

Alden Library

Quinsigamond Community College

Citing Sources Using Modern Language Association (MLA) Style

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The MLA style is used primarily by students in the arts and humanities disciplines.

This guide provides examples of MLA's format for a list of works cited. The "Works Cited" page is your bibliography—the list of the sources you used in writing your research paper. It appears at the end of the paper, arranged alphabetically.

The guidelines included here are examples and in no way replace the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*. 7th ed. New York: Modern Language Association of America, 2009.

A copy is shelved in the library: **REF LB 2369 .G53 2009**.

For examples of parenthetical citations, which is how your paper refers to the sources you cite, look on the last page of this guide.

What is new in this 7th edition:

- Use italics for titles instead of underlining
- Indicate the medium (format) where the source appeared, such as
 - Print
 - Web
 - DVD, CD, CD-ROM
 - Television, Radio, Performance
- URLs (uniform resource locators) are no longer required but may be included to help your reader find the source you cited.

The general layout of the works cited page is shown—and described—here:

The first line of each source is flush with the left margin; the second and succeeding lines are indented 1/2 inch (or five spaces) from the left margins. The entire list should be double-spaced. Each entry is in alphabetical order.

The elements needed for each kind of citation are given as a pattern within each example section.

"Works Cited" Examples for Sources in Print Format

A Book by a Single Author

Author. *Title of Book*. Place of Publication: Publisher, Year of Publication. Medium (format) consulted.

Morrison, Toni. *Playing in the Dark: Whiteness and the Literary Imagination*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1992. Print.

Kasson, John F. *Civilizing the Machine: Technology and Republican Values in America 1776–1900*. New York: Penguin, 1976. Print.

A Book by Two or Three Authors

Author's last name, first name, and subsequent author(s) first name last name [in the order in which they appear]. *Title of Book*. Place of Publication: Publisher, Year of Publication. Medium (format) consulted.

Eggs, Suzanne, and Diane Slade. *Analyzing Casual Conversation*. London: Cassell, 1997. Print.

A Book by More than Three Authors

List only the first author, followed by et al. *Title of Book*. Place of Publication: Publisher, Year of Publication. Medium (format) consulted.

Bull, H., et al. *The Near East*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1990. Print.

A Book by One or More Editors

First editor's last name, comma, then first name and second editor's first name last name. *Title of Book*. Place of Publication: Publisher, Year of Publication. Medium (format) consulted.

For subsequent editors (or authors), the first names are listed first in the order in which they appear. For a single editor, add a comma and ed and period; for more than one editor, add a comma and eds and period.

Con-Davis, Robert and Ronald Schleiffer, eds. *Contemporary Literary Criticism: Literary and Cultural Studies*. New York: Longman, 1989. Print

A Work in an Anthology or Compilation

Author's name. "Title of article." Title of Book. Ed. [for editor] first name last name. Place of Publication: Publisher, Year: pages. Medium (format) consulted.

Moraveich, N. "The Romanticization of the Prostitute in Dostoevsky's Fiction." *The Image of the Prostitute in Modern Literature*. Ed. Pierre L. Horn and Mary Beth Pringle. New York: Ungar, 1984: 53-61. Print.

Jones, James. "Daydreaming." *Fictions*. Comp. and ed. Lawrence Smith. New York: Yale University Press, New York: Harper, 1968: 127-35. Print.

A Multi-Volume Work

When using two or more volumes of a multi-volume set, cite the total number of volumes in the set.

Lucas, Robert E., Jr. and Thomas J. Sargent, eds. *Rational Expectations and Econometric Practice*. 2 vols. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1981. Print.

Doyle, Arthur Conan. *The Oxford Sherlock Holmes*. Ed. Owen Dudley Edwards. 9 vols. New York: Oxford UP, 1993. Print.

When using only one volume in a multi-volume work, insert the number of the volume you are using between the title and the publication information for that volume.

Lucas, Robert E., Jr. and Thomas J. Sargent, eds. *Rational Expectations and Econometric Practice*. Vol. 1. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1981. Print.

A Government Publication

In most cases, an author is not listed. Instead of using an author's name, cite the office responsible for the publication. State the name of the government first, followed by the name of the agency.

United States. Cong. Senate. Subcommittee on the Constitution of the Committee of the Judiciary. *Hearing on the English Language Amendment*. 98th Cong., 2nd sess. S. Res. 167. Washington: GPO, 1984. Print.

Connecticut. Dept. of Higher Education. *Community Colleges*. Hartford: State Publishing Office, 1999. Print.

An Encyclopedia Article

Author(s) name(s). "Title of the entry." *Title of the reference work*. Number for the edition (if any).
Date. Medium (format) consulted

This pattern is used for encyclopedias that are regularly updated. For encyclopedias that may only have one edition, such as subject encyclopedias, give the place of publication and the publisher.

If the reference work is arranged alphabetically, volume and page numbers are not necessary.

Signed Encyclopedia Article

Give the author first.

Garvey, Lawrence. "El Paso, Illinois." *Encyclopedia Americana*. 1982 ed. Print.

Posner, Rebecca. "Romance Languages." *The New Encyclopedia Britannica: Macropedia*.
15th ed. 1987. Print.

Unsigned Encyclopedia Article

Give the title of the article first.

"Mealworm." *Encyclopedia Britannica*. 10th ed. 1987. Print.

An Article in a Scholarly Journal

Author. "Title of Article." *Title of Journal*. Volume number. Issue number (Year): Page(s). Medium.

Give both the volume and issue numbers, separated by a period. For example, volume 12, no. 8 appears as: 12.8 If the volume number is not used, provide the issue number.

Jakupcak, Matthew, et al. "Anger, hostility, and aggression among Iraq and Afghanistan war veterans reporting PTSD and subthreshold PTSD." *Journal of Traumatic Stress*. 20.6 (2007): 945-954. Print.

Manheim, Leonard F. "Outside Looking In: Evidences of Primal–Scene Fantasy in Hawthorne’s Fiction." *Literature and Psychology*. 31.1 (1981): 4-15. Print.

Murphy, Karen L., Roseanne DePasquale, and Erin McNamara. "Meaningful Connections: Using Technology in Primary Classrooms." *Young Children*. 58.6 (2003): 12-18. Print.

Literary Criticism

A series containing literary criticism includes reprinted material that would not otherwise be available to the student. Reprints often come from published journal articles or from chapters in books. The pattern for citing literary criticism combines a journal article citations or a book chapter citation for the original work with the book citation of the set in which the reprint appears.

Two examples are given here.

1. An **article** drawn from a **journal**:

Author's name. "Title of article." *Journal Title*. Vol.issue. (Original publication date): pages. Rpt. in *Title of Criticism Series*. Ed. Name. Vol. Place of Publication: Publisher, Date. Pages. Medium

Morrison, Jago. "Narrative and Unease in Ian McEwan's Later Fiction." *Critique* 42.3

(Spring 2001): 253-68. Rpt. in *Twentieth-Century Literary Criticism*. Ed. Janet Witalec.

Vol. 127. Detroit: Gale, 2003. 212-20. Print.

2. A **chapter** drawn from a **book**:

Author's name. "Title of Chapter." *Book Title*. (Original publication date): pages. Rpt. in *Title of Criticism Series*. Ed. Name. Vol. Place of Publication: Publisher, Date. Pages. Medium

Brossard, Nicole. "Poetic Politics." *The Politics of Poetic Form: Poetry and Public Policy*.

Ed. Charles Bernstein. New York: Roof Books, 1990. 73-82. Rpt. in *Twentieth-Century*

Literary Criticism. Ed. Janet Witalec. Vol.127. Detroit: Gale, 2003. 3-8. Print.

An Article in a Daily Newspaper

Author name. "Title of the article." *Newspaper Title*. Day Mon. Year. Edition and/or sec. [if known]: page. Medium (format) consulted. For more than one page, give a page range or use a plus sign (+) after the page number if the article does not appear on consecutive pages.

Note: dates are formatted in European style, giving the day first, then the month (using a 3-letter abbreviation except for May, June, and July), then the year.

Murphy, Sean P. "Decisions on Status of Tribe Draw Fire." *Boston Globe*. 27 Mar. 2001. A2.
Print.

"Beyond the election; Overseas, the testing begins already." *USA Today*. 7 Nov. 2008. Final
ed.: 19A. Print.

Wilford, John Noble. "In a Golden Age of Discovery, Faraway Worlds Beckon." *New York Times*. 9 Feb. 1997, late ed., sec.1: 1+. Print.

An Article from a Weekly Magazine

For magazines published daily or weekly, give the complete date.

Traub, James. "The Hearts and Minds of City College." *New Yorker* 7 June 1993: 42-53. Print.

Will, George F. "In Defense of the Mother Tongue." *Newsweek* 8 July 1985: 78. Print.

An Article from a Monthly Magazine

For magazines published monthly, give month and year.

Monteagudo, Jesse G. "The Other Side of Silence: Men's Lives and Gay Identities: A Twentieth-Century History." *Lambda Book Report*. June 1998: 19. Print.

An Editorial, A Review, or an Interview

Use basic patterns, but include the type of content:

Editorial

Interview—list the name of the person interviewed as the first element

Rev. of name of work.

Editorial

"Tough Cops, Not Brutal Cops." Editorial. *New York Times* 5 May 1994, late ed.: A26.
Print.

Film review

Travers, Peter. "Nice catch: Tim Burton's magic fable finds deep truth in fantasy." Rev. of *Big Fish*. *Rolling Stone*. 13 May 2004: 84. Print.

Interview—printed article without a title

Villalobos, Joaquin. Interview. *Mother Jones* July 1992: 8-10. Print.

Interview—printed article with a title

Drabble, Margaret. Interview. "Margaret Drabble: Cautious Feminist." By Diana Cooper-Clark. *Atlantic Monthly* Nov. 1980: 69-75. Print.

Interview—of a person for a report

Gaubatz, Piper. Personal Interview. 26 Feb. 2009.

"Works Cited" Examples for Non-print Sources

A video

Title of Film. Dir. [for director] Perf. [for performer]. Distributor, year of release. Medium.

War dance. Dir. Sean Fine and Andrea Nix Fine. Image Entertainment, 2008. DVD.

Vanessa Williams accepts Human Rights Campaign Award. hrcmedia. *YouTube*. 26 Feb. 2008.
Web. 9 Sept. 2009.

A cartoon

Author. "Title of cartoon." *Title of website*. Date. Medium. Date viewed.

Price, Hilary. "The Trap." *Rhymes with Orange*. 1 Sept. 2009. Web. 10 Oct. 2009.

A printed form in a newspaper would look like this:

Price, Hilary. "Rhymes with Orange." Comic strip. *Springfield Republican*
[Springfield, MA]. 1 Sept. 2009: D4. Print.

"Works Cited" Examples for Sources Found on the Web

A website

Author. *Title of site*. Publisher or sponsor or, if none, N.p. Date of publication or, if none, n.d. Medium (Web). Date of access.

Peterson, Susan Lynn. *The Life of Martin Luther*. susanlynnpeterson.com, 20 Aug. 2005. Web. 29 Sept. 2009.

An Article on a Website, or a page that is part of a larger website

Author. "Title of article or page." *Title of site*. Publisher or sponsor or, if none, N.p. Date of publication or, if none, n.d. Medium (Web). Date of access. Note: only give the URL if it is necessary for clarity.

Author of website known:

Stolley, Karl et. al. "MLA Formatting and Style Guide." *The OWL at Purdue*. 23 Sept. 2009. Web. 30 Sept. 2009.

Author of website not known:

"NCTE / IRA Standards for the English Language Arts." *National Council of Teachers of English*, 2009. Web. 30 Aug. 2009.

Victorian Web. 20 November 2003. Web. 30 Sept. 2009. <<http://www.victorianweb.org/>>

An Article or Publication retrieved from an Electronic Database

Author. "Title of Article." Publication Name. Volume.number (if provided). Publication Date: pages. *Database name*. Date of access.

Academic OneFile from Gale Cengage

Smith, Martin. "World Domination for Dummies." *Journal of Despotry*. Feb. 2000: 66-72. *Academic OneFile*. Gale Cengage. Web. 19 Feb. 2005.

Academic Search Premier from EBSCOhost:

Rosenzweig, Jane. "Can TV Improve Us?" *The American Prospect* July 1999: 58. *Academic Search Premier*. EBSCO. Web. 20 Sept. 2003.

Examples of Parenthetical Citations

Writers must acknowledge in the body of their papers where they found the information and ideas they are writing about. Writers indicate that the work is not their own, but instead is an idea, piece of information, direct quote or indirect paraphrasing of what another person has written. They make this clear by stating in the essay where the original text was found. This is done by briefly noting the author and page number for each particular piece of information. In MLA style, this is known as a *parenthetical citation*. Readers use that information to find the complete citation in the list of works cited. Two examples are provided here.

Direct quote, authors are named in the text:

In their book on the power of social networks, Rob Cross and Andrew Parker describe attributes of an effective leader. Such leaders “envisioned tasks as challenges sufficiently large and complex that they demanded collaboration” (126).

Idea derived from a literary criticism, author is named in the parentheses:

In *The Woman Warrior*, Maxine Hong Kingston uses her book to look at the cultural challenges of growing up in America in a community with values firmly rooted in China. She examines, as one critic points out, the messages girls are taught: to achieve, but also to know their proper—subservient—place (Franks, 7245).

Sources referenced above appear this way in the works cited page:

Works Cited

Cross, Rob and Andrew Parker. *The Hidden Power of Social Networks*. Boston: Harvard Business School Press, 2004. Print.

Franks, Carol. “The Woman Warrior.” *Masterplots*. Ed. Frank N. Magill. Rev. 2nd ed. Vol. 12. Pasadena, CA: Salem Press, 1996. 7244-7247. Print.