

The **biblatex-asa** Package

American Sociological Association Style for **biblatex**

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Abstract

The **biblatex-asa** package provides a complete implementation of the American Sociological Association (ASA) citation and bibliography style for LaTeX using the **biblatex** package. This implementation follows the format requirements of the *American Sociological Review* and the ASA Style Guide.

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1 Introduction

The `biblatex-asa` package provides citation and bibliography formatting according to the American Sociological Association (ASA) style guide. This package is particularly useful for students writing sociology papers or theses, researchers submitting to sociology journals, and anyone requiring ASA-style citations and references.

1.1 Features

- Complete ASA citation and bibliography formatting
- Support for all major entry types (articles, books, datasets, etc.)
- Proper handling of multiple authors and publication dates
- Correct page number formatting for different entry types
- Full integration with `biblatex`
- Unicode support via `biber` backend

2 Requirements

You will need:

- **LaTeX distribution:** TeX Live 2020 or later, MiKTeX 2020 or later
- **biblatex:** Version 3.14 or later
- **biber:** Version 2.14 or later (recommended backend)
- **etoolbox:** Version 2.5 or later (automatically loaded by `biblatex`)

The package is built on top of `biblatex`'s `standard` and `authoryear` styles.

3 Installation

3.1 Automatic Installation

Install through your TeX distribution's package manager:

- **TeX Live:** `tlmgr install biblatex-asa`
- **MiKTeX:** Available through MiKTeX Package Manager
- **Overleaf:** Pre-installed and ready to use

3.2 Manual Installation

For local use, copy these files to your project directory:

- `biblatex-asa.sty`
- `asa.bbx`
- `asa.cbx`

For system-wide installation, place files in your local `texmf` tree under `texmf/tex/latex/biblatex-asa/` and run `texhash` (TeX Live) or `initexmf -update-fndb` (MiKTeX).

4 Usage

4.1 Basic Usage

Load the package in your document preamble:

```
\documentclass{article}
\usepackage{biblatex-asa}
\addbibresource{references.bib}

\begin{document}
This is a citation \parencite{key2023}.
\textcite{author2022} argues that...
\printbibliography
\end{document}
```

4.2 Direct Style Usage

Alternatively, use the ASA style directly:

```
\usepackage[backend=biber,style=asa]{biblatex}
\addbibresource{references.bib}
```

4.3 Package Options

giveninits Use initials for given names

nogiveninits Use full given names (default)

backend=biber Use biber backend (recommended)

backend=bibtex Use bibtex backend

Example:

```
\usepackage[giveninits,backend=biber]{biblatex-asa}
```

5 Citation Commands

The package supports standard biblatex citation commands:

\parencite{key} Parenthetical citation: (Author Year)

\textcite{key} In-text citation: Author (Year)

\cite{key} Bare citation: Author Year

Examples:

- **\parencite{smith2020}** → (Smith 2020)
- **\textcite{jones2019}** argues... → Jones (2019) argues...
- **\parencite[p. 42]{doe2018}** → (Doe 2018, p. 42)

6 Compilation

Compile documents using this sequence:

1. **pdflatex document.tex**
2. **biber document**
3. **pdflatex document.tex**
4. **pdflatex document.tex**

For Overleaf users, the compilation sequence is handled automatically.

7 ASA Format Implementation

7.1 Citation Format

- Single author: (Smith 2020)
- Two authors: (Smith and Jones 2020)
- Three or more authors: (Smith et al. 2020)
- Multiple citations: (Smith 2020; Jones 2021)

7.2 Bibliography Format

- Authors: First author inverted (Last, First), subsequent authors normal order
- All authors listed (no "et al." truncation in bibliography)
- Articles: Journal name italicized, volume(issue):pages format
- Books: Publisher and location information
- Book chapters: "Pp. X–Y in..." formatting
- Proper handling of publication dates, DOIs, and URLs

8 Supported Entry Types

The package supports all standard `bibtex` entry types with ASA formatting:

- `@article` - Journal articles
- `@book` - Books
- `@incollection` - Book chapters
- `@inproceedings` - Conference proceedings
- `@misc` - Miscellaneous sources
- `@online` - Online sources
- `@report` - Reports
- `@thesis` - Theses and dissertations

9 Troubleshooting

References not showing Ensure you run `biber` (not `bibtex`).

File not found errors Check package installation or ensure files are in project directory.

Encoding problems Save all files as UTF-8.

10 License and Contact

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GitHub: <https://github.com/yuqi-liang-qiqi/biblatex-asa>