General Format Guidelines for MLA Citation

Print Resources

WORKS CITED PAGE SETUP

• Center the title, Works Cited, an inch from the top of the page.
• *Double-space between the title and the first entry and then double-space within the entire list.*
• Alphabetize by the first letter in each entry, i.e. Author, Title, etc. (A, An, & The, do not count.)
• Indent five spaces on the second line if the entry runs more than one line.

Adapted from the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers* 7th edition

BOOKS IN PRINT FORMAT

This list indicates the order in which a book source should be written in a work cited entry.

1. Name of the author or editor (if more than one author, look for that format in the examples)
2. Title of the work (in italics)
3. Edition used if there is one
4. Number of the volume used is there is one
5. City of publication, name of the publisher, and year of publication
6. Medium of publication consulted (Print)


PRINT SOURCES ACCESSED ON THE WEB

In general when citing a print source that you access on a web site, begin by citing the entry in the same way as if it were a print source leaving off the word Print at the end and then add:

1. Title of the database or Website (in italics)
2. Medium of publication used to access it (Web)
3. Date of access (day, month, year)

MLA Citation Guidelines
Print Resource Examples

Adapted from the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers 7th edition

BOOK BY A SINGLE AUTHOR


BOOK BY TWO AUTHORS OR WITH 2 EDITORS  (Notice that the second name is in the normal order.)


BOOK WITH THREE OR MORE AUTHORS


BOOK SOURCE BY THE SAME AUTHOR OR EDITOR  (Second entry has 3 dashes and a period.)


BOOK WITH AN EDITOR


BOOK WITH THREE OR MORE EDITORS


AN ARTICLE IN A BOOK WITH AN EDITOR  (Include page numbers for the entire article.)


ANTHOLOGY OR STORY COLLECTION  (Include page numbers for the story after the publication year.)


ARTICLE IN A REFERENCE BOOK WITH NO AUTHOR  (dictionary, encyclopedia, subject encyclopedia)


ARTICLE IN A REFERENCE BOOK WITH AN AUTHOR  (Look for an author at the end of the article.)


MULTIVOLUME WORKS:

IF USING ONLY ONE VOLUME, CITE THE VOLUME’S NUMBER AND GIVE INFORMATION FOR ONLY THAT VOLUME. (UP = University Press)


IF USING TWO OR MORE VOLUMES CITE THE TOTAL NUMBER OF VOLUMES.


LITERARY CRITICISMS: NCLC, TCLC, CLC, etc.

Original source is a periodical


Original source is a book


PERIODICALS (magazines)

Author’s name. “title of the article.” Type of article if available. Journal title volume number (year of publication): page numbers. Print.

(If the page numbers are not consecutive, put a + sign after the first page)

ARTICLE FROM A MONTHLY MAGAZINE


ARTICLE FROM A WEEKLY MAGAZINE


MAGAZINE ARTICLE WITHOUT AN AUTHOR


ARTICLE FROM A SCHOLARLY JOURNAL


ARTICLE FROM A NEWSPAPER

General Format Guidelines for MLA Citation

Online Resources

MLA 7th edition no longer requires URLs for online material. If your teacher asks for URLs in your citations, insert them after the date of access in brackets <URL>.

WORK CITED FOUND ONLY ON THE WEB

- MLA 7th edition states that an entry for a non-periodical publication on the Web usually contains most of the following:

1. Name of the author, compiler, editor, etc.
2. Title of the work in quotation marks if part of a larger work. Include type of article, i.e. map, chart, etc.
3. Title of the website, project, or book in italics. Any version numbers available, including revisions, posting dates, volumes, or issue numbers.
4. Publisher or sponsor of the site (person or organization that created the site); if not available, use N.p.
5. Date of publication (day, month, and year as available); if nothing is available use n.d.
6. Type of publication (Web)
7. Date of access (when you used it) Include day, month, year.
8. URL if required, or for your own personal reference.

ARTICLE FROM ANY ONLINE JOURNAL NOT AVAILABLE IN PRINT

To cite a journal on the Web, including an article, a review, an editorial, and a letter to the editor, begin the entry in the same way as if it were in print format. Then include:

1. Medium of publication used (Web)
2. Date of access (day, month, and year)

There may not be any page numbers. Use n.pag. in that case.

Author’s name. “title of the article.” Type of article if available. Journal title volume number. issue number (year of publication): page numbers. Web. date of access.
MLA Citation Guidelines

Online Resource Examples

MLA 7th edition no longer requires URLs for online materials. If your teacher asks for URLs in your citations, insert them after the date of access in brackets <URL>.

WORK CITED ONLY ON THE WEB

ARTICLE IS PART OF A LARGER WORK WITH AN AUTHOR OR EDITOR

Author. “Title of the article.” Title of overall website. Publisher, Date of Publication. Web. Date Accessed.


ARTICLE IS PART OF A LARGER WORK WITH NO AUTHOR

“Title of the work.” Type of work if not an article. Title of overall website. Publisher, Date of Publication. Web. Date Accessed.


ARTICLE FROM ANY ONLINE JOURNAL NOT AVAILABLE IN PRINT

To cite a journal on the Web, including an article, a review, an editorial, and a letter to the editor, begin the entry in the same way as if it were in print format. Then include:

1. Medium of publication used(Web)
2. Date of access (day, month, and year)

There may not be any page numbers. Use n.pag. in that case.

Author’s name. “title of the article.” Type of article if available. Journal title volume number. issue number (year of publication): page numbers. Web. date of access.


SOURCES ACCESSED ON THE WEB BUT ALSO AVAILABLE IN PRINT

In general when citing a print source that you access on a Web site, begin by citing the entry in the same way as if it were a print source leaving off the word Print at the end and then add:

1. Title of the database or website (in italics)
2. Medium of publication used to access it (Web)
3. Date of access (day, month, year)

A WORK ON THE WEB CITED WITH PRINT PUBLICATION INFORMATION FROM A FREE WEB SITE

(Note the difference between the Child entry and the Whittier one – information from the same book with a different emphasis.)


A WORK ON THE WEB FROM AN e-BOOK PURCHASED BY THE BMHS LIBRARY

The first part begins the same way as if you were creating a print source entry. You will have to look at the title page of the book to find the information you need including the title of a chapter if you are citing that.

Here is the general format:

👉 Author’s last name, first name. *Title of the Book*. Place of Publication: Publisher, Year of publication. *Name of the eBook publisher eBooks*. BMHS Lib. Web. date of access.


General Format Guidelines for MLA Citation

Database Resources

MLA 7th edition no longer requires URLs for online material. If your teacher asks for URLs in your citations, insert them after the date of access in brackets <URL>.

**ONLINE LIBRARY SUBSCRIPTION DATABASES**

MLA 7th edition states that an entry for a database entry on the Web usually contains most of the following:

1. Author and/or editor names (if available)
2. Article title in quotation marks (if applicable)
3. Type if not an article.
4. Title of the Website, project, or book in italics. Include revisions, posting dates, volumes, or issue numbers if available. (Usually will be there for a scholarly journal article.)
5. Publisher information, including the publisher name and publishing date.
6. Take note of any page numbers (if available).
7. Medium used. These entries would be Web.
8. Date you accessed the material.
9. URL if required by the teacher

**Example of what a standard entry would look like:**

Author last name, First name. “Title of Article.” Type if not an article. Reference source title. Publisher if from a print source, Date. Title of Database. Date of Database Publication. Database Publisher. Web. Date of Access.
MLA Citation Guidelines

Library Subscription Database Examples

What an entry would include if there were all of these options. Choose the parts that match your needs following the correct order and punctuation.

Author last name, First name. “Title of Article.” Type if not an article. Reference source title if from a print source. Publisher if from a print source. Date. Title of Database. Date of Database Publication if available. Database Publisher, Date of Publication if available. Web. Date of Access.

ABC-CLIO DATABASES


CONTEMPORARY LITERARY CRITICISM

EBSCO

FACTS ON FILE

GALE BIOGRAPHY RESOURCE CENTER

GALE DISCOVERING COLLECTION

GLOBAL ISSUES IN CONTEXT

MARSHALL CAVENDISH

PROQUEST (Note the 2nd example is from a journal so it includes volume and issue.)
MLA Citation Guidelines
Visual Arts, Audio & Video Resources

PAINTING, LITHOGRAPH OR SCULPTURE

Start with the artist's name first. In general, italicize the title and then list the date of composition if known. Name the institution that houses the work (e.g., museum) and the city where the museum or collection is located.


PHOTOGRAPH IN A MUSEUM OR COLLECTION

Cite the same as a painting or collection.


IMAGE

Format:

Artist's Name. “*Title of work.*” Date taken or created if available. Institution and city where the work is housed. *Title of Website*. Web. Date of Access.


- If the work is cited on the web only, then provide the name of the artist, the title of the work, the medium of the work, and then follow the citation format for a website. If the work is posted via a username, use that username for the author. If there is no author, start with the title.


**FILM OR VIDEO RECORDING**

Format Online Video:

Last name, first name. “Video Title.” *Title of Website.* Sponsor. Update. Web. Date of access.


Format Film:

*Title of the film.* Director. Perf. Main actors. Studio Distributor, Year issued. Film.


**TELEVISION OR RADIO BROADCAST**


**SOUND RECORDING OR SOUND CLIP (which person is cited first depends on your emphasis)**