University of Connecticut
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MLA Citations

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How to **Prepare Bibliographic Citations: Modern Language Association**

SOURCE: Modern Language Association of America. MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers.

7th ed. New York: MLA, 2009.
Babbidge Library/Learning Commons Desk/ Level 1 / Ref. LB 2369 G53 2009

I. Preparing the List of "Works Cited"

The list of "Works Cited" is the bibliography—a list of the sources cited in the text of the research paper. It appears at the end of the paper, is double-spaced within and between sources, and is usually arranged alphabetically by author's last name. Sources without authors are arranged alphabetically by title (omitting any A, An, The) within the same list. The first line of each source is flush with the left margin; second and succeeding lines are indented ½ inch (or five typewriter spaces) from the left margin.

Works Cited

Citing Nonperiodical Print Publications
Entries for nonperiodial print publications such as books consist of several elements in a prescribed sequence:

- Name of the author, editor, compiler, or translator
- Title of the work (italicized)
- Edition used
- Number(s) of the volume(s) used
- City of publication, name of the publisher, and year of publication
- Medium of publication consulted (Print)
- Supplementary bibliographic information and annotation (e.g. Book in a series)

Book: Single Author

Hart, James D. *The Oxford Companion to American Literature.* 5th ed. New York: Oxford UP, 1983.

Print.

Book: Two or More Authors

Barickman, Richard, Susan Peck MacDonald, and Myra Stark. *Corrupt Relations: Dickens, Thackeray, Trollope, Collins, and the Victorian Sexual System.* New York: Columbia UP, 1982. Print.

For more than three authors, name only the first followed by et al., or you may give all names in full in the order in which they appear on the title page.

Work in an Anthology or Compilation

Moravcevich, N. "The Romanticization of the Prostitute in Dostoevsky's Fiction." *The Image of the Prostitute in Modern Literature.* Ed. Pierre L. Horn and Mary Beth Pringle. New York: Ungar, 1984. 53-61. Print.

Multivolume Work

Morgan, Margery M. "George Bernard Shaw." *British Writers.* Ed. Ian Scott-Kelvert. Vol. 6. New York: Scribner's, 1983. Print.

When using 2 or more volumes of a multivolume work, cite the total number of volumes in the work.

Sole, Carlos A. and Maria Isabel Abreu, eds. *Latin American Writers.* 3 vols. New York: Scribner's 1989. Print.

Article in a Reference Book

Holman, C. Hugh. "Romanticism." *Encyclopedia Americana.* 1995 ed. Print.

When citing less familiar encyclopedias, give full publication information.

Kiernan, Brian. "Australian Novel." *Encyclopedia of the Novel.* Ed. Paul Schellinger. 2 vols. Chicago: Fitzroy, 1998. Print.

Government Publication

United States. Senate. Subcommittee on the Constitution of the Committee of the Judiciary. *Hearing on the English Language Amendment.* 98th Cong., 2nd sess. S. Res. 167. Washington: GPO, 1984. Print.

For more examples, see *Citing Government Information Sources Using MLA (Modern Language Association)*

http://knowledgecenter.unr.edu/help/manage/government_cite.aspx

Published Dissertation

Fullerton, Matilda. *Women's Leadership in the Public Schools: Towards a Feminist Educational Leadership Model.* Diss. Washington State U, 2001. Ann Arbor: UMI, 2001. Print.

Citing Periodical Print Publications

Entries for publications in print periodicals such as newspapers, magazines, and journals, consist of several elements in a prescribed sequence:

- Author's name
- Title of the article (in quotation marks)
- Name of the periodical (italicized)
- Series number or name (if relevant)
- Volume number (for a scholarly journal)
- Issue number (if available, for a scholarly journal)
- Date of publication (for a scholarly journal, the year; for other periodicals, the day, month, and year, as available)
- Inclusive page numbers
- Medium of publication (Print)
- Supplementary Information (brief description if article is part of series)

Article in a Scholarly Journal

Baranczak, Stanislaw. "The Polish Complex." Trans. Jaroslaw Anders and Lynne Shapiro. *Partisan Review* 51 (1984): 433-441. Print.

Article in a Scholarly Journal that Pages Each Issue Separately

Manheim, Leonard F. "Outside Looking In: Evidences of Primal-Scene Fantasy in Hawthorne's Fiction." *Literature and Psychology* 31.1 (1981): 4-15. Print.

If the journal only uses issue numbers, treat the issue number as a volume number.

Article from a Weekly Magazine

Will, George F. "In Defense of the Mother Tongue." *Newsweek* 8 July 1985: 78. Print.

For magazines published daily, weekly, or monthly, omit the volume and issue numbers. Give the complete date for daily and weekly magazines; give month and year for monthly magazines.

Article from a Daily Newspaper

Maddocks, Melvin. "Remembering Jorge Luis Borges and His Grand Illusions." *Christian Science Monitor* 20 June 1986: A 23. Print.

Editorial

"The Corny, Carny Spirit of '86'." Editorial. *New York Times* 29 June 1986, late ed., sec. 4: 22. Print.

Review

Towers, Robert. "Mystery Women." Rev. of *Cat's Eye*, by Margaret Atwood. *New York Review of Books* 27 Apr. 1989: 50-51. Print.

Interview

Lansbury, Angela. Interview. *Off-Camera: Conversations with the Makers of Prime-time Television.* By Richard Levinson and William Link. New York:Plume-NAL, 1986, 72-86. Print.

If an interview is untitled, include the word ***Interview*** *after the name of the interviewee.*

Citing Nonperiodical Web Publications

Entries for nonperiodical publications on the Web usually contain most of the following components, in sequence:

- Name of the author, compiler, director, editor, narrator, performer, or translator of the work
- Title of the work (italicized if the work is independent; in roman type and quotation marks if the work is part of a larger work)
- Title of the overall Web site (italicized), if distinct.
- Version or edition used
- Publisher or sponsor of the site; if not available, use. *N.p.*
- Date of publication (day, month, and year, as available); if nothing is available, use *n.d.*
- Medium of publication (Web)
- Date of Access (day, month, and year)

Note: You should include a URL as supplementary information only when the reader cannot locate the source without it or when your instructor requires it. If you present a URL, it would immediately follow the date of access, a period, and a space enclosed in angle brackets, and concluding with a period.

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/>.

Scholarly Journals

To cite a work in a scholarly journal on the Web, including an article, a review, and an editorial, follow format for print but conclude the entry with the following:

- Medium of publication consulted (Web)
- Date of access (day, month, and year)

Shehan, Constance L., and Amanda B. Moras. "Deconstructing Laundry: Gendered Technologies and the Reluctant Redesign of Household Labor." *Michigan Family Review* 11 (2006): 63-77. Web. 8 Nov. 2007.

Periodical Publication in an Online Database

To cite a work from a periodical in an online database, such as an article, review, and an editorial, follow format for citing works in print periodicals and conclude the entry with the following:

- Title of the database (italicized)
- Medium of publication consulted (Web)
- Date of access (day, month, and year)

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. 5 June 2008.

II. Documenting Your Sources Using Parenthetical Documentation

In the research paper, acknowledge information taken from each source names in the "Works Cited" and the exact place in that source where the information was located. Put references in parentheses in the text of the paper. The information in the parentheses usually includes the author's name and the specific page(s), and refers to the same source in the "Works Cited." If electronic format has no page numbers, use paragraph number preceded by **par**. or **pars**. For sources without authors, use a shortened version of the title. Place the parenthetical reference as near as possible to the material it documents, preferably at the end of the sentence. The parenthetical reference precedes the concluding punctuation mark.

Basic Format of Parenthetical Documentation

Text of research paper with parenthetical reference:

Sir Henry Herbert, favorably disposed to the play's politics, granted a license for *Game of Chesse* (Shepherd and Womack 83).

Citation in Works Cited:

Shepherd, Simon, and Peter Womack. *English Drama: A Cultural History.* Cambridge: Blackwell, 1996. Print.

Variations of Parenthetical Documentation

When authors' names are mentioned in the text of the paper, use only page numbers in the parenthetical reference.

Shepherd and Womack have identified a "marriage of theatre and social order" in Pinero's work (251).

Citation in Works Cited:

Shepherd, Simon, and Peter Womack. *English Drama: A Cultural History.* Cambridge: Blackwell, 1996. Print.

When citing one of two or more works by the same author, insert a comma after the last name of the author, and add the title of the work (if short), or a briefer version, and the page. Text of research paper with parenthetical reference:

> The characters of *Cobro revertido* use memories to "redeem and validate" (O'Connell, "Narrating History," 247)

Citation in Works Cited:

O'Connell, Patrick L. "Narrating History through Memory in Three Novels of Post-Pinochet Chile." *Hispana* 84.2 (2001): 180-91. Rpt. in *Twentieth-Century Literary Criticism*. Ed. Thomas J.Schoenberg and Lawrence J. Trudeau. Vol. 206. Detroit: Gale, 2008. 244-53. Print.

Citing an Online Source with Unnumbered Pages and Paragraphs

When citing an online source in which **neither pages nor paragraphs are numbered**, give the author only. If the author is unknown, give the title.

Dickinson characterizes nature as a "distant, alien, and indifferent force" and persistent reminder of mortality ("Overview: 'Slant of Light'").

Works Cited

Overview: 'There's a Certain Slant of Light'." *Poetry for Students*. Ed. Mary K. Ruby. Vol. 6. Detroit: Gale, 1999. *Literature Resource Center*. Web. 16 Nov. 2009.

For more examples and information see the following sources:

Online class guide on how to cite using the 7th ed. of the MLA Style Manual
http://classguides.lib.uconn.edu/content.php?pid=76485

Information on how to use **RefWorks** to automatically format your bibliography online in MLA style:
http://refworks.uconn.edu