

Basic MLA "Works Cited" Format

Everett I. L. Baker Library, Norwalk Community College, Academic Year 2009-2010

Based on: *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, 7th ed., New York: Modern Language Association, 2009.

Print Materials

Periodical and Journal Articles -

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

Author's name. "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. "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. "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. *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.

General Encyclopedia -

"Nutrition." *The World Book Encyclopedia*. 2000 ed. Print.

"Title of article or entry." *Name of Encyclopedia*. Edition date. Medium of publication.

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. *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 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 an Anthology: Citing a Poem, Short Story, Essay or Other Work That Appears in a Book Collection -

Lawrence, D.H. "The Rocking Horse Winner." *The Oxford Book of Short Stories*. Comp. V.S.

Prichett. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1981. 275-289. Print.

Author of article. "Title of Article" *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.

Article from a Scholarly Journal in a Database-

Moritz, Mark. "A Critical Examination of Honor Cultures and Herding Societies in Africa."

African Studies Review 51.2 (2008): 99-117. Project Muse. Web. 25 Aug. 2009.

Article from a Newspaper in a Database -

Shinn, M. "What is the Good Life?" *Chicago Defender* 19 Aug. 2009. *Black Newspapers*. Web. 2 Oct. 2009.

Author. "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. Access date (day Month year).

Article in a Specialized or Subject Database -

Longshore, David. "Hurricane Katrina." *Encyclopedia of Hurricanes, Typhoons, and Cyclones*, new ed. New York: Facts On File, 2008. *American History Online*. Web. 30 Apr. 2009.

Author. "Article Title." *Database Name* Date of article (day Month year). Medium of publication. Access date (day Month year).

Internet Resources



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

MLA no longer requires the use of URL's 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. (MLA 182)

Article from a Website -

Frontline: The Madoff Affair. Public Broadcasting Service. Web. 2 Oct 2009.

Article from an Online Journal -

Silberman, Steve. "The Invisible Enemy." *Wired* Feb. 2007. Web. 18 June 2007.

Online Government Document -

United States. Census Bureau. *Poverty in the United States: 2002*. Sept. 2003. Web. 17 June 2007.



Scholarly Website -

Reuben, Paul P. "Chapter 9: Countee Cullen." *PAL: Perspectives in American Literature- A Research and Reference Guide*. Web. 19 June 2007.

Name of person who created the site (if available). *Title of Site*. Name of institution or organization associated with the site (if available). Medium of Publication. Date of access (day Month year).

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. Date of message (day Month year). E-mail.

Other Types of Sources

Interviews -

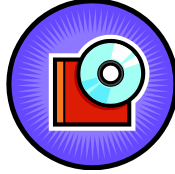
Gordimer, Nadine. Interview. *New York Times* 10 Oct. 1991, late ed.: C25. Print.

Personal In-Person Interview -

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

Person interviewed. Type of interview. Date interview took place.

Other Media Sources



DVD -

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

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.

Online video – in a Database

Battle of Gettysburg. Series: Command Decisions. Collection: The History Channel. A&E Television Networks, 2004. *American History in Video*. Web. 14 Oct. 2009.

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.



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 Handbook 216-217).

How to do it?

Single Author

The parenthetical documentation in the following two examples indicates the information was found on page 142 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 the author's name you may 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 and page number should be given if they exist on the website.

Traditional masks, bronze adornment items, statuary, instruments, utilitarian objects and weaponry form the core of the African art holdings. These objects document aesthetic and ethnographic dimensions of traditional African societies and African cultures in South America (Schomburg).

Formatting Your Paper

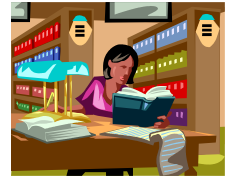
- Use a 1" margin.
- Starting on the first page of your paper, use a "**Header**" (aligned to the right) with **your last name and page numbers**.

- 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* (details found under NCC's homepage www.ncc.commnet.edu – "Current Students" "Writing Center)."

MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers. 7th ed. New York: Modern Language Association. 2003. REF LB2369 .G53 2009



For further examples on how to cite sources please refer to the [Citing Sources](#) page on the library's website:

(<http://www.ncc.commnet.edu/library/citations/citing.htm>)

Citing sources is one component of Information Literacy. To take the tutorial go to the [Information Literacy](#) link on the Library's Home Page:

http://www.ncc.commnet.edu/library/information_literacy/information_literacy1.htm

Sample of a Works Cited Page, which should be on a separate, last 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.
- Dawson, Nick. "Time's Up?" *Filmmaker* Spring 2009: 33-37. Print.
- Longshore, David. "Hurricane Katrina." *Encyclopedia of Hurricanes, Typhoons, and Cyclones*, new ed. New York: Facts On File, 2008. *American History Online*. Web. 30 Apr. 2009.
- Moritz, Mark. "A Critical Examination of Honor Cultures and Herding Societies in Africa." *African Studies Review* 51.2 (2008): 99-117. Project Muse. Web. 25 Aug. 2009.
- MLA Handbook For Writers of Research Papers. 7th ed. New York: Modern Language Association of America, 2009. Print.
- Silberman, Steve. "The Invisible Enemy." *Wired* Feb. 2007. Web. 18 June 2007.
- 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.