

How to Document Sources in MLA 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*, 7th ed., by Joseph Gibaldi. The numbers in [] refer to the appropriate chapters in the Handbook.

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 [5.5.1]

Author. *Title of Book*. City of Publication: Publisher, Year. Medium.

- 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*.
- Shorten the publisher's name, following the guidelines in [7.5] of the Handbook. 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 (Harry N. Abrams), cite the last name alone (Abrams). 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).
- Publication medium (Print)

One Author [5.5.2]

Volti, Rudi. *Cars and Culture: The Life Story of a Technology*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins UP, 2006. Print.

One Editor or Compiler [5.5.3]

- If the person named on the title page is the editor or compiler, rather than the author, add a comma then the abbreviation “ed.” or “comp.”

Brumley, Rebecca, comp. *The Reference Librarian’s Policies, Forms, Guidelines, and Procedures Handbook with CD-ROM*. New York: Neal, 2006. Print.

Two or More Authors [5.5.4]

- 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*. Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO, 2006. Print.

More than Three Authors [5.5.4]

- 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. Upper Saddle River: Merrill, 2003. Print.

OR

Jonassen, David H., Jane Howland, Joi Moore, and Rose M. Marra. *Learning to Solve Problems with Technology: A Constructivist Perspective*. 2nd ed. Upper Saddle River: Merrill, 2003. Print.

Editors or Compilers [5.5.4]

- If there are two or more editors or compilers, add a comma after the final name, then the abbreviation “eds.” or “comps.”

McCaffrey, Paul, and Lynn M. Messina, eds. *The United States Supreme Court*. Bronx: Wilson. 2005. Print.

Second or Other Edition [5.5.13]

Author. *Title of Book*. Edition. City of Publication: Publisher, Year. Medium.

- If an edition is given, specify it by number (2nd ed.), name (Rev. ed.) or year (2004 ed.).

Castro, Peter, and Michael E. Huber. *Marine Biology*. 4th ed. Boston: McGraw, 2003. Print.

Corporate Author [5.5.5]

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

American Automobile Association. *North American Road Atlas: Coverage for United States, Canada, Mexico*. 2005 ed. Heathrow: American Automobile Association, 2005. Print.

Government Agency as Author [5.5.20]

- 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*. Honolulu: State of Hawaii, 2003. Print.

ESSAY, POEM, or SHORT STORY in an ANTHOLOGY [5.5.6]

Author of Story. "Title of Story." *Title of Book*. Name of Editor. Edition (if given). City of Publication: Publisher, Year. Page(s). Medium.

Purcell, Arthur H. "Better Waste Management Strategies Are Needed to Avert a Garbage Crisis." *Garbage and Recycling: Opposing Viewpoints*. Ed. Helen Cothran. San Diego: Greenhaven, 2003. 20-27. Print.

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. Detroit: Gale, 1992. 300-07. Print.

ENCYCLOPEDIAS and REFERENCE BOOKS [5.5.7]

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

- 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*. 2006. Print.

- When citing less familiar reference books, give full publication information. Give the number of volumes for multi-volume sets. [5.5.14]

Smith, Murray. "Philosophy of Film." *Encyclopedia of Philosophy*. Ed. Donald M. Borcherdt. 2nd ed. 10 vols. Detroit: Macmillan Reference USA, 2006. Print.

MAGAZINE ARTICLES [5.4.6]

Author. "Title of Article." *Title of Magazine* Date: Page(s). Medium.

- 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. 2000.
- 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., 188-89, but 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: 27+.
- Do not give volume and issue numbers for magazine articles even if they are listed.
- Medium

Paul, Pamela. "Rethinking First Foods." *Time* 12 June 2006: 58-59. Print.

Zammett, Ern. "Battling Cancer While the World Watches." *Glamour* Nov. 2006: 118+. Print.

No Author Given [5.7.9]

- 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. 2006: 66. Print.

SCHOLARLY JOURNAL ARTICLES [5.4.2]

Journal with Volume [5.4.2]

Author. "Title of Article." *Title of Journal* Volume number (Year): Page(s). Medium.

Shore, Rebecca, and Janis Strasser. "Music for Their Minds." *Young Children* 61 (2006): 62-67.
Print.

Journal with Issues [5.4.3]

Author. "Title of Article." *Title of Journal* Volume number. Issue number (Year): Page(s).
Medium.

- Give both the volume and issue numbers, separated by a period, e.g., volume 12, no. 8 = 12.8

Sultan, Mohamed A. "Fire Resistance Furnace Temperature Measurements: Plate Thermometers vs Shielded Thermocouples." *Fire Technology* 42.2 (2006): 253-267. Print.

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES [5.4.5]

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

- 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: B1+.
- Medium

Nakaso, Dan. "Hawaii Rattles, Then Loses Power." *Honolulu Advertiser* 16 Oct. 2006:
A1+. Print.

LIBRARY SUBSCRIPTION SERVICES (DATABASES) [5.6.4]

Wade College subscribes 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.

Magazine

Author. "Title of Article." *Title of Magazine* Date: Page(s). *Name of Database*. Web. Date of Access.

Rozen, Leah. "Man of the Year." *People* 23 Oct. 2006: 33. *MasterFILE Premier*. Web. 26 Oct. 2006.

Journal

Author. "Title of Article." *Title of Journal* Volume number (Year): Page(s). *Name of Database*. Web. Date of Access.

Ta, Lynn M. "Hurt So Good: Fight Club, Masculine Violence, and the Crisis of Capitalism." *Journal of American Culture* 29 (2006): 265-77. *Academic Search Premier*. Web. 26 Oct. 2006.

Newspaper Article

Author. "Title of Article." *Name of Newspaper* Date: Page(s). *Name of Database*. Web. Date of Access .

Mauch II, Thomas H. "Researchers Identify Alzheimer's Enzyme Inhibitor." *Los Angeles Times* 13 Apr. 2000: B2. *InfoTrac Newspapers*. Web. 31 July 2003.

Reference Book

"Title of Article." *Name of Reference Book*. Publisher, Date. *Name of Database*. Web. Date of Access.

"Animal Rights." *DIScovering Science*. Gale, 1996. *Student Resource Center-College Edition*. Web. 17 June 2003.

Heller, Terry. "A Worn Path." *Masterplots II: Short Story Series*. Rev. ed. Salem, 2004. *MagillOnLiterature Plus*. Web. 11 Oct. 2006.

Ebook - Copyrighted Title

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

Bloom, Harold. *Hamlet*. New York: Chelsea House, 1990. *netLibrary*. Web. 6 Mar. 2003.

WEB SITES

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

Entire Internet Site: Scholarly Project or Professional Site [5.6.2]

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

Encyclopedia Britannica Online. 2006. *Encyclopedia Britannica*. Web. 26 Oct. 2006.

Document from a Web Site [5.6.2]

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

Sherman, Chris. "Google Launches Custom Search Engine Service." *SearchEngineWatch*. Ed. Danny Sullivan. 24 Oct. 2006. *Incisive Interactive Marketing LLC*. Web. 27 Oct. 2006.

Photograph from a Web Site [5.6.2]

Author (if known). *Title of Photograph*. Date. *Name of Website*. Medium. Date of Access.

Evans, Walker. *Penny Picture Display*. 1936. *Museum of Mod. Art, New York*. Web. 30 May 2002.

ARTICLES IN ONLINE PERIODICALS [5.6.3]

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

Green, Joshua. "Do Polls Still Work?" *Atlantic Online* Nov. 2006. Web. 27 Oct. 2006.

VIDEO RECORDINGS [5.7.3]

Title. Director, Producer, and/or Writer. Medium. Distributor, Year.

Ancient Egyptians. Dir. Tony Mitchell. Writ. and prod. Ben Goold. DVD. Warner Home Video, 2004.

TELEVISION OR RADIO PROGRAM [5.7.1]

“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. Medium.

“Magnetic Storm.” Narr. Geno Golusha. *Nova*. PBS. KHET, Honolulu. 24 Oct. 2006. Television.

“The Ethics of Medical Research on Children.” *All Things Considered*. Natl. Public Radio. KERA, Dallas. 31 Oct. 2006. Radio.

INTERVIEWS [5.7.7]

Interview Conducted by the Researcher

Person Interviewed. Type of Interview (personal, telephone, email, etc.). Date.

Smith, John. Personal interview. 27 Oct. 2006.

Broadcast Interview

- Add information for the television or radio broadcast.

McGreevey, James. Interview with Larry King. *Larry King Live*. CNN. 27 Oct. 2006. Television.

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 [6.1].

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: Princeton UP, 1993. Print.

Author's Name in Text [6.3]

- 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 [6.3]

- 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 [6.4.4]

- 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 [6.2]

- 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 [6.4.5]

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

(Modern Language Association 77)

More Than One Work by the Same Author [6.4.6]

- 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 [6.4.3]

- 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 [6.4.9]

- 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 [6.4.2]

- 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).

Adapted from Tarrant County College Library MLA Handout
7/27/10