How to Document Sources

MLA 8ᵗʰ Edition Style

The Modern Language Association (MLA) Style is widely used for identifying research sources. In MLA style you briefly credit sources with Parenthetical References in the text of your paper and give the complete description of each source used in your paper in the list of Works Cited. **The instructor for your class is the final authority on how to format your References List.**

This guide is based on the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, 8th ed., by The Modern Language Association of America (2016). All examples are found in the appropriate chapters in the MLA Handbook 8ᵗʰ edition. https://style.mla.org/

PREPARING THE LIST OF WORKS CITED

Works Cited items are listed at the end of the research paper, arranged alphabetically by author's last name, or when there is no author, by the first word of the title (except A, An or The).

PRINT SOURCES

BOOKS

Author. *Title of Book*. Publisher, Publication Date.

- This is the basic format for a book.
- The author's name should be written: Last Name, First Name.
- In a title or a subtitle, capitalize the first word, the last word, and all principal words, including those that follow hyphens in compound terms: *The Madwoman in the Attic: The Woman Writer and the Nineteenth-Century Literary Imagination*.
- Omit articles (A, An, The), business abbreviations (Co., Corp., Inc., Ltd.), and Books, House, Press, Publishers. Use "UP" for university press, e.g., Ohio State UP. If the publisher's name includes the name of one person for example, Harry N. Abrams, cite the name as listed.
- If the publisher's name is commonly abbreviated with capital initial letters, use the abbreviation as the publisher's name: MLA (for Modern Language Association).

One Author

Volti, Rudi. *Cars and Culture: The Life Story of a Technology*. Johns Hopkins UP, 2016.

One Editor or Compiler
- If the person named on the title page is the editor or compiler, rather than the author, add a comma then the title "editor" or "compiler"

Brumley, Rebecca, compiler. *The Reference Librarian's Policies, Forms, Guidelines, and*

Procedures Handbook with CD-ROM. Neal, 2016.

Two or More Authors
- List the names in the order they appear on the title page.
- Only the first author's name should be reversed: Last Name, First Name.
- Use a comma between the authors' names. Place a period after the last author's name.
- If there are more than three authors, name only the first and add et al., or give all the names.

Tilstone, William J., Kathleen A. Savage, and Leigh A. Clark. *Forensic Science: An Encyclopedia*

of History, Methods, and Techniques. ABC-CLIO, 2016.

More than Three Authors
- If there are more than three authors, name only the first and add et al., or give all the names.

Jonassen, David H., et al. *Learning to Solve Problems with Technology: A Constructivist Perspective*.

2nd ed., Merrill, 2016.

Or

Jonassen, David H., Jane Howland, Joi Moore, and Rose M. Marra. *Learning to Solve Problems with*

Technology: A Constructivist Perspective. 2nd ed. Merrill, 2015.

Editors or Compilers
- If there are two or more editors or compilers, add a comma after the final name, then the title "editors" or "compilers"

McCaffrey, Paul, and Lynn M. Messina, editors. *The United States Supreme Court*. Wilson, 2015.

Second or Other Edition

Author. *Title of Book*. Edition, Publisher, Publication Year.

- If an edition is given, specify it by number (2nd ed.), name (Rev. ed.) or year (2016 ed.).

Castro, Peter, and Michael E. Huber. *Marine Biology*. 4th ed., McGraw, 2015.

Corporate Author
- Cite a book by corporate author when a group, such as an organization or association rather than an individual person, is the author.

American Automobile Association. *North American Road Atlas: Coverage for United States, Canada,*

Mexico. 2016 ed., American Automobile Association, 2016.

Government Agency as Author
- Give the name of the government first, then the name of the agency.

Hawaii. Office of the Auditor. *Follow-up Audit of the Child Protective Services System*. State of

Hawaii, 2015.

ESSAY, POEM, or SHORT STORY in an ANTHOLOGY

Author of Story. "Title of Story." *Title of Book*. Name of Editor, Edition (if given), Publisher, Publication Year,

Page(s). [indicated by lower-case p. or pp.]

Purcell, Arthur H. "Better Waste Management Strategies Are Needed to Avert a Garbage Crisis."

Garbage and Recycling: Opposing Viewpoints. Ed. Helen Cothran, Greenhaven, 2015,

pp. 20-27.

Tufts, Carol Strongin. "Recasting *A Doll House*: Narcissism as Character Motivation in Ibsen's Play."

Comparative Drama 20 (1986): 140-59. Rpt. in *Drama Criticism*. Ed. Lawrence J. Trudeau.

Vol. 2, Gale, 1992, pp. 300-07.

ENCYCLOPEDIAS and REFERENCE BOOKS

Author of Article (if given). "Article Title." *Title of Book*. Publisher, Publication Year.

- When citing familiar reference books, especially those that often appear in new editions, full publication information is not necessary.
- Give the edition (if available) and the year of publication.
- If articles are arranged alphabetically, volume and page numbers are not necessary.

Lesko, Leonard H. "Pyramids." *The World Book Encyclopedia.* 2015.

- When citing less familiar reference books, give full publication information. Give the number of volumes for multi-volume sets.

Smith, Murray. "Philosophy of Film." *Encyclopedia of Philosophy*. Ed. Donald M. Borchert. 2nd ed.,

10 vols., Macmillan Reference USA, 2015.

MAGAZINE ARTICLES

> Author. "Title of Article." *Title of Magazine*.Date, Page(s). [indicated by p. or pp.]

- Abbreviate the months (except May, June, July). Give complete dates for magazines issued every week or every two weeks, written in this order: Day Month Year, e.g., 15 Jan. 2016.
- If the article is on consecutive pages, specify the page numbers of the entire article, e.g., 16-20. Give just the last two digits of the second number, when possible, e.g., pp.188-89, but pp.196-200.
- If the article is not on consecutive pages – if, for example, it begins on page 27, then skips to page 30, and continues on page 32 – write only the first page number, followed by a plus sign: pp.27+.
- Do not give volume and issue numbers for magazine articles even if they are listed.

    Paul, Pamela. "Rethinking First Foods." *Time* 12 June 2016, pp. 58-59.

    Zammett, Ern. "Battling Cancer While the World Watches." *Glamour* Nov. 2016,118+.

No Author Given
- If no author's name is given, begin with the title of the article.

    "Five Years after 9/11: A Little Safer, No Surer." *Aviation Week and Space Technology*

        11 Sept. 2015, p. 66.

SCHOLARLY JOURNAL ARTICLES

Journal with Volume

> Author. "Title of Article." *Title of Journal,* Volume number, (Year), Page(s).

    Shore, Rebecca, and Janis Strasser. "Music for Their Minds." *Young Children* 61, (2016), pp. 62-67.

Journal with Issues

> Author. "Title of Article." *Title of Journal* Volume number, Issuenumber, Year, Page(s).

- Give both the volume and issue numbers, separated by a comma e.g., volume 12, no. 8 = vol.12, no.8

    Sultan, Mohamed A. "Fire Resistance Furnace Temperature Measurements: Plate Thermometers vs

        Shielded Thermocouples." *Fire Technology,* vol. 42, no.2, 2015, pp. 253-267.

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

> Author. "Title of Article." *Name of Newspaper,* Date, edition, Page(s).

- Take the name of the newspaper from the masthead, but omit any introductory article: Honolulu Advertiser, not The Honolulu Advertiser.
- If the city of publication is not part of the newspaper's name, add it in square brackets: News and Observer [Raleigh, NC]
- Give the complete day, month, and year, but not the volume and issue numbers.
- Specify the edition of the newspaper, if one is given on the masthead.
- If the article is not on consecutive pages, write the first page number and a plus sign: pp. B1+.

Nakaso, Dan. "Hawaii Rattles, Then Loses Power." *Honolulu Advertiser,* 16 Oct. 2015, pp. A1+.

LIBRARY SUBSCRIPTION SERVICES (DATABASES)

Tarrant County College (TCC) Libraries subscribe to databases of full-text articles that can be accessed through the Internet. Works Cited entries for these articles should include information about the original print publication (see above), and information about the online subscription service. From the MLA 8th ed., provide the title of the database italicized before the DOI or URL. If a DOI is not provided, use the URL instead. It is only necessary to cite the URL to the domain name such as .com, however your instructor may request the entire URL. It is not necessary to include "http://" in your Works Cited.

Magazine

> Author. "Title of Article." *Title of Magazine,* Date, Page(s). *Name of Database*, URL, Date of Access.

Rozen, Leah. "Man of the Year." *People,* 23 Oct. 2015, p.33. *MasterFILE Premier,*

www.people.com. Accessed 26 Oct. 2015.

Journal

> Author. "Title of Article." *Title of Journal,* Volume, number, Year, Page(s). *Name of Database*, URL or DOI.
>
> Date of Access.

Langhamer, Claire. "Love and Courtship in Mid-Twentieth-Century England." *Historical Journal,*

vol. 50, no. 1, 2007, pp. 173-96. *ProQuest*, doi:10.1017/S0018246X06005966.

Accessed 27 May 2009.

Newspaper Article

> Author. "Title of Article." *Name of Newspaper,* Date, Page(s). *Name of Database*, URL. Date of Access.

Mauch II, Thomas H. "Researchers Identify Alzheimer's Enzyme Inhibitor." *Los Angeles Times,*

Apr. 2015, p. B2. *InfoTrac Newspapers*, www.latimes.com. Accessed 31 July 2015.

Reference Book

> "Title of Article." *Name of Reference Book*. Publisher, Publication Date, *Name of Database*, URL. Date of Access.

"Animal Rights." *DISCovering Science*. Gale, 2016. *Student Resource Center-College Edition,*

doi:10.1017/S0018. Accessed 17 June 2016.

Heller, Terry. "'A Worn Path.'" *Masterplots II: Short Story Series*. Rev. ed. Salem, 2004.

MagillOnLiterature Plus, doi:10.23056.86776. Accessed 11 Oct. 2006.

Ebook - Copyrighted Title

> Author. *Title of Book*. City of Publication: Publisher, Date. *Name of Database*, URL. Date of Access.

Bloom, Harold. *Hamlet*. New York: Chelsea House, 2009. *netLibrary*, www.bloom.com. Accessed 6

Mar. 2013.

WEBSITES

Complete publication information may not be available for a website; provide what is given.

Entire Internet Site: Scholarly Project or Professional Site

> *Title of the Site*. Editor. Date and/or Version Number. *Name of Sponsoring Institution*, URL. Date of Access.

Encyclopedia Britannica Online. 2016. *Encyclopedia Britannica*, www.britannica.com/story/emperor-

akihito-of-japan-hints-at-desire-to-abdicate. Accessed 26 July. 2016.

Document/Video from a Website

> Author. "Title of Web Page." *Title of the Site*. Editor. Date and/or Version Number. *Name of Sponsoring Institution*, URL. Date of Access.

Sherman, Chris. "Google Launches Custom Search Engine Service." *SearchEngineWatch*. Ed.

Danny Sullivan. 24 Oct. 2015. *Incisive Interactive Marketing LLC*, www.iim.com/google.

Accessed 27 Oct. 2015.

McGonigal, Jane. "Gaming and Productivity." *YouTube*, 3 July 2012. *Big Think*,

www.youtube.com/watch?v=mkdzy9bWW3E. Accessed 10 June 2016.

Photograph from a Website

> Author (if known). *Title of Photograph*. Date. *Name of Website*, URL. Date of Access.

Evans, Walker. *Penny Picture Display*. 1936. *Museum of Mod. Art, New York*, www.moma.org.

Accessed 30 May 2015.

ARTICLES IN ONLINE PERIODICALS

> Author. "Title of Article." *Title of Publication,* Publication Date, Page(s) or Section(s), if numbered, URL. Date of Access.

Green, Joshua. "Do Polls Still Work?" *Atlantic Online,* Nov. 2006, www.atlantic.com. Accessed 27

Oct. 2015.

VIDEO RECORDINGS

> *Title*. Director, Producer, and/or Writer. Distributor, Year.

Ancient Egyptians. Dir. Tony Mitchell. Writ. and prod. Ben Goold, Warner Home Video, 2014.

TELEVISION OR RADIO PROGRAM

> "Title of Episode or Segment." *Title of Program or Series*. Name of Network, Call Letters (if any),
>
> City of Local Station (if any), Broadcast Date.

"Magnetic Storm." Narr. Geno Golusha. *Nova.* PBS, KHET, Honolulu. 24 Oct. 2015.

"The Ethics of Medical Research on Children." *All Things Considered.* Natl. Public Radio, KERA,

Dallas, 31 Oct. 2015.

"Hush." *Buffy the Vampire Slayer,* created by Joss Whedon, performance by Sarah Michelle Gellar,

season 4, episode 10, Mutant Enemy, 1999.

PARENTHETICAL REFERENCES IN THE TEXT

In most cases, the Parenthetical References include the author's last name and the specific page number for the information cited.

> **For example:**
>
> *In the text of paper:*
> Medieval Europe was a place both of "raids, pillages, slavery, and extortion" and of "traveling merchants, monetary exchange, towns if not cities, and active markets in grain" (Townsend 10).
>
> *In Works Cited list:*
> Townsend, Robert M. *The Medieval Village Economy*. Princeton UP, 1993.

Author's Name in Text
- When you use the author's name in your text in citing a reference, give only the page number.

  Magny develops this argument (67-69).

Author's Name in Parenthetical Reference
- When the author's name is not in your text, add the author's last name in parentheses.

  This argument has been developed (Magny 67-69).

No Author's Name
- If no author's name is given, abbreviate the title and add the page number. **Example:** Page 33 of the book *Other Pole of Human Mind* is cited as:

  (*Other Pole* 33)

Two or More Authors
- If the source has two or three authors, include all last names.

  (Gibson and Stabler 727)
  (Sumner, Reichl, and Waugh 23).

- If the source has more than three authors, include the first author, followed by et al.

  (Leikin et al. 67)

Corporate Author
- Use the same format, but include the corporate body.

  (Modern Language Association 77)

More Than One Work by the Same Author

- Abbreviate the title. For example, if you use two sources by Shakespeare, *Comedy of Errors* and *Ages of Man*, then you will include the following:

  (Shakespeare, *Comedy* 54)
  (Shakespeare, *Ages* 25)

- If you state the author's name in the text, give only the title and page number in parentheses:

  (*Comedy* 54)

Multivolume Works

- When citing a volume number and a page reference, separate the two by a colon and a space. Omit the words volume and page or their abbreviations.

  (Henderson 3: 52)
  (Wellek 2: 1-10)

- When referring to an entire volume, use only volume number. Place a comma after the author's name and include the abbreviation "vol.".

  (Henderson, vol. 3)

- In text reference to an entire volume:

  In volume 3, Henderson suggests …

More Than One Work in Parenthetical Reference

- Cite each work as you would in a reference and use semicolons to separate the citations.

  This controversy has been addressed more than once (Dabundo 27; Magny 69).

Electronic and Online Sources

- Cite them just like print sources. If an online source lacks numbering, omit numbers. If a source includes fixed page numbers or section numbering, such as numbering paragraphs (pars.), screens (screens) or chapters (ch.), cite the relevant numbers.

  The semiconductor workplace is highly toxic (Ross par. 35).

  Beethoven has been called the "first politically motivated composer," for he was "caught up in the whole ferment of ideas that came out of the French Revolution" (Gardiner screens 2-3).

  "Once we start using a tool extensively, it also starts using us" (Rawlins ch. 1, sec. 1).