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## Preparing Bibliographic Citations: Modern Language Association (MLA)

**Source:** Modern Language Association of America. MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers. 6<sup>th</sup> ed. New York: MLA, 2003.

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

A copy is shelved in the library: **REF LB 2369 G53 2003**.

### **This handout refers to MLA format for a list of works cited.**

The “Works Cited” page is your **bibliography**: a list of the sources used in writing your research paper. It appears at the end of the paper, usually arranged alphabetically by author’s last name, with anonymous works arranged by the first significant word in the title. The first line of each source is flush with the left margin; the second and succeeding lines are indented 1/2 inch (or five typewriter spaces) from the left margins. The entire list should be double-spaced.

### **A Book: Single Author**

*Author. Title of Book. Place of Publication: Publisher, Year of Publication.*

Morrison, Toni. Playing in the Dark: Whiteness and the Literary Imagination.

Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1992.

Kasson, John F. Civilizing the Machine: Technology and Republican Values in

America 1776 – 1900. New York: Penguin, 1976.

### **A Book: Two Authors**

*Author’s last name first. Subsequent authors are listed first names first in the order in which they appear. Title of Book. Place of Publication: Publisher, Year of Publication.*

Eggs, Suzanne and Diane Slade. Analyzing Casual Conversation. London:

Cassell, 1997.

### **A Book by Two Authors/Editors**

*Author's last name first. Subsequent authors or editors [use ed.(s)]. Title of Book. Place of Publication: Publisher, Year of Publication.*

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

### **A Book by Three or More Authors**

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

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

### **A Work in an Anthology or Compilation**

*Author's name. "Title of article." Title of Book. Editor (use Ed.). Place of Publication: Publisher, Year: pages.*

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.

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

Hansberry, Lorraine. "A Raisin in the Sun." Black Theatre: A Twentieth-Century Collection of the Work of Its Best Playwrights. Ed. Lindsay Patterson. New York: Dodd, 1971: 221-76.

### **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.

## **A Multi-Volume Work continued...**

Doyle, Arthur Conan. The Oxford Sherlock Holmes. Ed. Owen Dudley Edwards.

9 vols. New York: Oxford UP, 1993.

*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.

## **An Encyclopedia Article**

*To cite an article in an encyclopedia, simply list the author of the entry (if there is one), the title of the entry, title of the reference work, the edition number (if any), and the date of the edition. Volume and page numbers are not necessary because entries in the sources are arranged alphabetically and are therefore easy to locate.*

## **Signed Encyclopedia Article**

*Give the author first.*

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

Posner, Rebecca. "Romance Languages." The New Encyclopedia

Britannica: Macropedia. 15<sup>th</sup> ed. 1987.

## **Unsigned Encyclopedia Article**

*Give the title of the article first.*

"Mealworm." Encyclopedia Britannica. 10<sup>th</sup> ed. 1987.

## **Literary Criticism**

Examples: *Contemporary Literary Criticism*, *Nineteenth Century Literary Criticism* and *Twentieth Century Literary Criticism*

The first example pertains to material drawn from **periodicals**:

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

(Spring 2001): 253-68. Reprinted in Twentieth – Century Literary Criticism. Ed. Janet

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

### **Literary Criticism continued...**

*Contemporary Literary Criticism, Nineteenth Century Literary Criticism and Twentieth Century Literary Criticism*

The second example pertains to material reprinted from a **book**:

Brossard, Nicole. "Poetic Politics." The Politics of Poetic Form: Poetry and Public Policy. Ed. Charles Bernstein. New York: Roof Books, 1990. 73-82. Reprinted in Twentieth-Century Literary Criticism. Ed. Janet Witalec. Vol. 127. Detroit: Gale, 2003. 3-8.

### **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. Senate. Subcommittee on the Constitution of the Committee of the Judiciary. Hearing on the English Language Amendment. 98<sup>th</sup> Cong., 2<sup>nd</sup> sess. S. Res. 167. Washington: GPO, 1984.

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

United States. Dept. of Education. Federal Children in American Classrooms. Washington: GPO, 1998.

### **A Periodical Article in a Continuously Paged Scholarly Journal**

*Author(s). "Title of Article." Title of Journal Volume number (Year): page(s).*

Huntington, John. "Science Fiction and the Future." College English 3 (1975): 340-58.

Davis, William D., Thomas Cleary, Michelle Donnelly, and Samuel Hellerman. "Using Sensor Signals to Analyze Fire." Fire Technology 39 (2003): 295-308.

### **An Article in a Scholarly Journal with Separate Pagination in Each Issue**

*Author. "Title of Article." Title of Journal Volume number. Issue number (Year): Page(s).* Give both the volume and issue numbers, separated by a period. For example, volume 12, no. 8 = 12.8

Spies, R.G. "War, Sports and Aggression: An Empirical Test of Two Rival Theories." American Anthropologist 4.2 (1973): 65-84.

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

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

### **An Article in a Daily Newspaper**

*Begin with the name of the author, if there is one, followed by the title of the article. Next, give the name of the newspaper, the date, and the page number (including the section letter). Use a plus sign (+) after the page number if the article does not appear on consecutive pages.*

Adande, J.A. "By George, Buckeye Wins Heisman Trophy." Washington Post 10 Dec.1995: D1+.

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

Jeromack, Paul. "This Once, a David of the Art World does Goliath a Favor." New York Times 13 July 2002, late ed.: B7+.

*If the section is marked with a number rather than a letter, handle the entry as follows:*

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

### **An Article from a Weekly Magazine**

*For magazines published daily, weekly, or monthly, omit the volume and issue numbers. Give the complete date for daily and weekly magazines; give month and year for monthly magazines.*

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

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

Weintraub, Arlene, and Laura Cohen. "A Thousand-Year Plan for Nuclear Waste." Business Week 6 May 2002: 94-96.

### **An Article from a Monthly Magazine**

Mehta, Pratap Bhanu. "Exploding Myths." New Republic 6 June 1998:17-19.

### **An Editorial**

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

### **A Review**

Towers, Robert. "Mystery Women." Rev. of Cat's Eye by Margaret Atwood. New York Review of Books 27 Apr. 1989: 50-51.

### **An Interview**

*Published interview without title:*

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

*Published interview with title:*

Drabble, Margaret. "Margaret Drabble: Cautious Feminist." By Diana Cooper-Clark. Atlantic Monthly November 1980: 69-75.

## The following pages contain information on How to Cite Electronic Resources

### Web Sources

Web Sources can be incredibly difficult to cite.

When you cite a web source, remember that your goal is to provide the kind of information needed to take a reader to the web page. That means you need to include:

- Name of the author or creator. (Web pages are sometimes authored by organizations, like the American Cancer Society.)
- Title of the web page (underlined).
- Date the page or project was created.
- Date when the researcher accessed the site.
- The URL <web address> Note the use of angled brackets around the electronic address; MLA requires them for clarity.

If no author is given for a web page or electronic source, start with and alphabetize by the title of the piece.

Example:

*Author(s). Name of Page. Date of Posting/Revision. Name of Institution affiliated with the site. Date of Access <web address>.*

Peterson, Susan Lynn. The Life of Martin Luther. 1999. 9 Mar. 2001

<<http://pweb.netcom/~supeters/luther.htm>>.

### An Article on a Website

*Author(s). "Article Title." Name of the website. Date of posting/revision. Name of institution/organization affiliated with the site. Date of Access <web address>.*

Author of website *known*:

Poland, Dave. "The Hot Button." Roughcut. 26 Oct 1998. Turner Network

Television 28 Oct. 1998 <<http://www.roughcut.com>>.

## **An Article on a Website continued...**

Author of website *unknown*:

"Using Modern Language Association (MLA) format." Purdue Online Writing Lab.

6 Feb. 2003 <<http://owl-english.purdue.edu>>.

## **A Personal Web Site**

*To document an online personal site, begin the entry with the name of the person who is created it (if given and relevant). Continue with the title of the site (underlined) or if there is no title, with a description such as Homepage (no quotations marks or underline necessary). The names of any institution of organization associated with the site; the date of access.*

Duncan, Donna. 6 Sept.1998 <<http://www.geocities.com/SoHo/Coffeehouse/1652/>>.

Klein-Smith, Sarah. Homepage .6 Sept.1998 <<http://members.aol.com/~sklein2>>.

Lee, Peggy Aliffi. Homepage. 8 June 1999 <<http://www.2.gasou.edu/factstaff/peggylee/>>.

## **A Scholarly Project**

The typical entry for an entire online scholarly project, information database or professional site consists of the following items:

1. Title of the site (underlined)
2. Name of the editor of the site (if given)
3. Electronic publication information, including version number (if relevant and if not part of the title), date of electronic publication or of the latest update, and name of any sponsoring institution or organization
4. Date of access and URL

Dickens Project. Ed. Jon Michael Varese. 1999. University of California, Santa

Cruz. 22 December 1999 <<http://www.ucsc.edu/dickens>>.

Victorian Women Writers Project. Ed. Perry Willet. May 2000. Indiana University. 26

June 2002 <<http://www.indiana.edu/~letrs/vwwp>>.

## **A Scholarly Project continued...**

Victorian Web. Ed. George Landow. 1994. Brown University. 6 Sept. 1998

<<http://www.stg.brown.edu/projects/hypertext/landow/victorian/victov.html>>.

Welcome to Biology. 15 Apr. 1999. Dept. of Biology, Georgia Southern University. 8

June 1999 <<http://www.bio.gasou.edu/>>.

## **A Professional Web Site**

Darling, Charles. "Ask Grammar." Guide to Grammar and Writing. 5 Oct. 1998

<<http://webster.commnet.edu/HP/pages/darling/original.htm>>.

Simons, Mark. Thomas Hardy Resources Library. 6 Sept. 1998

<<http://page.ripco;8080/~mws/hardy.html>>.

"Schistomiasis in U.S. Peace Corps Volunteers – Malawi, 1992" NMR: Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report. 30 Jul. 1993: 565 – 570. Center for Disease

Control and Prevention. 26 Jan 1996 <<http://www.cdc.gov/epo/mmwr/mmwr.html>>.

Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site. 3 Oct. 2001. National Park

Service. 19 Oct. 2001 <<http://www.nps.gov/abli>>.

"Testimony of Allen Ginsberg". Chicago Seven Conspiracy Trial 1969-1970.

Douglas O. Linder. School of Law, University of Missouri – Kansas City.

19 Nov. 1999 <<http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/Chicago7/Ginsberg.html>>.

### **An Article in an Online Journal or Magazine**

*Author(s). "Title of Article." Title of Journal Volume number. Issue (Year): Pages/Paragraphs. Date of Access <Electronic address>.*

Some electronic journal and magazines provide paragraphs or page numbers; include them if available.

Wheelis, Mark. "Investigating Disease Outbreaks Under a Protocol to the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention". Emerging Infectious Disease 6.6 (2000): 33 pars. 5 Dec. 2000 <<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/eid/vol6no6/wheelis.htm>>.

Dane, Gabrielle. "Reading Ophelia's Madness." Exemplaria 10.2 (1998). 22 June 2002 <<http://web.english.ufl.edu/english/exemplaria/danefram.htm>>.

### **An Article or Publication retrieved from an Electronic Database**

If you are citing an article or a publication that was originally issued in print form but that you retrieved from an *online database* that your library subscribes to, you should provide enough information so that the reader can locate the article. This way, they may locate it either in its original print form or retrieve it from the online database.

Provide the following information in your citation:

- Author's name (if not available, use the article title as the first part of the citation)
- Article Title
- Publication Name
- Publication Date
- Page Number/Range
- Database Name
- Service Name
- Name of the library where service was accessed
- Name of the town/city where service was accessed
- Date of Access
- URL of the *service* (but not the whole URL for the article, since it is very likely long and won't be able to be re-used by someone trying to retrieve the information)

**An Article or Publication retrieved from an Electronic Database cont.**

*Author. "Title of Article." Publication Name Volume Number (if necessary) Publication Date: pages. Database name. Service name. Library Name, City, State. Date of access <electronic address of the database>.*

The following is an example for an article retrieved from the database **Infotrac**. All the Infotrac databases are referred to as "Gale Group Databases." The Web address is <<http://www.infotrac.galegroup.com>>.

**Infotrac: Expanded Academic ASAP**

Smith, Martin. "World Domination for Dummies." Journal of Despotry. Feb.

2000: 66-72. Expanded Academic ASAP. Gale Group Databases.

Quinsigamond Community College, George I. Alden Library,

Worcester, MA. 19 February 2005 <<http://www.infotrac.galegroup.com>>.

Here's a few examples for databases accessed from **EBSCOhost**. EBSCOHost databases are noted as "EBSCO Publishing." The proper Web address is <<http://www.epnet.com>>.

**EBSCOhost: Academic Search Premier**

Rosenzweig, Jane. "Can TV Improve Us?" The American Prospect July 1999: 58.

Academic Search Premier. EBSCO Publishing. Quinsigamond Community

College, George I. Alden Library, Worcester, MA. 20 Sept.2003

<<http://www.epnet.com>>.

**EBSCOhost: MasterFILE Premier**

Prato, Lou. "How Much Is Too Much?" American Journalism Review June

1999: 74. MasterFILE Premier. EBSCO Publishing. Quinsigamond Community

College, George I. Alden Library, Worcester, MA. 20 Sept. 2000

<<http://www.epnet.com>>.

**EBSCOHost: Academic Search Premier**

Butler, Robert N. "Stem Cell Potential." Geriatrics 55.9 (2000): 15. Academic

Search Premier. EBSCO Publishing. Quinsigamond Community College, George I.

Alden Library, Worcester, MA. 20 July 2001 <<http://www.epnet.com>>.

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NOTE: The standards for documenting electronic and Internet sources are still being formulated. We have chosen to follow as closely as possible the examples set forth in the fifth edition of the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers.

5/4/03,07/15/05,08/18/05,01/10/06

## Basic Parts of a Citation

In general, citations will have four parts: **author, title, source, and year**. The main differences concern what source information is given.

	<i>Books</i>	<i>Articles</i>
<b>Source Information:</b>	Place of Publication Publisher	Periodical Title Volume/Issue numbers Page numbers

## Magazine/Journal Articles

An article citation will often include a month/season of publication, in addition to a volume number, issue number, and range of pages. In contrast to a book citation, you will not find a place of publication or publisher.

**Sample Article Citation from an InfoTrac Database**

Article Title  
Change in the global economy: an interview with Rosabeth Moss Kanter.  
(Interview) Paul Stonham. European Management Journal March 1994  
v12 n1 p29(7)

Article Author: Paul Stonham  
Journal Title: European Management Journal  
Date: March 1994  
Volume: v12  
Issue: n1  
Pages: p29(7)

Note: InfoTrac citations give the beginning page number followed by the total number of pages in parentheses.

**Sample Article Citation from the CINAHL Database**

Article Title: TI: Emerging innovations: caring in action  
Article Author: AU: Anderson-KH  
Journal Title Abbreviation: SO: International-Journal-for-Human-Caring (INT-J-HUM-CARING)  
Date: 1997  
Page: Spring; 1(1): 11  
Journal Title: International-Journal-for-Human-Caring  
Volume: 1  
Issue: 1  
Page: 11

ISSN (International Standard Serial Number): SN: 1091-5710

The above citations were created by the following institution: Webster University Library

"How to read a citation." Webster University Library. 15 July 2005 <<http://library.webster.edu/readcite.html>>.