



MLA Citation Methods

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What is MLA?

- ♣ **Modern Language Association**
- ♣ A method of citing references in research papers
 - Parenthetical citations in text
 - Works Cited page

Currently

- ♣ The **MLA** published the 7th edition of the **MLA** handbook this year.
- ♣ To view complete changes consult the 7th edition of the handbook.
- ♣ Some changes include:
 - No more underlining. Instead use italics.
 - No more URL's in citations. (more details to follow)
 - Continuous pagination doesn't matter. You must include volume and issue numbers when citing scholarly publications.
 - Every entry must include a publication medium. Examples of the most common publication medium are: Print and Web. Other examples are: DVD, Performance or TV.
 - Many web source entries now require a publisher name, a date of publication, and/or page numbers. When no publisher name appears on the website, write N.p. for no publisher given. When sites omit a date of publication, write n.d. for no date. For online journals that appear only online (no print version) or on databases that do not provide pagination, write n. pag. for no pagination.

Documentation in the text: Parenthetical Citations

♣ One Author

- Author's name in reference
 - Usually, the author's last name and page number
 - Note punctuation
 - (Author's last name page number)
 - Ex. This point has been argued before (Frye 197).
- Author's name in text
 - Do not use the author's last name in the citation if the author's name appears in the text
 - (page number)
 - Ex. Frye has argued this point before (197).

♣ Two Authors

- Authors' names in reference
 - Alphabetically by last name and page number
 - Note punctuation
 - (Author's last name and Author's last name page number)
 - Ex. Others hold an opposite view (Warren and Wellek 310-15).
- Authors' names in text
 - Do not use the authors' last names in the citation if the authors' names appear in the text
 - (Page number)
 - Ex. Others, like Wellek and Warren (310-15), hold an opposite view.

♣ Three Authors

- Authors' names in reference
 - Alphabetically by last name, separated by commas and page number
 - Note punctuation
 - (Last name, last name, last name page number)
 - Ex. Another measure of emotional intelligence is the success of intrapersonal relationships (Smith, Taylor, and Todd 14-15).
- Authors' names in text
 - Do not use the authors' last names in the citation if the authors' names appear in the text
 - (Page number)
 - Ex. Smith, Taylor, and Todd argue another measure of emotional intelligence is the success of interpersonal relationships (14-15).

♣ More than three authors

- Authors' names in reference



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- List only first author's last name followed by "et al." and the page number
 - (Last name et al. page number)
 - Ex. Emotional security varies depending on the circumstances of the social interaction (Carter et al. 158).
- Authors' names in text
 - Do not use the authors' last names in the citation if the authors' names appear in the text
 - (page number)
 - Ex. Carter et al. argues that emotional security varies depending on the circumstances of the social interaction (158).

Documentation in the text: Direct quotes

- ♣ Direct quotations with one or multiple authors are cited as previously mentioned
- ♣ Difference is where the citation is placed in reference to the quote
 - Author's(s)' name in reference
 - Citation is placed after quotation mark
 - "Quoted Material" (Author's last name page number)
 - Ex. It may be true that "in the appreciation of medieval art the attitude of the observer is of primary importance" (Robertson 136).
 - Author's(s)' name in text
 - Do not use the authors' last names in the citation if the authors' names appear in the text
 - Citation is placed after quotation mark
 - "Quoted Material" (page number)
 - Ex. Ernest Rose writes, "The highly spiritual view of the world presented in *Siddhartha* exercised its appeal on West and East alike" (74).

Documentation in the text: Block Quotes

- ♣ Block quotes are used only when quoting more than 4 lines (not sentences)
 - The entire block quote is indented
 - Only used when author is mentioned in the text
 - Page number at end is outside the period
 - Quotation marks are not used
 - Entire block quote is **double spaced**.
 - Block Quote. (page number)
 - Ex. In his essay "Primitive and Pastoral Elements in Sherwood Anderson," Glen Love states that George Willard's departure from Winesburg to a life in the city represents Anderson's attempts to connect America's rural heritage to the modern world:
Both the artist and his audience knew too well that they could not take to the woods or countryside. Yet Anderson's literary works as well as the record of his personal life suggest that he actually believed that there is the possibility, if not of reclaiming the idealized pastoral myth, of at least making a new start based upon some of its enduring values. (245)

Documentation in the text: Cyberdocuments

- ♣ Cite using author's last name as previously mentioned
- ♣ If author's name is missing, use title of article
- ♣ If author and title are missing, use web site name
 - Author's(s)' name in reference
 - (Author's last name/Title of Website)
 - Ex. The Modern Language Association was founded in 1883 (*Modern Language Association*).
 - Author's(s)' name in text
 - Do not use the authors' last names in the citation if the authors' names appear in the text
 - (*Title of Website*)
 - Ex. According to the Modern Language Association's (MLA) website, the MLA was founded in 1883. ** If the website title appears in the sentence a parenthetical citation at the end of the sentence doesn't need to include the website title.

Electronic Sources in the Works Cited Page

- ♣ As of the MLA 2009 update, URL's are no longer to be part of the parenthetical reference.
- ♣ "You should include a URL as supplementary information only when the reader probably cannot locate the source without it or when your instructor requires it" (MLA handbook 7th Edition)



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- ♣ The URL that you are referencing should ONLY be found on the Works Cited page at the end of your document following the date of access.

Works Cited Page

- ♣ Starts new page numbered sequentially
- ♣ Placed after the body of the paper
- ♣ "Work(s) Cited" is centered, without quotation marks, italics, or underlining
- ♣ Include all quoted, paraphrased, or summarized sources
- ♣ Start each entry on new line, regular left margin
- ♣ Indent the *second* and all subsequent lines five spaces ("hanging indent")
- ♣ Double-space all lines
- ♣ Alphabetize by the author's last name, book title, or website name
- ♣ Include the new labels for what kind of medium you are citing. Ex: Print, Web.
- ♣ **Authors' Names**
 - For one author
 - Include the author's name as it appears on the title page in reverse order, period at end
 - Ex. Mills, Stephanie R.
 - For multiple authors
 - First author = reverse order; all subsequent names = normal order, separated by commas, period at end
 - (Mills, Stephanie R., Bert W. Griggs, and Ronald H. Holland.)
- ♣ **Capitalization of Titles**
 - Capitalize all major words and the first and last words of all titles and subtitles
 - Don't capitalize articles (a, an, the), prepositions (by, with, from), or coordinating conjunctions (and, but, for, nor, or, so, yet)
 - Italicize the title, but not the period at the end
 - Ex. *Catcher in the Rye*.
- ♣ **Special Treatment of Titles**
 - Use quotation marks around titles of shorter works (articles, poems, short stories, essays)
 - Italicize titles of longer works (books, periodicals/journals, plays); MLA prefers italicized Times New Roman font
 - Drop A, An, or The as the first word of a periodical title if it is not a part of the title
 - Ex. "Melancholy Gender/Refused Identification." *Judith Butler Reader*.
 - Ex. **NOT** "Melancholy Gender/Refused Identification." *The Judith Butler Reader*.
 - The " " indicate the article is within the publication that is italicized.
- ♣ **Place of Publication**
 - Give only the first city listed for the place of publication
 - Do not list state names, regardless how obscure the city
 - (City of publication: Publisher name,)
 - Ex. Malden: Blackwell,
- ♣ **Publisher**
 - List publisher name after the city and colon followed by a comma
 - (City of publication: Publisher name,)
 - Ex. Malden: Blackwell,
- ♣ **Publication Month Abbreviations**
 - Abbreviate all publication months except May, June, and July
 - Use the first three letters followed by a period (Dec., Feb., Mar.) except for September (Sept.)
 - Year follows month with a comma following the year
 - (Month Year,)
 - Ex. May 2002,
 - After the date you must add the format of the source, Ex: Print or Web.
 - Use "Print" for Books and Scholarly Publications. Use "Web" for web resources.
- ♣ **Citing two or more texts by same author**
 - Give author name(s) in the first entry only; in subsequent entries, use three hyphens and a period
 - (Last name, first name)
 - (---.)



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- Ex. Van Delay, Art. *Seinfeld: The Show About Nothing*. New York: Penguin Books, 1997. Print.
- Ex. ---. *Venetian Blinds: Contemporary Study of Compulsive Lying*. New York: Pendant Publishing, 1994. Print.

♣ Citing texts with no author

- Begin the citation with the title
- Alphabetize the entry according to the first significant word of the title, italicized, with a period at the end
 - (*Title of Text.*)
 - Ex. *Creation of the Media: Political Origins of the Media*. Los Angeles: Houghton-Mifflin, 1922. Print.
 - Ex. *The Chicago Manual of Style*. 15th ed. Chicago: U of Chicago P, 2003. Print.

♣ Citing Journal Articles

- Provide author name, article title, and publication information (periodical name, volume [and if necessary issue] number, publication date, and page numbers), publication medium.
 - (Last name, First name. "Title of Article." *Title of Periodical/Journal*_Volume number (Year of Publication): Page numbers where the article is found. Print.
 - Ex. Tyson, Phyllis A., and Michael G. Gordon. "The Psychology of Women." *Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association* 46 (1998): 361-364. Print.
 - Ex. Bernstein, Barton J. "Atomic Diplomacy: Hiroshima and Nagasaki." *Diplomatic History* 28.3 (1991): 126-129. Print.
- Magazine/Newspaper Article
 - Provide the author's name, article title, where the article was published, date of publication, and page numbers
 - (Last name, First name. "Title of Article." *Title of Periodical/Journal* Date published: Page numbers where the article is found. Print.
 - Ex. Kramer, Cosmo F. "A Health Threat Baffling for Its Lack of a Pattern." *New York Times* 22 June 2003, natl. ed.: A14. Print.
 - Ex. Peterman, Jay S. "Eat This Now!" *US News and World Report* 28 Mar. 2005: 56-58. Print.
 - Ex. Crane, Niles F. "Anarchy at Sea." *Atlantic Monthly* Sept. 2003: 50-80. Print.

♣ Citing Electronic Sources

- Citing Personal or Professional Websites
 - *Name of Site*. Date of Posting/Revision. Name of institution/organization affiliated with the site (sometimes found in copyright statements). Publication medium. Date you accessed the site [electronic address].
 - Ex. *The Purdue OWL Family of Sites*. 26 Aug. 2005. The Writing Lab and OWL at Purdue and Purdue University. Web. 23 April 2006
- An Article in a Web Magazine
 - Author(s). "Title of Article." *Title of Online Publication*. Date of Publication. Date of Access <electronic address>.
 - Ex. Bernstein, Mark. "10 Tips on Writing The Living Web." *A List Apart: For People Who Make Websites*. No. 149 (16 Aug. 2002). Web. 4 May 2006
- Article accessed through a library subscription service
 - Author's last name, Author's first name. "Title of Article." *Title of Publication* Volume (Year of publication): pages article can be found. *Name of database*. Library Name, School library is located in. Day Month Abbreviation. Publication medium. Year article accessed.<web address>.
 - Ex. Jackson, Gabriel. "Multiple Historic Meanings of the Spanish Civil War." *Science and Society* 68.3 (2004): 272-76. *Academic Search Premier Elite*. EBSCO. Brookens Library, U of Illinois at Springfield. Web. 27 Sept.2002.
- **A Work Cited Only on the Web (from MLA 7th Ed)**
 - Name of the author, compiler, director, editor, narrator, performer, or translator of the work
 - Title of the work
 - Title of the overall Web site (italicized), if distinct from item 2 Version or edition used
 - Publisher or sponsor of the site; if not available, use *N.p.*



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- Date of publication (day, month, and year, as available); if nothing is available, use *n.d.*
- Medium of publication (*Web*)
- Date of access (day, month, and year)
- Example:
 - Antin, David. Interview by Charles Bernstein. *Dalkey Archive Press*. Dalkey Archive P, n.d. Web. 21 Aug. 2007.
- **If a URL is necessary do so at the end of the citation.**
 - Example:
 - Eaves, Morris, Robert Essick, and Joseph Viscomi, eds. *The William Blake Archive*. Lib. of Cong., 28 Sept. 2007. Web. 20 Nov. 2007. <<http://www.blakearchive.org/blake/>>.

Sample Works Cited Page

Works Cited

Bernstein, Barton J. "Atomic Diplomacy: Hiroshima and Nagasaki." *Diplomatic History* 28.3 (1991): 126-29. Print.

The Chicago Manual of Style. 15th ed. Chicago: U of Chicago P, 2003. Print.

Crane, Niles F. "Anarchy at Sea." *Atlantic Monthly* Sept. 2003: 50-80. Print.

Creation of the Media: Political Origins of the Media. Los Angeles: Houghton-Mifflin, 1922. Print.

Green, Joshua. "The Rove Presidency." *The Atlantic.com*. Atlantic Monthly Group, Sept. 2007. Web. 15 May 2008.

Jackson, Gabriel. "Multiple Historic Meanings of the Spanish Civil War." *Science and Society* 68.3 (2004): 272-76. *Academic Search Premier Elite*. EBSCO. Brookens Library, U of Illinois at Springfield. Web. 27 Sept.2002.

Kramer, Cosmo F. "A Health Threat Baffling for Its Lack of a Pattern." *New York Times* 22 June 2003, natl. ed.: A14. Print

Peterman, Jay S. "Eat This Now!" *US News and World Report* 28 Mar. 2005: 56-58. Print.

Tyson, Phyllis A., and Michael G. Gordon. "The Psychology of Women." *Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association* 46 (1998): 361-64. Print.

Van Delay, Art. *Seinfeld: The Show About Nothing*. New York: Penguin Books, 1997. Print.

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