

How to Write a Citation Using MLA Format

MLA is currently in the 7th edition.
Check with your instructor to see
which edition he or she is using.

Purpose of Citing References

- Checking accuracy of your facts
- Check authority of your sources
- Follow up on topic
- Depth of your sources
- Sharing your resources

Various Formats

- Modern Language Association (MLA)
- American Psychological Association (APA)
- American Medical Association (AMA)
- Chicago Manual of Style
- Turabian

Four Things in Common

- Who (Author)
- What (Title)
- Where (Publication Information)
- When (Date)

Author/MLA Style Book

p. 1

- Who wrote it? (Author or Editor?)
- Last name first, first name (Smith, John.)
- No author listed? Omit it.

Author/MLA Style

Book

p. 2

- More than one author? List all, up to 3, use the word “and” before the last one
- First author reversed, all others in usual form
 - Example: Eggins, Suzanne, and Diana Slade.
 - Example: Rabkin, Eric S., Martin H. Greenberg, and Joseph D. Olander.

Author/MLA Style Book

p.3

- More than 3 authors? You have a choice.
- Use only the first and add et al. (“and others”)
- Or, give all names in full.
 - Example: Gilman, Sander, et al.
 - Example: Gilman, Sander, Linda Hutcheon, James Marquart, and Diana Slade.

Editor/MLA Style

- Use all the rules for author, but put ed. or eds. after their names.
- Example: Lauter, Paul, et al., eds.

If there are things left out on the title page that you think would be helpful,

- Put square brackets around the material you add.
- Examples:
 - Rowling, J[oanne] K[athleen].
 - Tolkein, J[ohn] R[onald] R[euel].

Title/MLA Style Books

- Titles of books are *italicized*.
- Capitalize keywords (and the first word) only
- Examples:
 - *Death of a Salesman*
 - *The Teaching of Spanish in English-Speaking Countries*
 - *Storytelling and Mythmaking: Images from Film and Literature*

Publication Information/MLA Style Book

- City of publication :
- Publisher's name
- Year of publication
- Format (print or web)
- Example:
 - Fukuyama, Francis. *Our Posthuman Future : Consequences of the Biotechnology Revolution*. New York: Farrar, 2002. Print.

Hanging Indent

- The first line is all the way to the left side of the page.
- All the other lines are indented 5 spaces, or about 1/2 inch, like this slide.

Examples/MLA Style Books

Berlage, Gai Ingham. *Women in Baseball: The Forgotten History*. Westport: Greenwood, 1994. Print.

Rabkin, Eric S., Martin H. Greenberg, and Joseph D. Olander, eds. *No Place Else: Explorations in Utopian and Dystopian Fiction*. Carbondale: Southern Illinois UP, 1994. Print.

Rowling, J[oanne] K[athleen]. *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*. New York: Scribner's, 2001. Print.

Scholes, Robert, and Eric S. Rabkin. *Science Fiction : History, Science, Vision*. New York, Oxford UP, 1977. Print.

Tannen, Deborah, ed. *Gender and Conversational Interaction*. New York: Georgetown UP, 1986. Print.

Articles/MLA Style

- Author

- In general, follow the recommendations for citing names of authors of books.

Articles/MLA Style

- Title – There are 2 titles
 - Article title comes first, in quotation marks.
 - Magazine (or journal) title comes next, in *italics*.

Articles/MLA Style

- Publication Information/Scholarly Journal
 - Volume number
 - Year of publication (in parentheses) :
 - Inclusive page numbers
- Publication Information/Magazine (published every week or two weeks)
 - Day, Month (abbreviated), Year :
 - Inclusive page numbers

Articles/MLA Style

■ Examples:

- Hanks, Patrick. "Do Word Meanings Exist?" *Computers and the Humanities* 34 (2000): 205-15. Print.
- Mehta, Pratap Bhanu. "Exploding Myths." *New Republic* 6 June (1998): 17-19. Print.
- Trumpener, Katie. "Memories Carved in Granite: Great War Memorials and Everyday Life." *PMLA* 115 (2000): 1096-103. Print.
- Weintraub, Arlene, and Lauren Cohen. "A Thousand-Year Plan for Nuclear Waste." *Business Week* 6 May (2002): 94-96. Print.

Online Publications

- “Should accomplish the same ends and have analogous formats.” (Gibaldi, p. 207)
- Additional information
 - Database title (if any) OR
 - URL (starting with http://)
 - The word <Web>
 - Date of Access

Electronic Publications

■ Examples

Cervo, Nathan A. "Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*." *Explicator* 63 (2005): 169-70. *Academic Search Complete*. Web. 10 July 2010.

Eaves, Morris, Robert Essick, and Joseph Viscomi, eds. *The William Blake Archive*. Lib. Of Cong., 28 Sept. 2007. Web. 20 Nov. 2007. <<http://www.blakearchive.org/blake/>>

Tolson, Nancy. "Making Books Available: the role of Early Libraries, Librarians, and Booksellers in the Promotion of African American Children's Literature." *African American Review* 32.1 (1998): 9-16. *JSTOR*. Web. 1 Oct. 2002

Help and Tips

- Sample MLA paper
 - <http://bcs.bedfordstmartins.com/resdoc5e/pdf/Hacker-Orlov-MLA.pdf>
- Purdue Online Writing Lab
 - <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/12/>
- *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, 7th edition is the official source for all documentation.
- Your friendly librarians!
 - jsummey@southeasterntech.edu
 - ldasher@southeasterntech.edu