

APA REFERENCES LIST: SOCIAL MEDIA

How to cite what others share online

While you should be cautious referencing social media in your papers, public figures and academics are on social media and may share material that is current and relevant to your research.

A SOCIAL MEDIA POST:

- Follow this model for any kind of social media post on Facebook, Tumblr, LinkedIn, etc.
- Put the **complete post** (up to 20 words) in italics. Replicate emojis if possible.
- Indicate if the post includes images, videos, thumbnail links, or links to other posts.
- The link to the post can be shortened to the **host name**.

Gaiman, N. (2020, February 14). *It's #ValentinesDay and I'm thinking of the extraordinary UNHCR staff I've met—like Nida—who put their life and soul [Images attached] [Status update]. Facebook. <https://www.facebook.com/>*

A TWEET:

- Give the author's name (or institution), followed by their **Twitter handle** (beginning with @).

De la Cova, C. [@Bonesholmes]. (2020, Feb 2). *The CSI effect on cold case investigations [Link attached] [Tweet]. Twitter. <https://twitter.com/Bonesholmes/status/1224073809084452865>*

A POST ON AN ONLINE FORUM:

- Write the name of the commenter or their username in square brackets.
- Indicate whether it is a post or comment in **square brackets**.
- Put the text of the post in **italics**.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration [nasa]. (2021, March 16). *We're the NASA team in charge of 'science central' for the International Space Station. Ask us anything! [Online forum post]. Reddit. https://www.reddit.com/r/space/comments/m6cjs3/were_the_nasa_team_in_charge_of_science_central/*

A COMMENT:

- **Do not** put the text of a comment in italics.
- Provide a link to the comment itself, if possible.

Chartrand, R. (2020, August 30). *Removing, toppling, destroying, burning, etc,etc, statues / names that represent historical leaders that have built our country to what it is [Comment on the article "John A. Macdonald loses his head as protesters topple statue"]. Montreal Gazette. <https://montrealgazette.com/news/local-news/john-a-mcdonald-loses-his-head-as-protesters-topple-his-statue>*

For more information, consult the APA manual or contact the Academic Skills Centre.