol. 17 (5) US : American Psychological Association pp. 345-355.  
**Accession Number:** pha-17-5-345 **Digital Object Identifier:** 10.1037/a0017078

### Example from a book chapter in the *PsycBooks* database.

The image immediately below is from a results list of a search in this database. The key to finding the doi is to click on the title of the chapter, not the PDF Full Text link. The database provides a detailed listing of information pertaining to the book chapter, including its doi (as pictured at the bottom of this page).

3. [Approaching retirement as the flexibility phase.](#)   
Levinson, Harry; Wofford, Jerry C.; *In: Consulting psychology* (Ed.); Washington, DC, US: American Psychological Association, 2009. pp. 137-166  
Database: PsycBOOKS  
[Add to folder](#)  
[PDF Full Text](#) (1300K)
4. [Assessing organizations.](#)   
Levinson, Harry; *In: Consulting psychology*: Selected article DC, US: American Psychological Association, 2009. pp. 137-166  
Database: PsycBOOKS  
[Add to folder](#) | [Cited References: \(62\)](#)  
[PDF Full Text](#) (1996K)
5. [Between CEO and COO.](#)   
Levinson, Harry; *In: Consulting psychology*: Selected article DC, US: American Psychological Association, 2009. pp. 253-266  
Database: PsycBOOKS  
[Add to folder](#)  
[PDF Full Text](#) (785K)

<b>Format Covered:</b>	Print
<b>Publication Type:</b>	Book; Edited Book
<b>Document Type:</b>	Chapter; Reprint
<b>Release Date:</b>	20090810
<b>Digital Object Identifier:</b>	10.1037/11848-008
<b>Accession Number:</b>	2008-12235-008
<b>Number of Citations in Source:</b>	62
<b>Cover Image:</b>	

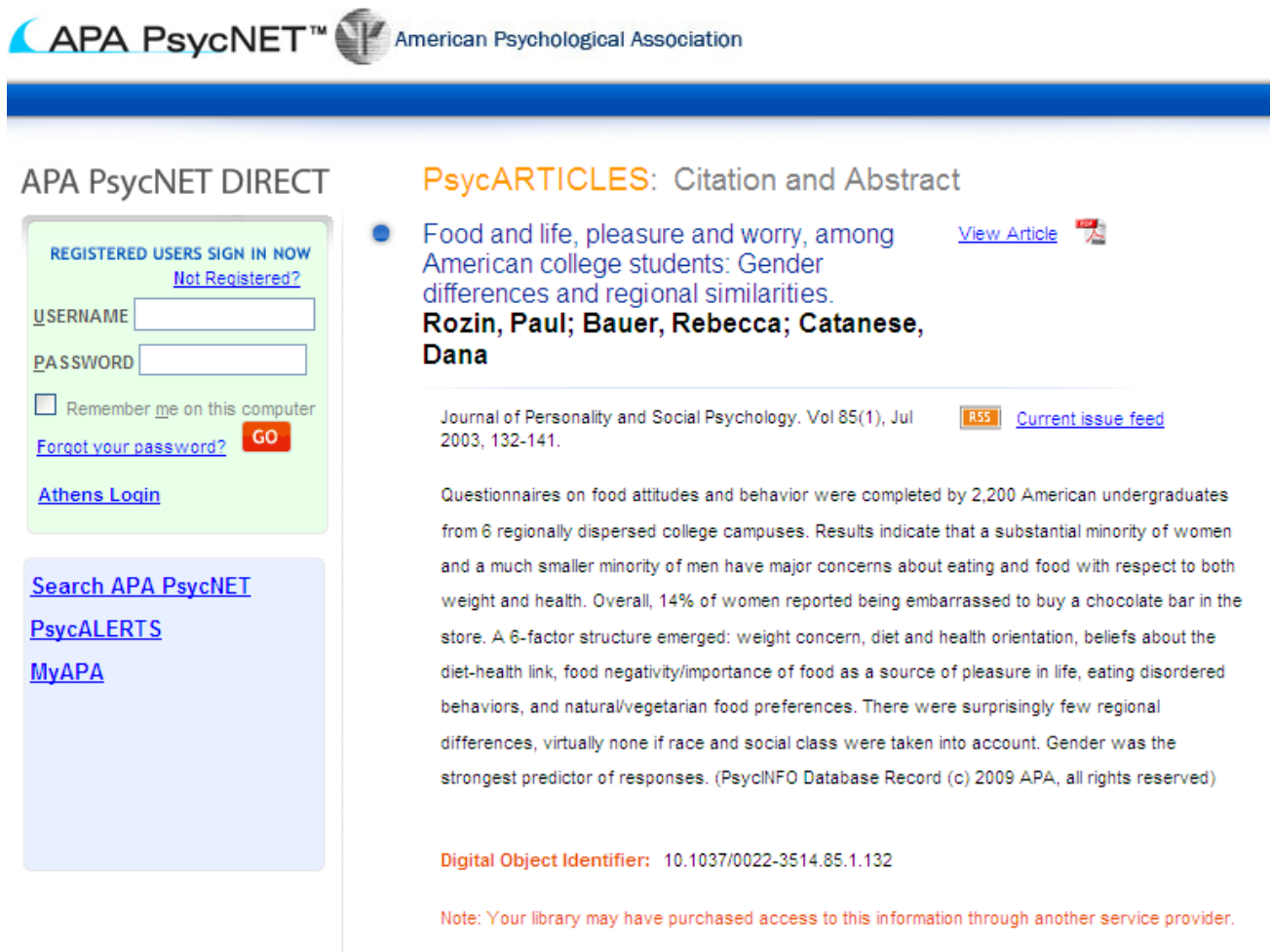
## HOW TO USE A DIGITAL OBJECT IDENTIFIER (DOI)

Try to relax, and to consider that you, as the writer, are proving doi's for use by the reader of your paper—much in the same way you provide the name of the publisher of a book you have referenced. Proving it is all you may ever need to do with a doi.

The purpose of a doi is to allow the reader to access easily, information about the material they are reading. **Key concept**—not necessarily to access the article or book itself, just information about it. The best way to explain it is to demonstrate. Try it right now. To resolve (the technical term) a doi, simply go to <http://dx.doi.org/> and enter the doi itself in the search box on that page. Using the article referenced on page 2 of this guide as our example, type in the doi search box (or, if you have this guide on your computer, copy/paste) 10.1037/0022-3514.85.1.132

Doing this should bring you to a Web page with detailed information about the article. In this way, the person reading a student's paper (or, more typically, a published article), can quickly and easily find out about items in the references for that paper or article.

Below is an image of the page the doi in question resolves to.



The screenshot shows the APA PsycNET website interface. At the top, there is a blue header with the APA PsycNET logo and the text "American Psychological Association". Below the header, the page is divided into two main sections. On the left, there is a "REGISTERED USERS SIGN IN NOW" section with a login form containing fields for "USERNAME" and "PASSWORD", a "Remember me on this computer" checkbox, and a "GO" button. Below the login form are links for "Athens Login", "Search APA PsycNET", "PsycALERTS", and "MyAPA". On the right, there is a section titled "PsycARTICLES: Citation and Abstract" with a blue bullet point. The article title is "Food and life, pleasure and worry, among American college students: Gender differences and regional similarities." by "Rozin, Paul; Bauer, Rebecca; Catanese, Dana". There are links for "View Article" and "Current issue feed". Below the title, the journal information is "Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, Vol 85(1), Jul 2003, 132-141." followed by an "RSS" icon. The abstract text follows, and at the bottom of the abstract is the "Digital Object Identifier: 10.1037/0022-3514.85.1.132". A note at the very bottom states: "Note: Your library may have purchased access to this information through another service provider."

NOTE: Simpler may be better—if you go to doi.org and scroll down the page a little, you will get the same resolver box as at dx.doi.org. Even simpler, just search the three letters *doi* in the Google search engine and you will find the doi resolver page within the first few hits.

### **A fuller understanding.**

The doi system is a useful tool for providing researchers with information about intellectual content of many types. The information can be accessed online.

Unlike the use of a Web address (which may disappear without notice), a doi never changes. It is a pointer. Where it points (the place where the information about an article, for example, is kept) may change, and even that information itself, but the doi will never change. That is why it needs to be resolved. Wherever the information goes, the doi will find it.

The following are a few more examples for articles available from a variety of TROY-provided databases. To help gain a better understanding of what a doi is and how it can assist the scholar, you can resolve these doi's by searching them at <http://dx.doi.org/>.

This is a doi for an article from the *Business Source Premier* database.

10.1509/jmkr.46.5.584

This is a doi for an article from the *Science Direct* database.

10.1016/j.jcrimjus.2009.07.001

This is a doi for an article from the *ProQuest Psychology Journals* database.

10.1007/s10964-007-9172-8

NOTE: While the publishers of the articles shown in the examples above offer fee-based access to the articles themselves directly from the page found by using the doi, Troy University patrons can access these materials at no charge via the Library databases (one of the resources provided by TROY).

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This guide, *Citing the World Wide Web in Style: American Psychological Association Style*, is one of the many resources available within the Troy University Libraries Tutorial.

Written by Mr. Jay Brandes, Global Campus Librarian. Updated 1/9/2012.