

MLA Citation Style (7th ed.)

The examples given here are from the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers 7th ed.*, 2009. For variations and examples for situations not given below, please consult the *MLA Handbook*, available at the Library Reference Desk, in the Reference Room, **LB 2369 .G53 2009**, or ask a Reference Librarian for assistance. These sources will be cited in your paper and listed alphabetically on the Works Cited or References list.

MLA requires **double-spacing** (including the reference list), although the examples given here are single-spaced to save space.

Changes from the 6th to the 7th editions:

Effective April 2009, MLA citation has new citation guidelines. The **in-text citation method and basics of formatting a paper (margins, headings, etc.) have not changed.** However, the guidelines for Works Cited have changed for all formats. The following changes are reflected in the examples on the following pages:

- No more underlining. Titles of books, journals, films, etc., are *italicized*, not underlined.
- No more URLs, or Web addresses. Writers are given the option of including a URL if it will help a reader find the info.
- A journal citation should now include the volume and issue, regardless of whether the journal is continuously paged.
- Each entry should now include a method of publication, medium, or format. For example: Print; Web; Film; Television.

Part 1: Periodicals (journals, magazines and newspapers)

- Provide the format type, such as: Print. Web.
- For items found in online databases, give the database name in italics and the date accessed (URL no longer required).
- If a month is required (as in magazines or newspapers), abbreviate all months except May, June & July.

Scholarly journal, found in print

Author, Name. "Article Title." *Title of the Journal* Volume.Issue (Year): Page number(s). Print.

Stino, Sandra. "Writing as Therapy in a County Jail." *Journal of Poetry Therapy* 9.4 (1995): 552-61. Print.

In text: ... part of a term (Stino 554-55). *OR,* Stino reports similar findings (554-55).

Scholarly journal, from an online subscription database

Harris, Kathleen. "Work and Welfare Among Single Mothers in Poverty." *American Journal of Sociology* 99.2 (1993): 317-52. *JSTOR*. Web. 19 Sept. 2006.

In text: According to Harris . . . (338-39). *OR,* (Harris 338-39).

Scholarly journal, two or three authors

Penney, Sherry H., and James D. Livingston. "Hints for Wives—and Husbands." *Journal of Women's History* 15.1 (2003): 180-87. Print.

In text: ...(Penney and Livingston 182). If three authors: (Shelley, Barry, and Forbes 155).

Scholarly journal, more than three authors

Note: Use *et al.* for **more than 3 authors**. Or, you may give all of the authors in the order in which they appear.

Twist, Liz, Michela Gnaldi, Ian Schagen, and Jo Morrison. "Good Readers but at a Cost? Attitudes to Reading in England." *Journal of Research in Reading* 27.4 (2004): 387-400. Print.

In text: (Twist, Gnaldi, Schagen, and Morrison 388-89). *or* (Twist et al. 388-89).

Woloshin, Steven, et al. "Language Barriers in Medicine." *JAMA, The Journal of the American Medical Association* 273 (1995): 724-. *Academic Search Premier*. Web. 13 Sept. 2008.

In text: Woloshin et al. made the same conclusions (par. 44-46). *or* (Woloshin et al. par. 44-46).

Magazine published monthly

Murphy, Cullen. "Women and the Bible." *Atlantic Monthly* Aug. 1993: 39-45. Print.

(Note: do not give the volume and issue numbers.) *In text:* (Murphy 43-44).

Magazine published every week or two weeks

Bazell, Robert. "Science and Society: Growth Industry." *New Republic* 15 Mar. 1993: 13+. Print.

In text: (Bazell 19) (Note: Use the + sign when an article is not written on consecutive pages. For example, this article begins on page 13, but it skips several pages before then continuing.)

"Bracing for a Plague." *Newsweek* 12 Dec. 2005: 72-78. *Academic Search Premier*. Web. 12 May 2009.

In text: ("Bracing for a Plague" 76)

Newspapers

Author, Name. "Article Title." *Newspaper Name* Day Mon. Year, edition [if given]: page(s). Print or Web.
(If Web, give *Database Name* and date accessed.)

Confessore, Nicholas. "Caroline Kennedy Declares Intent to Seek Senate." *New York Times* 16 Dec. 2008, early ed.: A1+. Print.

In text: (Confessore A28) OR, Confessore claims that Kennedy....

"Made in China - Now Sold in China." *StarTribune* 16 Dec. 2008: D5. Web. *ProQuest Newspapers*. 18 Apr. 2009.

In text ("Made in China" D5) OR, ...according to "Made in China."

Liswood, Laura A. "Gender Politics and the Oval Office: Why Don't Women Run for President?" *Baltimore Sun* 31 Mar. 1999: 23A. Web. *LexisNexis Academic*. 15 Sept. 2006.

In text: (Liswood 23A) OR, Liswood writes extensively about....

Reviews of plays or books

Notes: Alphabetize reviews in your works cited list by the author of the review. If no author, begin with the title of the review. If no title, begin entry with *Rev. of* and alphabetize by the title of the work reviewed. A sample list is below.

Rev. of *Book of William: How Shakespeare's First Folio Conquered the World*, by Paul Collins. *Kirkus Reviews* 1 May 2009: 69. Web. *Academic Search Premier*. 24 June 2009.

Rosenfeld, Shelle. Rev. of *Matisse on the Loose*, by Georgia Bragg. *Booklist* 1 June and 15 June 2009: 56. Print.

Wineapple, Branda. "Consuming Passion: The Day Thoreau Set the Woods Afire Inspires this Novel." Rev. of *Woodburner*, by John Pipkin. *New York Times Book Review* 3 May 2009: 7. Print.

Woodhead, Cameron. "Masterful McKellen Rules as Lear." Rev. by *King Lear*, by William Shakespeare. Royal Shakespeare Company, State Theater, Melbourne, Australia. *The Age* 20 July 2007, first ed.: 15. Web. *LexisNexis Academic*. 24 Feb. 2009.

Part 2: Books and reference books

General form Author, Name. *Title of the Book*. Place of publication: Publisher, year. Print

One author Dillard, Annie. *Pilgrim at Tinker Creek*. New York: Harper and Row, 1974. Print.

In text: According to Dillard ... (155-59). or ... (Dillard 155-59).

Two authors Kerrigan, William, and Gordon Braden. *The Idea of the Renaissance*. 2nd ed. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins UP, 1989. Print.

In text: Kerrigan and Braden report ...(214-15). or (Kerrigan and Braden 214-15).

Three authors Marquart, James W., Sheldon Ekland Olson, and Jonathan R. Sorensen. *The Rope, the Chair, and the Needle: Capital Punishment in Texas, 1923-1990*. Austin: U of Texas P, 1994. Print.

In text: (Marquart, Olson, and Sorensen 122-28).

More than three authors

Note: Use *et al.* for **more than 3 authors**. Or, you may give all of the authors in the order in which they appear.

Lauter, Paul, et al., eds. *The Heath Anthology of American Literature*. 4th ed. 2 vols. Boston: Houghton, 2002. Print.

In text: (Lauter et al. 1: 230-38). (Give the volume: pages)
or The anthology by Lauter and his coeditors contains...(1: 230-38).

Corporate author

National Institute of Justice. *Innovations in Criminal Justice*. Washington: U.S. Dept. Of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, National Inst. of Justice, 2009. Print.

In text: (National Institute of Justice 142) first time; afterward, (NIJ 97)

No author given "Report of the President's Commission on Campus Unrest." New York: Arno, 1970. Print.

In text: ("Report" 33). Note: provide the first word or two, enough to find in an alphabetic list.

Article in a compilation or anthology (for more examples, see *MLA Handbook*, pages 157-160)

Rose, Phyllis. "Modernism: The Case of Willa Cather." *American Fiction 1914 to 1945*. Ed. Harold Bloom. New York: Chelsea House, 1987. 61-76. Print. *In text:* (Rose 66-7).

Haney, Jack V., ed. and trans. *An Anthology of Russian Folktales*. Armonk, N.Y.: M.E. Sharpe, 2009. Print.

Reference book article or entry

Cole, R. Dennis. "Bethlehem." *Eerdmans Dictionary of the Bible*. Ed. David Noel Freedman. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans, 2000. Print. *In text:* ...of years (Cole 172-3).

"Noon." Def. 2b. *The Oxford English Dictionary*. 2nd ed. 20 vols. Oxford: Oxford UP, 1992. Print.

In text: ("Noon" def. 508-09). (use *def.* for definitions in dictionaries or encyclopedias)

Smith, Jane. "Agriculture." *Encyclopedia of Bioethics*. Ed. Stephen G. Post. 3rd ed. Vol. 1. New York: Macmillan, 2004. Print. *In text:* (Smith 45-51).

(*Note:* If you are citing two or more volumes of a multi-volume set, cite the total number of volumes in the set and give the volume and page number of your entry in the parenthetical reference in the text.)

"Sojourner Truth: Ar'n't I a Woman?, 1851." *Ripples of Hope: Great American Civil Rights Speeches*. Jackson, TN: Perseus, 2003. Web. Credo Reference. 28 May 2009.

In text: "Sojourner Truth: Ar'n't I a Woman" was one of the most powerful speeches to date.

The Bible

Holy Bible. Chicago: John C. Wilson, 1946. Authorized or King James Version. Print.

In text: ... to the commandments (*Holy Bible*, Deut. 11.1-8). A similar image...(Josh. 23.6).

The Catholic Bible: Personal Study Edition. Jean Marie Hiesberger, gen. ed. New York: Oxford UP, 1995. Print.

(*Note:* alphabetize in list by *Catholic*) *In text:* see above *Bible* example

Online books

General form Author, Name. "Title of section (if applicable)." *Book Title*. Name of ed. or trans. (if applicable). Publication info of original print version. Electronic publication info including *Title of Internet Site*, date of publication. Date accessed.

Fischbein, Ephraim. *Intuition in Science and Mathematics: An Educational Approach*. New York: Kluwer Academic Pub., 2002. *NetLibrary*. Web. 30 May 2009.

Haugen, Brenda. Langston Hughes: The Voice of Harlem. Compass Point Books, 2006. *Google Book Search*. Web. 12 Mar. 2009.

Menzel, Peter, and Faith D'Aluiso. "The New Paradigm." *Robo Sapiens: Evolution of a New Species*. Cambridge: MIT P, 2000. *MIT Press*. Web. 24 Feb. 2009.

Citing Indirect Sources

MLA prefers that material be taken from original sources. However, there may be times when you need to use an indirect source; for example, a published account of someone's comment on another. Use the abbreviation *qtd. in* (quoted in) before the indirect source you cite in the parenthetical reference.

In text Samuel Burke admitted that Edmund Burke was an "extraordinary man" (qtd. in Boswell 2: 450).

Works Cited list Boswell, James. *The Life of Johnson*. Ed. George Birkbeck and L. F. Powell. 6 vols. Oxford: Clarendon P, 1964. Print.

Films, Videos or DVDs: See the *MLA Handbook* 7th ed., pages 197-8, for examples.

Part 3: World Wide Web pages and documents

General form Author, Name. "Title of Web Page or Document." *Title of Web Site*. Publisher or sponsor of site (if none, use *N.p.*), Date of publication or update (if none, use *n.d.*). Web. Date accessed. <URL> (if needed).

- Citations for **electronic sources** may include as many items as are relevant and available. In general, when a part of the citation is missing, it may be omitted. For instance, if no author is given, begin your citation with the next element, which is title. See the MLA Handbook (p. 184+) for other examples and rules.
- Include the word **Web**.
- MLA requires a URL (Web address) only when you feel the reader could not find the info without it, or if your professor requires it.

In-text citations: Cite in text by the first element (usually author). If a source uses paragraph numbers rather than page numbers, give the relevant number or numbers preceded by the abbreviation par. or pars.

According to Sohmer . . . (par. 44). or . . . (Sohmer, par. 44).

When a source has no page numbers or when referring to the entire work, do not give any numbers. Instead, cite the work in its entirety. MLA prefers that you place this citation in the text rather than in a parenthetical reference.

Stemple has tried to . . . or Merrian reported on . . .

Web sites and online news sources

Christgau, Robert. "Oumou Sangare: Sonic and Political Muscle." *National Public Radio*, 8 July 2009. Web. 8 July 2009.

In-text citation Christgau calls Sangare "the most important female African singer today."

"Conquering the Comma." *The OWL at Purdue*. Purdue U Online Writing Lab, n.d. Web. 4 Apr. 2009.

In text citation "Conquering the Comma" provides writers with rules and strategies for...

"Fresco Painting." *Encyclopaedia Britannica Online*. Encyclopaedia Britannica, 2009. Web. 26 Mar. 2009.

In-text citation "Fresco Painting" describes the process by which paint is applied....

Maathai, Wangari. Nobel Lecture. *Nobelprize.org*. Nobel Foundation, 10 Dec. 2004. Web. 20 Apr. 2009.

"National Parks." *Wikipedia*. Wikimedia Foundation, 26 July 2009. Web. 20 July 2009.

"Protect and Serve: Cops Buy Doughnut Shop." *CNN.com*. Cable News Network, 2009. Web. 10 July 2009.

In-text "Protect and Serve" tells about a group of policemen who...

Salda, Michael. *The Cinderella Project*. Vers. 1.2. U of Southern Mississippi, Oct. 2005. Web. 11 June 2009.

"Shanghai Promoting 2-Child Families." *New York Times*. New York Times. 24 July 2009. Web. 24 July 2009.

Article in an online journal or magazine (not from a library subscription database)

Ambinder, Marc. "Are Americans Becoming More Conservative?" *Newsweek*, 2009. Web. 8 July 2009.

Harvey, Peter. "Avoiding Unintended Harm to the Environment and the Buddhist Ethic of Intention." *Journal of Buddhist Ethics* 14 (2007): n. pag. Web. 20 May 2009.

Wallace, Lane. "Environmentalism Through the Eyes of the World's Poor." *The Atlantic.com*. Atlantic Monthly Group, 2009. Web. 28 July 2009.

E-mail, interview or personal correspondence

Goleman, Daniel. Interview by Bill Moyers. *Bill Moyers Journal*. PBS. Public Affairs Television, New York. 15 May 2009. Web. *In text:* Coleman believes that....

Newsome, James. "Quick Thoughts #5." Message to the author. 24 Sept. 2008. E-mail. *In text:* According to Newsome,...

Pawlenty, Tim. Personal interview. 30 July 2009. *In text:* According to Pawlenty,...