



MLA Style

9th Edition

This handout provides a quick reference guide to the basic citation rules of MLA Style.

For complete information, use the following resources:

Modern Language Association.
MLA Handbook. 9th ed., New York, Modern Language Association of America.

Available at both the Warner and the Muskogee library service desks.

In addition, these two websites may be helpful for further guidance:

The Writing Lab, the OWL at Purdue, & Purdue University. *Purdue Online Writing Lab: MLA Style*, Purdue University, 2017, <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/22/> Accessed 17 May 2017.

Pellissippi State Community College Libraries. *MLA & APA Citation: MLA Style*. <http://lib.pstcc.edu/citation/mla> Accessed 17 May 2017.

In-text Citations (See chapter 6 for complete details) Citation examples are in gray highlighting.

- “In-text citations are brief, unobtrusive references that direct readers to the works-cited-list entries for the sources you consulted and, where relevant, to the location in the source being cited” (MLA 227).
- In-text citation is used to identify the source of facts, quotations, and paraphrases of the ideas of others. One does not need to cite material that is common knowledge. Place the parenthetical citation as close as possible to the paraphrased material or fact without disrupting the flow of the sentence.
- In all cases, whenever you cite something in-text, you must include the full citation in the list of works cited at the end of the paper.
- “An in-text citation begins with whatever comes first in the entry in the works-cited list (usually the author’s name) and a page number” (MLA 228).
- The first element may appear in the text itself or be included in the parentheses with the page number. No punctuation is used after the first element, except as noted below.
 - This point has already been argued (Tannen 178-85).
 - Others, like Jakobson and Waugh (210-15), hold the opposite point of view.
 - It may be true that “in the appreciation of medieval art the attitude of the observer is of primary importance...” (Robertson 136).
- If a source has no page numbers but does have paragraph, section, or chapter numbers, place a comma after the author’s name and use the appropriate label.
 - “The debut of Julius Caesar,” according to Sohmer, “proclaimed Shakespeare’s Globe a theater of courage and ideas” (par. 44).
 - “The debut of Julius Caesar proclaimed Shakespeare’s Globe a theater of courage and ideas” (Sohmer, par. 44).

Works Cited (See pages 105-226) An example list appears on page 4.

On a separate page, use the heading with no italics, bolding, or underlining – Works Cited.

Continue the page numbers from the rest of the text and number all pages of the listing.

Start each entry on the left margin and if an entry requires more than one line, use the “hanging indent” in the Paragraph menu of Microsoft Word or manually indent 5 spaces (or ½ inch).

Double space the entire list, both between and within entries. (For the sake of space, this will not be done in this handout.)



MLA Style

9th Edition

Alphabetize the list by the first element, usually the author's last name. See p. 219 for further alphabetization rules.

Books

Basic formats for a book citation:

Author, A. A. *Book Title*. Publisher, Publication Year. **OR**
Editor, A. A. *Book Title*, Edited by, Publisher, Publication Year.

- **Entire book, print version, one to twenty authors**

Schaller, Barry R. *Understanding Bioethics and the Law: The Promises and Perils of the Brave New World of Biotechnology*. Praeger, 2008.

- **Book and textbook chapter, print version**

Draper, Alan. "George Wallace, Civil Rights, and the Alabama AFL-CIO." *Race, Class, and Community in Southern Labor History*, edited by Gary M. Fink and Merl E. Reed, U of Alabama P, 1994, pp. 212-229.

- **Textbook with one author**

Barnes, Michael. *A New Introduction to Old Norse*. Viking Society for Northern Research, 2007.

- **Entry in an encyclopedia**

"Ideology." *The American Heritage Dictionary*. 3rd ed. 1997.

- **Government document**

United States, Department of Labor. *The Employment Situation*. Government Printing Office, 2016,
www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/empst.pdf.

Electronically-retrieved books:

Author, A. A. *Book Title*. Publisher, Publication Year, www.Web_address.

- **Electronic book (available online)**

Thomas, Margaret. *Picture Man: The Legacy of Southeast Alaska Photographer Shoki Kayamori*. U of Alaska P, 2015. EBSCOhost, <https://ezproxy.pstcc.edu:3443/login?url>.

- **Electronic encyclopedia**

Runggaldier, Astrid. "Holmul." *Grove Art Online*, Oxford UP, 12 July 2021. *Oxford Art Online*.
<https://doi.org/10.1093/oao/9781884446054>.



MLA Style 9th Edition

Periodicals

See pp. 320 of the Publication Manual for more about citing articles retrieved from electronic databases.

Basic format for an article citation:

Author, A. A., Author, B. B., and Author, C. C. "Article Title." *Journal Title*, xx, Publication Year, Page Numbers.
Database, <https://doi.org>.

- **Journal article in print**

Bordia, Prashant, and Nicholas DiFonzo. "Problem Solving in Social Interactions on the Internet: Rumor as Social Cognition." *Social Psychology Quarterly*, vol. 67, no. 1, 2004, pp. 33-49.

- **Journal article with DOI, one to two authors**

Chang, Anna C. S., and Willy A. Renandya. "The Effect of Narrow Reading on L2 Learners' Perceptions." *RELC Journal: A Journal of Language Teaching and Research*, vol. 51, no. 2, 2020, pp. 244-258.
EBSCOhost, <http://dx.doi.org.ezproxy.lib.uwf.edu/10.1177/0033688219839446>.

- **Journal article with DOI, 3 or more authors**

Sinykin, Daniel, et al. "Economics, Race, and the Postwar US Novel: A Quantitative Literary History." *American Literary History*, vol. 31, no. 4, 2019, pp. 775-804. EBSCOhost, <https://doi.org/10.1093/alh/ajz042>.

- **Journal article from a database or elsewhere online with or without a DOI**

- Include the DOI if available:

Walshe, Rory A. and Charlotte Eloise Stancioff. "Small Island Perspectives on Climate Change." *Island Studies Journal*, vol. 13, no. 1, 2018, pp. 13-24. EBSCOhost, <https://doi.org/10.24043/isj.56>.

- If no DOI, use a URL:

Hannah, Daniel K. "The Private Life, the Public Stage: Henry James in Recent Fiction." *Journal of Modern Literature*, vol. 30, no. 3, 2007, pp. 70-94. JSTOR, www.jstor.org.ezproxy.lib.uwf.edu/stable/30053134.

- **Magazine article**

Whelan, Debra Lau. "Facebook Book Clubs." *School Library Journal*, 1 June 2009, p. 16

- **Newspaper article**

Ahrens, Frank. "Washington Post Co. Returns to Profit with Cost Cutting." *Washington Post*, 1 Aug. 2009, pp. A11.



MLA Style 9th Edition

Other Sources

Basic format for a nonperiodical web document:

Author, A. A., & Author, B. B. "Web Page Title." *Website Title*, Publisher, Date of Last Update, www.Web_address.

- **Basic web page or blog post**

Smith, Emma. "Dream, Illusion and Doubling in a Midsummer Night's Dream." *Discovering Literature: Shakespeare & Renaissance*, British Library, 15 Mar. 2016, www.bl.uk/shakespeare/articles/dream-illusion-and-doubling-in-midsummer-nights-dream.

Updike, David. "A Toast to the Visible World: Remembering John Updike." *New York Times*, 10 Aug. 2009, artsbeat.blogs.nytimes.com/2009/08/10/a-toast-to-the-visible-world-remembering-john-updike/?_r=0.

- **Online video or audio file**

Harvey, Sheridan. "Rosie the Riveter: Real Women Workers in World War II." YouTube, uploaded by LibraryOfCongress, 10 Feb. 2009, www.youtube.com/watch?v=04VNBm1PqR8.

- **Multipage document created by an agency or organization, no date**

United States, Department of Labor, *The Employment Situation*. Government Printing Office, www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/empst.pdf.

- **Wikis**

"Body Image." *Wikipedia: The Free Encyclopedia*, Wikimedia Foundation, 16 June 2016, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Body_image. Accessed 28 June 2016.

Title of the source: Examples are in the Works Cited listing on page 4 in italics or quotation marks.

- Give the title in full exactly as it is found in the source. Place a colon after the main title and include the subtitle after. Standardize the capitalization and punctuation.
- Italicize the title if the source is self-contained like a book or a collection of essays, stories, or poems.
- Place the title in quotation marks if the source is part of a larger work such as a specific essay, story, or poem within a larger collection.

Title of the container: Examples are in the Works Cited listing on page 4 with blue highlighting.

- A container is the larger whole which contains a source. This may be a collection, a periodical, a television series, a Web site, or an issue of a comic book.
- One container may be nested inside another and all the containers that enclose the source should be cited. Add the core elements 3-9 for each container.

Other contributors: Examples are in the Works Cited listing on page 4 with yellow highlighting.

Version: Identify the version if a source has been released in more than one version. Examples are in the Works Cited listing on page 4 with a box around them.



MLA Style

9th Edition

Number: Use when source is one volume in a numbered multi-volume set, when journal has both volume and issue numbers, and to refer to season and episodes of television series. Examples are circled in the Works Cited listing on page 4 but do not circle in the actual Works Cited listing.

Publisher: Examples are in the Works Cited listing on page 4 with green highlighting.

Cite the organization with the primary responsibility for producing the source or making it available to the public. If two or more organizations are equally responsible, cite each and separate the names with a forward slash.

Omit the publisher's name for periodicals, self-published works, Web sites whose title and publisher are the same, and Web sites not involved in publishing the works they make available, for example, *ProQuest* or *JSTOR*.

Publication Date: Cite the most relevant date if more than one date is associated with the source.

Location: Specify page number by p. or a range of page numbers by pp. Do not include the http or https for online sources with URLs and use the DOI instead of the URL when available because the DOI is stable. Omit URL or DOI per your instructor's preference. Examples are in the Works Cited listing on page 4 with gray highlighting.



MLA Style 9th Edition

Works Cited

- Baron, Naomi S. "Redefining Reading: The Impact of Digital Communication Media." *PMLA*, vol. 128, no. 1, Jan. 2013, pp. 193-200.
- Baron, Sabrina Alcorn, et al., editors. *Agent of Change: Print Culture Studies after Elizabeth L. Eisenstein*. U of Massachusetts P/Center for the Book, Library of Congress, 2007.
- Bazin, Patrick. "Toward Metareading." *The Future of the Book*, edited by Geoffrey Nunberg, U of California P, 1996, pp. 153-68.
- The Bible*. [Authorized King James Version] Oxford UP, 1998.
- Dewar, James A., and Peng Hwa Ang. "The Cultural Consequences of Printing and the Internet." *Agent of Change: Print Culture Studies after Elizabeth L. Eisenstein*, edited by Sabrina Alcorn Baron et al., U of Massachusetts P/Center for the Book, Library of Congress, 2007, pp. 365-77.
- Hollmichel, Stefanie. "The Reading Brain: Differences between Digital and Print." *So Many Books*, 25 Apr. 2013, somanymorebooksblog.com/2013/04/25/the-reading-brain-differences-between-digital-and-print/.
- "Hush." *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, created by Joss Whedon, performance by Sarah Michelle Gellar, season 4, episode 10, Mutant Enemy, 1999.
- Kincaid, Jamaica. "In History." *Callaloo*, vol. 24, no. 3, Spring 2001, pp. 620-26.
- Marquart, James W., et al. *The Rope, the Chair, and the Needle: Capital Punishment in Texas, 1923-1990*. U of Texas P, 1994.
- Newcomb, Horace, editor. *Television: The Critical View*. 7th ed., Oxford UP, 2007.
- Poe, Edgar Allan. "The Masque of the Red Death." *The Complete Works of Edgar Allan Poe*, edited by James A. Harrison, vol. 4, Thomas Y. Crowell, 1902, pp. 250-58. *HathiTrust Digital Library*, babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=coo.31924079574368;view+1up:seq+266.
- Rampersad, Arnold. *The Life of Langston Hughes*. 2nd ed., vol. 2, Oxford UP, 2002.
- Scott, Ridley, director. *Blade Runner*. 1982. Performance by Harrison Ford, director's cut, Warner Bros., 1992.