

MLA Citation Style

Quick Guide

This guide outlines how to cite some of the more common information sources in the MLA citation style 7ed.

For a comprehensive listing, please consult:

MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers, 7th edition. 2009

<https://library.nis-eg.com/guides/>

General Rules

- Cite your sources in parentheses within the text of your paper.
- All works referred to within your paper must also appear in the list of Works Cited at the end of your paper.
- Double-space your entire paper, including the Works Cited list.
- Each entry begins flush with the left margin of the page, and subsequent lines are indented. This is known as hanging indentation.
- **Capitalize each word in a title**, except for articles such as A, An, or The, unless they are the first word in the title.
- **Titles of books, journals and government documents are *italicized*.**
- **Titles of book chapters, journal, magazine, and newspaper articles are put in "quotation marks".**
- Use the author's full first and last name when it is known. E.g. Smith, Bob.
- **Arrange entries alphabetically by the last name of the first author** or by title if there is no author. When beginning with the title ignore initial articles (e.g. A, An, The) for alphabetization.
- Multiple entries by one author are arranged chronologically.
- **MLA no longer requires you to include the URL** when citing online material. Include a URL only if you have been instructed to do so or if the document would be difficult to locate otherwise.
- All citations **must include an indication of the medium of the source** (e.g. "Print" or "Web").

Books & Parts of Books

Basic Format:

Author Surname, First Name. *Book Title: Subtitle*. Place of Publication: Publisher, Year. Medium.

Book with One Author

Reference List:

Berman, Ronald. *Fitzgerald, Hemingway, and the Twenties*. Tuscaloosa: UP of Alabama, 2001. Print.

In-text Citation:

(Berman 146-55)

Book with Two or Three Authors

Reference List:

McCloskey, Mary Lou, and Lydia Stack. *Voices in Literature*. Boston: Heinle, 1996. Print.

In-text Citation:

(McCloskey and Stack 46)

Book with More Than Three Authors

For a book with more than three authors, you can choose to either list the first author's name plus "et al." or to list all the names. Be consistent!

Reference List:

Pound, Richard W., et al. *The Fitzhenry and Whiteside Book of Canadian Facts and Dates*. Markham: Fitzhenry & Whiteside, 2005. Print.

OR

Pound, Richard W., Richard Dionne, Jay Myers, and James Musson. *The Fitzhenry and Whiteside Book of Canadian Facts and Dates*. Markham: Fitzhenry & Whiteside, 2005. Print.

In-text Citation:

(Pound et al. 54)

OR

(Pound, Dionne, Myers, and Musson 54)

Anthology or Compilation

Reference List:

Gentile, Kathy J., ed. *Sexting the Look in Popular Visual Culture*. Newcastle: Cambridge Scholars, 2010. Print.

In-text Citation:

(Gentile 227-29)

Work in an Anthology

Reference List:

Bordo, Susan. "The Moral Content of Nabokov's *Lolita*." *Aesthetic Subjects*. Ed. Pamela R. Matthews and David McWhirter. Minneapolis: U of Minnesota P, 2003. 125-52. Print.

In-text Citation:

(Bordo 127)

Book by a Corporate Author

If the name of the corporation/organization is quite long, a shortened form may be used for the in-text citation.

Reference List:

National Research Council (U.S.). Committee on Environmental Impacts of Wind-Energy Projects. *Environmental Impacts of Wind-Energy Projects*. Washington: Natl. Acad., 2007. Print.

In-text Citation:

(Natl. Research Council 116)

Book with No Author

List the title first instead of the author; if the title is quite long, a shortened form may be used for the in-text citation.

Reference List:

Geological Field Trips in Southern British Columbia. Vancouver: Geological Association of Canada, Cordilleran Section, 2003. Print.

In-text Citation:

(*Geological Field Trips* 162)

E-Book

Reference List:

Kanneh, Kadiatu. *African Identities: Race, Nation and Culture in Ethnography, Pan-Africanism and Black Literatures*. London: Routledge, 1998. ebrary. Web. 25 June 2009.

In-text Citation:

(Kanneh 76)

Article in a Reference Book

Reference List:

Kirschbaum, Frank. "Reproduction and Development in Mormyrid and Gymnotiform Fishes." *Electric Fishes: History and Behavior*. Peter Moller. 1st ed. London: Chapman & Hall, 1995. Print.

In-text Citation:

(Kirschbaum 387)

Article in a well known Reference Book

You do not need to supply full publication information for well-known reference books.

Reference List:

"Realism." *Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary*. 11th ed. 2003. Print.

In-text Citation:

("Realism")

Edition of a Book Other Than the First

Second edition = 2nd ed.

Third edition = 3rd ed.

Fourth edition = 4th ed.

Revised edition = Rev. ed.

Abridged edition = Abr. ed.

2009 edition = 2009 ed.

Reference List:

Deutschmann, Linda. *Deviance and Social Control*. 3rd ed. Scarborough: Nelson Thompson Learning, 2002. Print.

In-text Citation:

(Deutschmann 85)

Introduction, Foreword, Preface, or Afterword

Reference List:

Fisk, Robert. Foreword. *The Destruction of Cultural Heritage in Iraq*. Ed. Peter G. Stone and Joanne Farchakh Bajjaly. Woodbridge: Boydell, 2008. xi-xv. Print.

In-text Citation:

(Fisk xi)

Translation

Reference List:

Langlois, Lyse. *The Anatomy of Ethical Leadership: To Lead Our Organizations in a Conscientious and Authentic Manner*. Trans. Della Marcus. Edmonton: AU, 2011. Print.

In-text Citation:

(Langlois 94)

Journal, Magazine, & Newspaper Articles

Basic Format for Print Journals:

Author Surname, First Name. "Article Title: Subtitle." *Journal Title* volume.issue (Year): page range. Medium.

Basic Format for Online Journals:

Author Surname, First Name. "Article Title: Subtitle." *Journal Title* volume.issue (Year): page range. *Database Title*. Medium. Date of Access [Day Month Year].

Basic Journal Article

Reference List:

Beeman, Angie, Davita Silfen Glasberg, and Colleen Casey. "Whiteness as Property: Predatory Lending and the Reproduction of Racialized Inequality" *Critical Sociology* 37.1 (2011): 27-45. Print.

In-text Citation:

(Beeman, Glasberg, and Casey 32)

Journal Article from an Online Periodical

Reference List:

Smith, Rachel E. "Urban Dictionary: Youth Slangage and the Redefining of Definition." *English Today* 27.4 (2011): 43-48. Web. 29 Nov. 2011.

In-text Citation:

(Smith 45)

Journal Article from an Online Database

Reference List:

Shah, Amar et al. "Factors Associated with Length of Admission at a Medium Secure Forensic Psychiatric Unit." *Journal of Forensic Psychiatry & Psychology* 22.4 (2011): 496-512. *EbscoHost*. Web. 29 Nov. 2011.

In-text Citation:

(Shah et al.)

Magazine Article

Reference List:

Geddes, John. "The Canadian Hired to Save the World." *Maclean's* 21 Nov. 2011: 16-18. Print.

In-text Citation:

(Geddes 16)

Magazine Article from an Online Database

Reference List:

Kohler, Nicholas. "A Forgotten War No More." *Maclean's* 21 Nov. 2011: 26-26. *EbscoHost* Web. 25 Nov. 2011.

In-text Citation:

(Kohler 26)

Newspaper Article

Reference List:

Everett-Green, Robert. "Anna Sokolovic Finds her Serbian Soul." *The Globe and Mail* 12 Oct. 2011: R2. Print.

In-text Citation:

(Everett-Green R2)

Web Documents

Basic Webpage

If there is no sponsoring institution or publisher, use "n.p." If there is no date of publication, use "n.d."

Reference List:

Zalta, Edward N., ed. *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*. Stanford University, n.d. Web. 29 Nov. 2011.

In-text Citation:

(Zalta)

Document from a Web Site

Reference List:

Stein, Karin, and Anna Paletta. "Canadian Social Science Faculty Survey." *Department of Justice Canada*. Government of Canada, 20 Feb. 2002. Web. 19 Sept. 2011.

In-text Citation:

(Stein and Paletta)

Document from a Web Site with No Author

Use the title of the work for the parenthetical citation. If the title is long, use a shortened version.

Reference List:

"Mercantile Navy List and Maritime Directory." *Maritime History Archive*. Memorial University, n.d. Web. 29 Nov. 2011.

In-text Citation:

(Mercantile Navy List)

Audiovisual Media

Video or DVDs

List the title of the film first, followed by "Dir." and the name of the director, and if relevant "Perf." followed by the name of the performers.

Reference List:

Double Indemnity. Dir. Billy Wilder. Perf. Edward G. Robinson. MCA Home Video, 1991. DVD.

In-text Citation:

(*Double Indemnity*)

Sound Recording

Cite sound recordings by the name of the artist; you may also include the composers (*comp.*) or performers (*perf.*).

Reference List:

Shostakovich, Dmitrii Dmitrievich. *Symphony no. 15 etc.* Perf. BBC Philharmonic. BBC Music, 2006. CD.

In-text Citation:

(Shostakovich)

Musical Composition

Reference List:

Enrico, John James, and Wendy Bross Stuart. *Northern Haida Songs*. n.d. Lincoln: University of Nebraska P, 1996. Print.

In-text Citation:

(Enrico and Bross Stuart 37)

Images & Art

Work of Art in a Print Publication

Reference List:

Grandville, Jean-Ignace-Isidore. *The Pursuit*. 1844. *Modern Art and the Grotesque*. Ed. Frances S. Connelly. New York: Cambridge UP, 2003. 85. Print.

In-text Citation:

(Grandville 85)

Online Image

Reference List:

Escher, M.C. *Castle in the Air*. 1928. National Gallery of Canada. *National Gallery of Canada: M.C. Escher Mindscapes*. Web. 29 Nov. 2011.

In-text Citation:

(Escher)

Course Materials

Lecture

Reference List:

Rennie, Elizabeth. "Library Instruction." English 1110. Thompson Rivers University, Kamloops, BC. 27 Sept. 2011. Lecture.

In-text Citation:

(Rennie)

Online Course Materials

Reference List:

Gaynor, Kathy. "Finding Statistical Information for Small Communities." *Socw 455*, Blackboard. 16 Mar. 2011. Web. 11 Apr. 2011.

In-text Citation:

(Gaynor)

Other

E-mail

Reference List:

Barrett, Linda. "Re: Homer." Message to the author. 26 Jun. 2010. Email.

In-text Citation:

(Barrett)

Indirect Sources

Sometimes an author writes about work that someone else has done, but you are unable to track down the original source. In this case, because you did not read the original work, you will include only the source you did consult in the Works Cited list.

The abbreviation "qtd." in the parenthetical reference indicates you have not read the original research.

In-text Citation:

Fong's 1987 study found that older students' memory can be as good as that of young people, but this depends on how memory is tested (qtd. in Bertram 124).

Reference List:

Cite only the source you actually consulted: do not include Fong (1987) in Works Cited, do include Bertram.