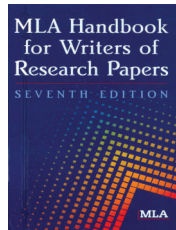




ERC Quick Guide: Citing Sources Using MLA Format

For more examples of MLA citation practices, see:



⇒ *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, 7th ed. (available at the ERC, under call # 808.027 M6859 - copies in Reference and Main Stacks)

⇒ *MLA Formatting and Style Guide by the Purdue University Online Writing Lab* - <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>

Notes on MLA Format

- Entries on your “Works Cited” page should be in **alphabetical order and double-spaced**. (All examples in this handout are single-spaced to save room.)
- Make sure that all entries have **proper indentation**— i.e. the second and following line(s) for any entry should be indented 1/2 inch from the left margin. This is called a hanging indent.
- If you cannot find an author’s name, skip it and go on to the next part of the citation.
- Use the following abbreviations as appropriate: **n. pag.** (no page numbers); **n.p.** (no publisher or site sponsor indicated); **n.d.** (no date of publication).
- Capitalize each word in the title, but do not capitalize short words like articles or prepositions unless one is the first word of the title or subtitle (ex. *The Art of War*, *Gone with the Wind*).
- MLA is flexible and sometimes you must improvise to cite elements not found in the MLA handbook.

BOOKS (Print)

Author Last Name, First Name Middle Initial. Book Title. City Published: Publisher, Year Published. Print.

Notes:

- For print books, citation information should come from the title page and/or copyright page of the book, not the cover.
- If the city of publication is not a well-known city, include the state abbreviation in all caps (ex. Westport, CT).

Book By a Single Author

Ex. Dittman, Michael J. *Masterpieces of Beat Literature*. Westport, CT: Greenwood, 2007. Print.

Book by Two or Three Authors

Ex. Parrot, Andrea, and Nina Cummings. *Forsaken Females: The Global Brutalization of Women*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 2006. Print.

Note: If there are more than three authors, cite only the first author and add *et al* (“and others”).

Article in a Specialized Reference Work

Ex. Abraham, Nabeel. “Arab Americans.” *Gale Encyclopedia of Multicultural America*. Ed. Jeffrey Lehman. 2nd ed. Vol. 1. Detroit: Gale, 2000. Print.

A Work (essay, poem, or short story) in an Anthology or Edited Collection

Ex. Soto, Gary. “One Last Time.” *The Blair Reader: Exploring Issues and Ideas*. Eds. Laurie G. Kirsznner and Stephen R. Mandell. 7th ed. Boston: Prentice Hall, 2011. 402-409. Print.

BOOKS (Electronic)

Author Last Name, First Name Middle Initial. Book Title. Website Name. Publisher, Publication Date. Web. Day Month Year of Access.

Ex. Millton, Michael. *Head First Data Analysis*. *Safari Books Online*. O’Reilly Media, 3 Aug. 2009. Web. 5 Aug. 2009.

PERSONAL INTERVIEW

Interviewee Last Name, First Name Middle Initial. Interview Type (Personal, Telephone, E-mail). Day Month Year of Interview.

Ex. Smith, John. Personal Interview. 10 Aug. 2008.

Continued →

PERIODICALS

Note: Do not include volume number for magazines or newspapers, even if available.

Scholarly Journal—Print or Web

Author Last Name, First Name Middle Initial. "Article Title." *Journal Title* Volume.Issue (Year Published): Page Numbers.

Print or Web. Day Month Year of Access (Web only).

Ex. Burke, Marina, Jeremy Boal, and Ruth Mitchell. "Communicating for Better Care: Improving Nurse-Physician Communication." *American Journal of Nursing* 104.12 (2004): 40-48. Print.

Magazine Article—Print or Web

Author Last Name, First Name Middle Initial. "Article Title." *Periodical Title* Publication Date: Page Numbers. Print or Web.

Day Month Year of Access (Web only).

Ex. Begley, Sharon. "It Pays to be Nice: How Emotions Shape Our Economic Decisions." *Newsweek* 10 Sep. 2009: n. pag. Web. 10 Sep. 2009.

On-Line Database

Author Last Name, First Name Middle Initial. "Article Title." *Periodical Title* Publication Date (or Volume.Issue

(Year Published) (if Scholarly Journal): Page Numbers. *Electronic Database Title*. Web. Day Month Year of Access.

Ex. Shulman, Robin. "Governors Call for \$1 Trillion Stimulus to Offset Budget Cuts." *Washington Post* 3 Jan. 2009: A02. *LexisNexis Academic*. Web. 1 Sep. 2009.

WEB PUBLICATIONS

An Entire Web Site

Website Name. Website Publisher/Sponsor, Day Month Year of Publication (if available). Web. Day Month Year of Access.

Ex. *About.com*. The New York Times Co., 2009. Web. 5 Aug. 2009.

Article from a Web Site

Author Last Name, First Name Middle Initial. "Article Title." Website Name. Website Publisher/Sponsor,

Day Month Year of Publication. Web. Day Month Year of Access.

Ex. "Underwater Engineers: Princeton Students Design ROVs." *Ohio.gov: Department of Education*. Ohio Department of Education, n.d. Web. 3 Aug. 2009.

RECORDED FILM (DVD, Videocassette)

Title. Director. Other key individuals if desired (performers, writers, etc.). Distributor, Distribution Date. DVD/Videocassette.

Ex. *American President*. Dir. Rob Reiner. Perf. Michael Douglas and Annette Bening. Warner Home Video, 1999. DVD.

ONLINE MEDIA (Online Video Clip, Webcast)

Author Last Name, First Name Middle Initial. (or Screen Name or Corporate Author). "Document or File Title."

Document/File Date. Website Title. Medium of Publication. Day Month Year of Access.

Ex. TheKheinz. "JK Wedding Entrance Dance." n.d. *YouTube*. Online Video Clip. 02 Sep. 2009.

Note: Use screen name as author name when author name is not known. If both names are known, place the author's name in brackets (ex. Funnyman123 [John Smith]).

BLOGS, LISTSERVS, WIKIS

Author Last Name, First Name Middle Initial. (and/or Screen Name) "Posting Title." Website Name. Publisher, Day Month Year

Posted (if available). Web. Day Month Year Accessed.

Ex. Bartholomew, Anne. "Omni Daily Crush: What We Eat When We Eat Alone." *Omnivoracious*. Amazon.com, 14 Aug. 2009. Web. 17 Aug. 2009.

Questions? Ask a Librarian!

The Educational Resources Center (ERC) Columbus Hall

Reference Desk: 614.287.2460 <http://www.csc.edu/library>