# 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 provides native ASA formatting without requiring external style dependencies.

# Contents

# 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

- Anyone requiring ASA-style citations and references

## 1.1 Key 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

- No external style dependencies required

- Full integration with `biblatex`

# 2 Installation

## 2.1 Package Requirements

The `biblatex-asa` package requires:

- A working LaTeX distribution (TeX Live, MiKTeX, etc.)

- The `biblatex` package

- The `biber` backend (recommended)

## 2.2 Installation Methods

### 2.2.1 Local Installation

For use in a single project, copy the following files to your project directory:

- `biblatex-asa.sty`

- `asa.bbx`

- `asa.cbx`

### 2.2.2 System-wide Installation

For system-wide installation, place the files in your local `texmf` tree:

`texmf/tex/latex/biblatex-asa/`

After installation, update your filename database:

- TeX Live: run `texhash` or `mktexlsr`

- MiKTeX: run `initexmf -update-fndb`

# 3 Usage

## 3.1 Basic Usage

To use the biblatex-asa package in your document:

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

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

## 3.2 Direct Style Usage

Alternatively, you can use the ASA style directly with biblatex:

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

## 3.3  Package Options

The biblatex-asa package accepts the following 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 with options:

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

# 4  Citation Commands

## 4.1  Standard Commands

The package supports all standard biblatex citation commands:

**\parencite**  Parenthetical citation: (Author Year)

**\textcite**  In-text citation: Author (Year)

**\cite**  Bare citation: Author Year

**\footcite**  Footnote citation

## 4.2  Convenience Commands

The package also provides convenience commands:

**\asacite**  Equivalent to \parencite

**\asatextcite**  Equivalent to \textcite

# 5  Compilation

To compile a document using biblatex-asa:

1. pdflatex document.tex

2. biber document

3. pdflatex document.tex

4. pdflatex document.tex

# 6 ASA Format Implementation

## 6.1 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)

## 6.2 Bibliography Format

- Authors: First author inverted (Last, First), others normal order

- All authors listed (no "et al." truncation)

- Proper handling of organizational authors

- Correct page number formatting

# 7 Supported Entry Types

The `biblatex-asa` package supports all standard `biblatex` entry types with proper 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

# 8 Troubleshooting

## 8.1 Common Issues

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

**File not found errors** Check that all package files are in the correct location

**Encoding problems** Save all files as UTF-8

# 9 License and Contact

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# 10 Acknowledgments

This package was developed independently to provide comprehensive ASA formatting for the `biblatex` system. Thanks to the `biblatex` and `biber` development teams for their excellent software.