Basic MLA "Works Cited" Format

Everett I. L. Baker Library, Norwalk Community College, Academic Year 2011-2012

The citations in this guide are only recommended examples and have not been approved by the MLA. For authorized examples, see: *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, 7th ed., New York: Modern Language Association, 2009.

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Print Materials

Periodical and Journal Articles -

Dawson, Nick. "Time's Up?" *Filmmaker* Spring 2009: 33-37. Print.

Author's name (Last, First). "Title of article & subtitle." ***Title of Journal*** **(*italicized*) Volume number (day Month year): Page number/s. Medium of publication**.

Kitts, Thomas M. "Documenting, Creating and Interpreting Moments of Definition: Monterey Pop, Woodstock and Gimme Shelter." *Journal of Popular Culture* 42.4 (2009): 715-730. Print.

Author's name (Last, First). "Title of article & subtitle." ***Title of Journal*** **Volume.Issue (if there is one) (Year): Page number/s. Medium of publication.**

Newspaper Article –

Peters, Jeremy W. "Court Upholds Paterson's Right to Pick Deputy." *New York Times* 23 Sept. 2009, late ed.: A1+. Print.

Author's name (Last, First). "Title of article & subtitle." ***Title of Newspaper*** **Date (day Month year), Edition (if there is one): Section: Page number and + sign if article continues on another page. Medium of publication.**

Book -

Norman, Marc. *What Happens Next : An History of American Screenwriting*. New York: Harmony, 2007. Print.

Author's name (Last, First). ***Title of Book: Subtitle*****. Place of publication: Publisher, Year book was published. Medium of publication.**

Book with Two Authors -

Stabile, Donald R., and Jeffrey A. Cantor. *The Public Debt of the United States: An Historical Perspective, 1775-1990*. Westport: Praeger, 1991. Print.

Authors' names in the same order as the title page (reverse name of first author only). ***Title of Book*****. Place of publication: Publisher, Date of publication. Medium of publication.**

Book with No Author, Use Editor's Name -

Ware, Chris, ed. *The Best American Comics 2007*. New York: Houghton, 2007. Print.

Similar to entry with author, except the name is followed by a comma and "ed." for editor. Use "eds." for multiple editors.

Multivolume Work –

Beaulieu, Elizabeth A., ed. *Writing African American Women; An Encyclopedia of Literature By and About Women of Color*. 2 vols. Westport: Greenwood Press, 2006. Print.

Author or editor's name (Last, First). *Title: Subtitle of Multivolume Work*. Number of volumes. Place of publication: Publisher, Date of publication. Medium of publication.

Previously Published Article in a Collection -

Simons, Marlise. "Love and Age: A Talk with Garcia Marquez." *New York Times Book Review* 7 Apr. 1985: 1+. Rpt. in *Contemporary Literary Criticism.* Ed. Daniel G. Marowski and Roger Matuz. Vol. 47. Detroit: Gale, 1988. 148-50. Print.

Author (Last name, First Name) of article. "Title of Article." *Original Title of Source (Journal or Book)* Volume. Issue (if journal) Date (day, month, year): Page numbers. Rpt. in (Reprinted in) *Title of Source*. Editor's name. Volume number. Place of publication: Publisher, Year of publication. Page numbers. Medium of publication.

A Work in a Printed Anthology: Citing a Poem, Short Story, Essay, Song or Other Work -

Lawrence, D.H. "The Rocking Horse Winner." *The Oxford Book of Short Stories.* Comp. V.S. Prichett. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2001. 275-289. Print.

Author (Last name, First Name). Title of "Poem", "Short Story", "Essay", or "Song." *Title of Book*. Editor's name. Place of publication: Publisher, Date of publication. Page numbers. Medium of publication.

Databases

Article from a Full-Text Online Database –

Burka, Paul. "Road Warrior." *Texas Monthly* 35.6 (June 2007): 10-14. *Academic Search Premier*. Web. 12 June 2007.

Author (Last name, First Name)."Article Title." ***Journal Title*** **Date (day Month year): edition (if given), page number or some indicator of article length.** ***Online Database name.*** **Medium of Publication. The day you accessed this (day Month year).**

Article in a Specialized or Subject Database –

Creedon, Sile A. "Healthcare workers' hand decontamination practices: compliance with recommended guidelines." *Journal of Advanced Nursing* 51.3 (2005): 208-216. *Health Source: Nursing/Academic Edition*. Web. 9 Feb. 2011.

Author (Last name, First Name)."Article Title." ***Journal Title*** **Date (day Month year): edition (if given), page number or some indicator of article length.** ***Online Database name.*** **Medium of Publication. The day you accessed this (day Month year).**

Hagedorn, John M. "The Relationship Between Rap and Gangs Has Been Misunderstood." *Opposing Viewpoints: Gangs*. Ed. Adela Soliz. Detroit: Greenhaven Press, 2009. *Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center*. 9 Dec. 2011.

Author of article (Last name, First Name). "Title of Article." ***Original Title of Source (Journal or Book)*****. Editor's name. Place of publication: Publisher, Year of publication.** ***Online Database Name.*** **Medium of publication. The day you accessed this (day Month year).**

Web sites

It is important to ask critical questions, particularly when using "open internet sources" found via search engines such as "Google." What do you know about the author? The date of the information? Focus or bias of the site? Are there references to other sources? For more details about "Information Literacy" please see our Information Literacy Subject Guide.

Articles and other information from Web sites -

A Note on the Use of URL's in MLA:

MLA no longer requires the use of URLs in citations. Web addresses are not static and often change. Documents may also appear in multiple places on the web. If a URL is presented, give it immediately following the date of access enclosed in angle brackets < >. (MLA 182)

Article from an Online Journal –

Silberman, Steve. "The Invisible Enemy." *Wired* Feb. 2007. Web. 9 Feb. 2011.

<http://www.wired.com/wired/archive/15.02/enemy.html>.

Author (Last name, First Name)."Article Title." ***Journal Title*** **Date (day Month year). Medium of Publication. The day you accessed this (day Month year). <URL (when available)>.**

A Poem, Short Story, Essay, Song or Other Work on a Web Site -

Lennon, John W. and Paul J. McCartney. "Hey Jude" *LYRICSFREAK*. n. d. Web. 8 Dec. 2011 <http://

www.lyricsfreak.com/b/beatles/hey+jude_20014845.html>.

Authors' names (Last, First and First Last) (reverse name of first author only). Title of "Poem", "Short Story", "Essay", "Song" or "Other. ***Name of Website.*** **(n.d. = no date when published online) Medium of Publication. The day you accessed this (day Month year). <URL (when available)>.**

Online Government Document –

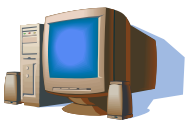
DeNavas-Walt, Carmen, et al. U.S Census Bureau. "Income, Poverty and Health Insurance Coverage in

the United States: 2010." *Current Population Reports*. September 2011. Web. 23 Nov. 2011.

<http://www.census.gov/prod/2011pubs/p60-239.pdf>.

Name of person who created the site (if available) (Last name, First Name), et al. (if more than two authors). Name of institution or organization associated with the site (if available). ***Title of Site*****. Date of information. Medium of Publication. The day you accessed this (day Month year). <URL (when available)>.**

E-mail

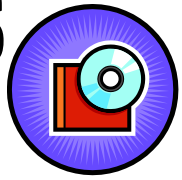


E-mail -

Ellis, Rose R. "Assistance with MLA Handout." Email to Todd C. Hampton. 3 Oct. 2009. E-mail.

E-mail author's name (Last, First and Initial.). "Subject of e-mail message." E-mail to receiver's name. The day you received this message (day Month year). E-mail.

Other Types of Sources



Personal In-Person Interview -

Tran-Sommers, Ann. Personal interview. 26 Sept. 2002.

Person interviewed (Last name, First Name). Type of interview. Date interview took place.

Media

Streaming Media –

The Turning Torso, Malmo. Films Media Group, 2007. *Films On Demand*. Web. 04 Oct. 2011.

***Title.* Distributor, date. *Database.* Medium of Publication. The day you accessed this (day Month year).**

Brian Williams/Tom Costello. "Engineers Inspect Washington Monument for Quake Damage". *NBC Learn*. NBCUniversal Media, LLC. 09/27/2011. Web. 19 Nov. 2011.

Reporters. "Title of program." *Database.* Publisher. Date of program. Medium of Publication. The day you accessed this (day Month year).

DVD –

The Stepford Wives. Dir. Bryan Forbes. Perf. William Goldman, Katharine Ross, Paula Prentiss, and Peter Masterson. 1975. Paramount DVD, 2004. DVD.

***Title.* Director. "You may include other data that seem pertinent – such as names of the screen writer, performers and producer between the title and the distributor" (MLA 197). Original release date. Distributor, date. Medium of Publication.**

Video –

It's a Wonderful Life. Dir. Frank Capra. Perf. James Stewart, Donna Reed, Lionel Barrymore, and Thomas Mitchell. 1946. Kartes Video Communications, 1984. Videocassette.

Title. **Director. "You may include other data that seem pertinent – such as names of the screen writer, performers and producer between the title and the distributor" (MLA 197). Original release date. Distributor, date. Medium of Publication.**

Podcast –

Johnson, Charles Spurgeon. "Interview with George Johnson, Mound Bayou, Mississippi, September 1941 (part 6 of 6)." *Voices From the Days of Slavery*. Library of Congress, Archive of Folk Culture, American Folklife Center, Washington, DC. 1941. Web. 14 Oct. 2009.

Author (Last, First Name). "Title of Podcast." ***Name of Website or Program Series*** **(if available). Organization. Date of publication. Medium of Publication. The day you accessed this (day Month year).**

In-Text Citation

Why is "In-text" Citation Necessary?

The parenthetical reference "(Townsend 10)" indicates that the quotations come from page 10 of a work by Townsend. Given the author's last name, your readers can find complete publication information for the source in the alphabetically arranged list of works cited that follows the text of your paper (MLA Handbook 214).

Another reason "in-text" citation is necessary is to avoid plagiarism. Plagiarizing as defined by Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, available in *Credo Reference*:

"to steal and pass off (the ideas or words of another) as one's own: use (another's production) without crediting the source" (Merriam).

What Information is Required?

"References in the text must clearly point to specific sources in the list of works cited" (MLA Handbook 214).

"Identify the location of the borrowed information as specifically as possible" (215).

Give only the information needed to identify the source. Try to be brief. Usually the last name of the author and the page of the entry is necessary. Try to place the parenthesis at the end of the sentence to minimize any interruption (MLA Handbok 216-217).

How to do it?

Single Author

The parenthetical documentation in the following two examples indicates the information was found on page142 of a work by Rivero.

By the late 1980s, several changes had occurred in the Los suegros fictional environment (Rivero 142).

or

Rivero writes about several changes that had occurred in the Los suegros fictional environment (142).

Two or More Authors - Names in Text

Others, like Jakobson and Waugh (210-15), hold the opposite point of view.

Three or more authors

Others, like Jakobson et al. (210-15), hold the opposite opinion.

Two or More Authors - Names in Reference

Others hold the opposite point of view (Jakobson and Waugh 210-15).

Three or more authors

Others hold the opposite point of view (Jakobson et al. 210-15).

Corporate Author

The federal government has funded research concerning consumer protection and consumer transactions with online pharmacies (Food and Drug Administration 125).

Works with No Author

Several critics of the concept of the transparent society ask if a large society would be able to handle the complete loss of privacy (Surveillance Society 115).

Without an author's name use the title of the work instead.

MLA "In-text" Citation for Electronic Sources

The most important point to remember is that your reader must be able to quickly look up your citation in your Works Cited page.

Examples of Electronic Sources

Electronic Reference Database

The following quotation comes from the online reference encyclopedia Britannica Online.

The striking colour, emphatic brushwork, and contoured forms of his work powerfully influenced the current of Expressionism in modern art ("Gogh, Vincent van").

Web page

Internet citations follow the style of printed works. Personal or corporate author, page number, and date of publication should be given if they exist on the website. (If none of this exists use other sources!)

Formatting Your Paper

- **Use a 1" margin**.

- Starting on the first page of your paper, use a **"Header"** (aligned to the right) with **your last name and page numbers.**
- **Use a 12 point font**.

- In list of **Works Cited alphabetize entries** by author's last name. If no author, use *Title*.

- For entries longer than one line **indent second and subsequent lines** of each citation by a 1/2" ("tab" once.)

- **Double space all entries.**

For Additional Help or Information

Ask a reference librarian at the Information Desk in the Library or seek assistance from ***NCC's Writing Center*** <http://www.ncc.commnet.edu/dept/writingcenter/default.asp>.

MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers. 7th ed. New York: Modern Language Association.

2003. REF LB2369 .G53 2009 (available at the Info Desk).

Lipson, Charles. Cite Right: A Quick Guide to Citation Styles-MLA, APA, Chicago, the Sciences,

Professions, and More. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2011. Print.

REF PN171.F56L55 2011 (available at the Info Desk).

For further MLA examples: <http://www.ncc.commnet.edu/library/citations/citing.htm>

Information Literacy Tutorial:

Information Literacy Subject Guide.

The citations in this guide are only recommended examples and have not been approved by the MLA.

Your "Works Cited" should be on a separate, last page. Please see samples on next page.

Works Cited

Beaulieu, Elizabeth A., ed. *Writing African American Women; An Encyclopedia of Literature By and About Women of Color*. 2 vols. Westport: Greenwood Press, 2006. Print.

Berardo, Felix. "Family Privacy: Issues and Concepts." *Journal of Family Issues* 19.1 (1998): 4-9. Print.

Creedon, Sile A. "Healthcare workers' hand decontamination practices: compliance with recommended guidelines." *Journal of Advanced Nursing* 51.3 (2005): 208-216. *Health Source: Nursing/Academic Edition*. Web. 9 Feb. 2011.

Dawson, Nick. "Time's Up?" *Filmmaker* Spring 2009: 33-37. Print.

Lennon, John W. and Paul J. McCartney. "Hey Jude" *LYRICSFREAK*. Web. 8 Dec. 2011 <http://www.lyricsfreak.com/b/beatles/hey+jude_20014845.html>.

MLA Handbook For Writers of Research Papers. 7th ed. New York: Modern Language Association of America, 2009. Print.

Moritz, Mark. "A Critical Examination of Honor Cultures and Herding Societies in Africa." *African Studies Review* 51.2 (2008): 99-117. Project Muse. Web. 9 Feb. 2011.

Silberman, Steve. "The Invisible Enemy." *Wired* Feb. 2007. Web. 9 Feb. 2011. <http://www.wired.com/wired/archive/15.02/enemy.html>.

Simons, Marlise. "Love and Age: A Talk with Garcia Marquez." *New York Times Book Review*. 7 Apr. 1985: 1+. Rpt. in *Contemporary Literary Criticism*. Ed. Daniel G. Matuz. Vol. 47. Detroit: Gale, 1998. 148-50. Print.

The Stepford Wives. Dir. Bryan Forbes. Perf. William Goldman, Katharine Ross, Paula Prentiss, and Peter Masterson. 1975. Paramount DVD, 2004. DVD.

The Turning Torso, Malmo. Films Media Group, 2007. *Films On Demand.* Web. 04 Oct. 2011.