This document outlines the MLA guidelines for citations, both in-text and in a reference list, for some of the most commonly used sources. The following examples are interpretations; there are different ways a citation can be written. If you have any questions concerning a citation, ask your instructor or use the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers* for more information and examples:


### Parenthetical References in the Text of a Paper

Parenthetical references are used to acknowledge your use of borrowed material throughout your paper. You do this by placing, in parentheses, the author’s last name and the page number of the work from which you have borrowed or quoted material. Parenthetical references for Web sources are cited just like printed works except they will often not have pages. Because parenthetical references are so brief, they must always be accompanied by a list of Works Cited. The Works Cited list appears at the end of your paper and contains the complete publishing information for all the items mentioned in your parenthetical references. (See pages 213-232 in the *MLA Handbook* for more information on citing sources in the text.)

#### Placement and Punctuation Guidelines

1. Keep the parenthetical references as brief as possible. Do this by inserting the author’s last name and a page number in parentheses after the statement you are documenting. In general, place the parenthetical reference at the end of the sentence before the final period:

   “A large percentage of jobs in Detroit are connected to the automobile industry” (Franks 25).

2. If you include the author’s name in a sentence, you need only put the page number of the reference in the parentheses:

   Franks noted that many Detroit workers were employed by the auto industry (25).

3. If you are citing an entire work rather than a specific passage or section, omit any parenthetical reference and give the author's last name in your sentence:

   Throughout his book, Franks argues that cities must rely on a diversified industrial base.

4. In some cases, it may be clearer to place the reference within the sentence. In such cases, place the reference at the end of a clause, but before the comma that would normally occur:

   The outbreak of World War I was inevitable according to Nelson (305), but other historians do not agree.
5. When you are referencing a quotation of four or more lines, always indent these lines (by two tabs) from the rest of the text, and place the reference at the end of the quoted passage but after the final period.

For Louis Levine, a visit to the coronary care unit was not easy:

The days dragged on. Although resolving to follow my doctor’s advice unquestioningly, I became increasingly impatient. I wanted to flee from the hospital room and return to my wife, children, home and legal practice. I was confined to my bed and room for the next ten days. The only privileges I had were to sit on the side of my bed with my feet dangling and to use the bathroom. (Levine 55-56)

6. Always start a parenthetical reference with the first word used in the work cited entry (usually the author’s name or the first word in title). By using this word you make the link between your specific parenthetical reference and the specific item or resource in your Works Cited list because the reader will be able to locate the full entry for your work alphabetically.

Examples of Parenthetical References

The following parenthetical references cover various situations and different types of sources that parenthetical references may be used. The author examples apply to periodical articles as well as books.

1. A single work by one author
Use last name and page number: (Levine 56).

2. A work by an author of two or more works you are using
Use last name, comma, short title and relevant page numbers: (Grossman, Aesthetics 125).

3. A work by an author with the same last name as another author in your list of Works Cited
Supply first name: (Louis Levine 317).

4. A work by more than one author
Two authors: (Hill and Strober 41).
Three or more authors: (Hiller, et al. 47).

5. A multivolume work
Indicate volume used as well as the page number, separated by a colon and space: (Switzer 2: 1205).

6. Work with no author
Use first word in the title of the work that you used to alphabetize the work in your Works Cited list. If the article is unpaged but is numbered by paragraphs, use paragraph numbers.

Article with more than one page: (“Container” 79).
Article with only one page: (“Economic”).
Article with no pages, but with paragraph numbers: (“Prisons” pars 23-24).

7. Corporate author or government agency
You may include author and title (IBM ANNUAL, etc.). It is often best to use information as part of a sentence since the citation may be long: (IBM Annual Report 1983. 6).

8. World Wide Web
Start your parenthetical reference with the first word you used for the entry in your Works Cited list.

- If your document is paged, use the page number. Do not use the page number of a printout because this pagination can vary depending upon font and printer.
- If your work is numbered with paragraphs, use the paragraph numbers. (Brown, pars 22-23). A comma is needed if your citation starts with an author.
- If your citation begins with a title, then omit the comma (“Peril” par. 24). If you have no page and no paragraph numbers, then use the first word of the title of the resource (“CyberDiet”). These two examples suppose you have titles of documents so the first word is in quotation marks.
9. More than one work in a single parenthetical reference
Use normal pattern but separate each citation with a semicolon: (Faster 62; Jones 85).

DON'T FORGET: All parenthetical references must be documented with full publishing information in the list of Works Cited at the end of your research paper.

Works Cited List at the End of a Paper
In MLA style, a Works Cited list appears at the end of the research paper and starts on a separate page that is titled “Works Cited.” The pages are numbered as a continuation of the text. The citations should be in a **hanging indent format**, meaning that the first line of each reference is aligned with the left margin and subsequent lines are indented. Remember that citations need to be listed in **alphabetical order by the author’s last name** and **double-spaced** in your final Works Cited list. (See pages 123-212 in the *MLA Handbook* for more information on the Works Cited list.)

**BOOKS**

To cite information found in a book, include:
1. Author’s name (can also be the editor, compiler, translator or corporate author; personal names must be inverted, i.e. Bette Novit Evans turns into Evans, Bette Novit)
2. Book title (in *italics*)
3. Edition of the book (ignore if it is the first edition)
4. Volume number(s) used (only for multi-volume works)
5. City (not the state!) where the book was published; if several cities are listed in the book, give only the first one listed.
6. Publisher’s Name
7. Year of publication
8. Medium of publication (e.g. Print)

For an E-Book from an online research database or website, add:
9. Title of the database or website (in *italics*)
10. Medium of publication (e.g. Web)
11. Date of access (e.g. 21 Oct. 2005)

Basic punctuation format for print books:
Author’s Last Name, Author’s First Name. *Book Title*. City where it was published: Publisher’s Name, Year of publication. Medium of publication.

Basic punctuation format for e-books and online books:
Author’s Last Name, Author’s First Name. *Book Title*. City where it was published: Publisher’s Name, Year of publication. Title of database or website. Medium of publication. Date of access.

Examples:

**ONE AUTHOR**

**TWO OR THREE AUTHORS**

**MORE THAN THREE AUTHORS**

**AUTHOR and EDITOR**

**EDITOR OR COMPILER**
EDITION

SEVERAL VOLUMES

ESSAY, ARTICLE, OR STORY IN AN ANTHOLOGY OR COLLECTION

TRANSLATION

E-BOOK / BOOK FROM ONLINE DATABASE

BOOK ON THE INTERNET

**ENCYCLOPEDIA OR DICTIONARY ARTICLES**

To cite information found in a print encyclopedia or dictionary, include:

1. Author's name (inverted i.e. Edward Sapir turns into Sapir, Edward)
   If there is an author for the article, it is usually found at the end of the article. Sometimes, articles are signed only with the author's initials. Those initials will be identified elsewhere in the encyclopedia.

2. Article title (enclosed in quotation marks)
3. Encyclopedia or Dictionary title (in *italics*)
4. Editor name (i.e. Ed. Joseph R. Strayer.)
5. Edition number (if stated. i.e. 10th ed.)
6. Volume Number(s) (i.e. Vol. 4.)
7. City (not state!) where the encyclopedia is published
8. Publisher's Name
9. Year of publication
10. Page numbers on which the article appeared
    (only include if the encyclopedia does not arrange its articles alphabetically).
11. Medium of publication (i.e. Print)

**Note 1:** When citing well-known encyclopedias and dictionaries that frequently appear in new editions (e.g. *World Book Encyclopedia, Encyclopedia Britannica, Encyclopedia Americana, Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, Oxford English Dictionary*, etc.), do not give full publication information; list only the edition, year of publication, and medium of publication consulted.

**Note 2:** If the encyclopedia or dictionary arranges its articles alphabetically, volume and page numbers may be omitted.

For encyclopedia or dictionary article from online research databases, add:

12. Title of the database (in *italics*)
13. Medium of publication (i.e. Web)
14. Date of access (e.g. 21 Oct. 2005)

**Note 3:** Use only one medium of publication per citation. For online research database entries, ignore step 11.

Basic punctuation format for print encyclopedias and dictionaries:

Author's Last Name, Author's First Name. "Article Title." *Encyclopedia or Dictionary Title*. Editor's name. Edition number.

Volume number(s). City where encyclopedia is published: Publisher's Name, Year of publication. Page numbers.

Medium of publication.
Basic punctuation format for encyclopedias and dictionaries from online research databases:
Author’s Last Name, Author’s First Name. “Article Title.” Encyclopedia or Dictionary Title. Editor’s name. Edition number. Volume number(s). City where encyclopedia is published: Publisher’s Name, Year of publication. Page numbers.

Title of database or website. Medium of publication. Date of access.

Examples:
ARTICLE WITH AUTHOR IN A GENERAL ENCYCLOPEDIA

ARTICLE WITHOUT AUTHOR IN A GENERAL ENCYCLOPEDIA

ARTICLE WITH AUTHOR IN SUBJECT ENCYCLOPEDIA THAT IS ARRANGED ALPHABETICALLY

ARTICLE WITH AUTHOR IN SUBJECT ENCYCLOPEDIA NOT ARRANGED ALPHABETICALLY

ARTICLE FROM AN ENCYCLOPEDIA IN AN ONLINE RESEARCH DATABASE

PERIODICAL ARTICLES FROM PRINT OR MICROFORM
To cite print or microform articles, include:
1. Author’s name (inverted i.e. Jeff Manza turns into Manza, Jeff)
2. Article title (in quotation marks)
3. Periodical title (in italics, no period after title)
4. Date of publication
   For scholarly journals: use volume number and issue number (if available) with a period in between them, and the year in parentheses; e.g. 121.1 (2006)
   For other periodicals: use the day, month, and year (as available); e.g. 27 July 1953
5. Page number that the article begins on or page range (if available)
6. Medium of publication (i.e. Print or Microform)

Basic punctuation format for print and microform periodical articles:
Author’s Last Name, Author’s First Name. “Article Title.” Periodical Title date of publication: page number(s). Medium of publication.

Examples:
SCHOLARLY JOURNAL ARTICLE


MAGAZINE ARTICLE

NEWSPAPER ARTICLE


PERIODICAL ARTICLES FROM ONLINE RESEARCH DATABASES

To cite articles found in online research databases, include:
1. Author’s name (inverted i.e. Jeff Manza turns into Manza, Jeff)
2. Article title (in quotation marks)
3. Periodical title (in italics, no period after title)
4. Date of publication
   For scholarly journals: use volume number and issue number (if available) with a period in between them, and the year in parentheses; e.g. 121.1 (2006)
   For other periodicals: use the day, month, and year (as available); e.g. 27 July 1953
5. Page number that the article begins on or page range (if available)
6. Title of the database or website (in italics)
7. Medium of publication (i.e. Web)
8. Date of access (e.g. 21 Oct. 2005)

Basic punctuation format for periodical articles found in online research databases or websites:
Author’s Last Name, Author’s First Name. “Article Title.” Periodical Title date of publication: page number(s). Title of database. Medium of publication. Date of access.

Examples:
The examples here are taken from databases available at CRC. Other libraries offer different databases.

ACADEMIC SEARCH PREMIER

COUNTRYWATCH (unsigned example – if article is signed, include author name)

CQ RESEARCHER

ERIC

JSTOR

LEXIS NEXIS ACADEMIC

NEWSPAPER SOURCE/SACRAMENTO BEE
OPPOSING VIEWPOINTS (viewpoint essay example)

RIA CHECKPOINT (unsigned example – if article is signed, include author name)

SCIENCE DIRECT

OTHER INFORMATION FROM AN ONLINE RESEARCH DATABASE

COUNTRYWATCH (Country Report)

LITERARY REFERENCE CENTER (Book)

LITERARY REFERENCE CENTER (Poem)

LITERARY REFERENCE CENTER (Reference Book)

LITERARY REFERENCE CENTER (Review)

LITERARY REFERENCE CENTER (Short Story)

OXFORD ENGLISH DICTIONARY

ARTWORK FROM AN ONLINE RESEARCH DATABASE

To cite artwork found on an online research database, include:
1. Artist's name (inverted i.e. Jeff Manza turns into Manza, Jeff)
2. Artwork title (in italics)
3. Date of composition (if year is unknown, then write N.d.)
4. Name of the institution that houses the work (e.g. a museum) or name of the private collection that owns it (e.g. Collection of...)
   Note: if the collector is unknown or wants to be anonymous, use Private Collection without a city name.
5. City where institution or collection is located  
6. Title of the database (in *italics*)  
7. Medium of publication (i.e. Web)  
8. Date of access (e.g. 21 Oct. 2005)

**Basic punctuation format for artwork from an online research database:**
Artist’s Last Name, Artist’s First Name. *Artwork Title*. Date artwork was composed. Name of Institution or Collection that Owns the Artwork, City where Institution or Collection is located. *Title of the Database*. Medium of publication. Date of access.

**Example:**
ARTSTOR  

**SOUND RECORDINGS**

To cite sound recordings, include:
1. Name of performer, composer, conductor, or ensemble (list only one; personal names are inverted, i.e. Jeff Manza turns into Manza, Jeff)  
2. Title of song in quotation marks (only use if citing a specific song, otherwise, skip this step)  
3. Title of the recording or the title of the included works (in *italics*)  
4. Name of artist or artists (only if it is different from the person in item #1; leave blank if it is the same)  
5. Name of publisher or manufacturer  
6. Year of issue (if year is unknown, write n.d.)  
7. Medium of publication (i.e. CD, Audiocassette, Audiotape, LP, etc.)

For sound recordings from database, also include:
8. Title of the database (in *italics*)  
9. Medium of publication (i.e. Web)  
10. Date of access (e.g. 21 Oct. 2005)

**Basic punctuation format for sound recordings:**
Name of performer, composer, conductor, or ensemble. “*Title of Song.*” *Title of the Recording or Title of Included Works.*

Name of artist. Name of publisher/manufacturer, date. Medium of publication.

**Basic punctuation format for sound recordings found on the online research databases:**
Name of performer, composer, conductor, or ensemble. “*Title of Song.*” *Title of the recording or title of included works.*

Name of artist. Name of publisher/manufacturer, date. Title of database. Medium of publication. Date of access.

**Examples:**

**CITING A SONG**

**NAXOS MUSIC LIBRARY** (no date given)
VIDEOS

To cite a video or film, include:
1. Title of video or film (in italics)
2. Name of director
   Optional: You may include other data that seem pertinent here, such as the names of the screenwriter, performers, producer, etc.
3. Name of distributor
4. Year of release
5. Medium of publication (e.g. Film, DVD, Videocassette, LD, etc.)

For a video found on the Internet, also include:
6. Title of the website (in italics)
7. Medium of publication (i.e. Web)
8. Date of access (e.g. 21 Oct. 2005)

Basic punctuation format for a video or film:
Title of video or film. Name of director. Name of Performer(s). Name of Screenwriter. Name of distributor, year of release. Medium of publication.

Basic punctuation format for a video or film found on the Internet:
Title of video or film. Name of director. Name of Performer(s). Name of Screenwriter. Name of distributor, year of release. Title of the website. Medium of publication. Date of access.

Examples:

FOREIGN LANGUAGE FILMS (DUBBED OR SUBTITLED IN ENGLISH)

VIDEO FOUND ON THE INTERNET

GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS

To cite a government publication, include:
1. Author or government agency (see notes 1 and 2). If it is a personal name, it needs to be inverted (i.e. Hillary Rodham Clinton turns into Clinton, Hillary Rodham)
2. Title of the publication (in italics)
3. If citing congressional documents, include the number and session of Senate or House of Representatives, and the type (e.g. bill, resolution, report, document, etc.) and number of the publication
4. City where the document is published (most federal publications are published in Washington, D.C. by the Government Printing Office or the GPO.)
5. Publisher’s name
6. Year of publication
7. Medium of publication (e.g. Print)

For a government publication found on the Internet, add:
8. Title of website (in italics)
9. Medium of publication (e.g. Web)
10. Date of access (e.g. 21 Oct. 2005)

Note 1: If publication has no author, cite the name of the government, followed by the name of the agency as the author. For example:
California. Dept. of Industrial Relations.

Note 2: If the publication has a person as an author, you may decide to either list the person as the author on your citation or list the government agency as the author, depending on your desired emphasis.

Note 3: Use only one medium of publication per citation. For website entries, ignore step 7.
Basic punctuation format for a government publication:
Name of author or government agency. *Title of publication*. Senate or House information. City where it is published:

Publisher Name, year of publication. Medium of publication.

Basic punctuation format for a government publication found on the Internet:
Name of author or government agency. *Title of publication*. Senate or House information. City where it is published:

Publisher name, year of publication. *Title of website*. Medium of publication. Date of access.

PRINT U.S. GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS

Print.


PRINT FOREIGN GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS


ONLINE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS

MAPS

To cite a map, include:
1. Map title (in *italics*)
2. Descriptive label (i.e. map or chart)
3. City where the map was published
4. Publisher’s Name
5. Year of publication
6. Medium of publication (e.g. Print)

To cite an online map, include:
1. Map title (in quotation marks)
2. Descriptive label (i.e. map or chart)
3. Title of the website (in *italics*)
4. Publisher or sponsor of the website
5. Date of publication (day, month, year, as available).
6. Medium of publication (e.g. Web)
7. Date of access

To cite a map obtained from a software program, include:
1. Map title (in quotation marks)
2. Descriptive label (i.e. map or chart)
3. Title of the software (in *italics*)
4. Version of the software (e.g. Vers. 2.0)
5. Date of publication
6. Medium of publication (e.g. Computer Software)
7. Date of access

Basic punctuation format for a print map:
*Map Title*. Descriptive label. City where the map was published: Publisher’s Name, Year of publication. Medium of publication.
Basic punctuation format for a map found on the Internet:
“Map Title.” Descriptive label. Title of website. Name of Website’s Publisher or Sponsor, Date of publication. Medium of publication. Date of access.

Basic punctuation format for a map obtained from computer software:
“Map Title.” Descriptive label. Title of Software. Version. Date of publication. Medium of publication. Date of access.

Examples:
PRINT

ONLINE

SOFTWARE

INTERVIEWS
For information on citing interviews that are published or broadcast on television, consult the MLA Handbook. To cite an interview conducted by the researcher, the sequence of your citation should consist of the following:
1. Name of the person interviewed
2. Kind of interview (Personal, Telephone)
3. Date of interview

Example:
Smith, Mary. Telephone interview. 15 May 1999.

INTERNET SITES (WORLD WIDE WEB)
To cite files from the World Wide Web, the sequence of your citation should consist of the following:
1. Author’s name, if known (inverted i.e. Jeff Manza turns into Manza, Jeff)
2. Full title of the document in quotation marks (if it is part of a larger work)
3. Descriptive label as needed or as available (i.e. home page, editorial, etc.)
4. Title of the complete work or overall website if it is distinct from item 2 (in italics)
5. Publisher or sponsor of the website (use N.p. if that info isn’t available)
6. Date of publication (day, month, and year, as available; use n.d. if there is no date)
7. Medium of publication (i.e. Web)
8. Date of access

Punctuation format for above information:
Author’s Name. “Title of Web Page or Document.” Title of Website. Publisher or Sponsor of Website, Date of publication. Medium of publication. Date of access.

Examples:
GENERAL WEB SITES


ARTICLE IN AN INTERNET PERIODICAL OR MAGAZINE

ARTICLE IN A NEWSPAPER ON THE INTERNET


ARTICLE IN NEWSCAST ON THE INTERNET


POEM ON THE INTERNET


BLOGS, POSTINGS, AND DISCUSSION BOARDS ON THE INTERNET


E-MAIL AND LISTSERV MESSAGES

To cite an e-mail message, include:
1. Name of the writer
2. Title of message (if any) taken from the subject line and enclosed in quotation marks
3. A description of the message that includes the recipient (e.g. Message to the author)
4. Date of message
5. Medium of delivery

Examples:

Harner, James L. Message to the author. 20 Aug. 2002. E-mail.