

Citations Using MLA, 8th Edition, 2016

IMPORTANT: If your instructor has given you a book or a different handout for MLA citations, use that information instead of this handout.

This new edition makes **checking specifically what each teacher wants** for any particular class even more important. According to MLA there are multiple ways to do a citation that would still be correct. Individual instructors may have more definitive opinions.

The latest MLA edition was designed to standardize how things are cited across formats. They have created a completely new framework. For a discussion of this framework see our 2 page citation guide including definitions of container, contributor, etc. The new format is designed to be flexible enough to be used for anything you might want to cite including formats that haven't been invented yet. **If you don't have any of the information the citation asks for or it doesn't apply to what you're citing, skip it without any placeholder.** Here is the standard citation form. Specific examples are on the following pages.

Basic example:

Author. "Title of Source." *Title of Container*, Other Contributors, Version, Number,
Publisher, Publication Date, Location.

Example within a larger framework (for instance on a named website or in a database):

Author. "Title of Source." *Title of Container*, Other Contributors, Version, Number,
Publisher, Publication Date, Location. *Title of Container*, Other Contributors,
Version, Number, Publisher, Publication date, Location.

See the last page of this handout for a Works Cited page sample. If you need citations for items not listed in this handout, contact the librarians or check the 8th edition of the *MLA Handbook*. Relevant page numbers from the *MLA Handbook* are listed following each item. The Cedar Rapids library has copies both at the reference desk and in circulating.

In addition to the book, MLA has also launched a free website which offers more features including sample papers, more citation examples, and a place to ask questions from the people in charge of the system.

<https://style.mla.org/>

Most information in this guide is from the MLA handbook, but some information is from the official MLA Style website. Some specific sample citations were confirmed via Purdue Owl. All sources are noted by the examples.

Specifically see <https://style.mla.org/whats-new/> for a short summary of the major changes between the 7th and 8th editions.

Avoid Common Mistakes

BOOKS AND GENERAL APPLICATION:

- **Shorten publisher names.** Use the surname of the first person's name. For John Wiley and Sons, use: Wiley. For Harcourt Brace, use: Harcourt. (p. 97)
- **Omit articles** (A, An, The), business abbreviations (Co., Inc.) and descriptive words (Books, House, Press, Publishers). (p. 247)
- **Use:** UP for University Press. **Use:** Federation P for Federation Press. **Use:** U of Cambridge P for University of Cambridge Press. For Ohio State University Press, use Ohio State UP. (p. 97)

List the authors or editors for **each** citation in the order given on the publication. If there are two authors or editors, put the last name and then first name of the first author. Then put the second names with the first name first: White, Jean Marie, and Sue Ellen Adams. (p. 21)

When there is a corporate author, do not use the beginning A, An, or The. (p. 104). If corporate author is also publisher, skip the author and list it as publisher only. (p. 25)

When listing a specific edition such as Abbreviated, or Revised, spell out the type of edition followed by abbreviation ed. Use numbers for number editions. Abbreviated ed. – Revised ed. – 2nd ed. The edition, if any, should be listed on the title page or its reverse. (p. 39)

Capitalize the first word, proper nouns, and all important words of a **book** title, **internet** article title, a **magazine article** title, or a **subtitle**. (pp. 67)

Months should be abbreviated when used except May, June, and July. (p. 95)

“Digital reference managers may overlook key information, capture the wrong information, or generate citations with improper formatting. You should understand how to create your own documentation even if you use a citation generator, so you can correct the output....” (p. 12)

Do not use Associated Press as an author. (Style MLA FAQ)

MAGAZINE ARTICLES:

- Page numbers are now identified by a p. for a single page and pp. for a range of pages. (p. 46)
- **If the pages** are not consecutive, use the first page followed by a +. Example: pp. 23+. (p. 110)
- The title of the article is in “quotation marks” and the title of the magazine is in *italics*. (p. 30)
- Magazines may list volume or issue numbers if available. (p. 40)
- **If there is no author listed**, start with the title followed by the rest of the citation. (p. 24)

JOURNAL ARTICLES:

- Identify the volume and issue by abbreviation followed by the number and separated by a comma. Example: vol. 128, no. 1 (pp. 39-40)
- If a **doi number is available**, include after the tag doi: pull http:// from dois that have them. Citations with dois should OFFICIALLY not also include URLs, but your instructor may require you to include both the URL and the doi if available. (p. 110)

In an article database, if only the first page number is given, give the page number followed by a plus sign, a space, and a period. For p10-53. 5p. use: 10+. For PDFs where page numbers are listed even if they don't appear on the detailed record, use the pages. (pp.110)

In newspaper articles: If the pages are not consecutive, use the first page followed by a +. Example: A23+. (p. 110)

Italicize **book titles**, **magazine titles**, and **newspaper names**. Use quotation marks for things within a larger container such as “article titles.” (pp. 68)

Copy URL in FULL from your browser window. Do NOT use short URL generators, etc. Permalinks are permitted. (pp. 49,110)

If there is no date listed, skip it with no placeholder **no publisher**, skip it with no placeholder (p. 42); **no author listed**, just start with the title. (p. 24)

Place of Publication is no longer included for journals. (p. 20)

Accessed Date is optional, we have included it in our examples. (p. 53)

Books, Brochures, and Pamphlets

Single Author (pp. 26)

Last Name, First Name. *Title of Book*. Shortened Publisher Name, Year.

Example:

Lampe, Gregory P. *Frederick Douglass: Freedom's Voice*. Brown, 2015.

Two Authors (pp. 21)

Andrews, Kevin, and Michelle Curtis. *A Changing Australia: The Social, Cultural and Economic Trends*. Crown, 2014.

Three or More Authors: (p. 22)

Brown, Frank, et al. *On the Edge of the World*. Harcourt, 2013.

Second or Later Edition, Also Revised, Updated, etc. Edition (p. 38-39)

Lerner, Gerda. *The Grimke Sisters from South Carolina*. 2nd ed., Little, 2013.

Edited Book (p. 22-23)

Smith, John, and Margaret Jolly, editors. *Colonial Experience*. Macmillan, 2017.

Chapter in Anthology or a Compilation (pp. 30)

Author(s) of Chapter. "Chapter Title." *Title of Book*, Edited by followed by the editor's name. Shortened Publisher Name, Copyright Year. Pages of Chapter.

Example:

Deeb, Robert, and Charles D. Brower. "Law and Justice." *American Decades: 1950-1959*, Edited by Richard Layman. Gale, 1995. pp. 225-256.

Encyclopedias (MLA Style Dictionary Entry, Columbia College of Vancouver, Canada)

Reid, Donald J. "Alfalfa." *World Book Encyclopedia*, vol. 1, World Book, 2015. pp. 345-348.

Dictionaries (MLA Style FAQ)

"Literally." *Webster's New World College Dictionary*, 5th ed., Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2016, p.726.

Serials (Magazines, Journals, Databases)

Government Publications (pp. 104-105)

United States, Census Bureau. *Statistical Abstract of the United States: 1999*. Government Printing Office, 2007.

Magazine Articles (p. 43)

Author(s). "Title of Article." *Title of Periodical*, Day Month Year, pages.

Example:

Drucker, Peter. "Beyond the Information Revolution." *Atlantic Monthly*, 31 Jan. 2015, pp. 47-48.

NOTE: If the pages aren't continuous, put the first page and a plus sign.

Journal Articles (Continuous Pagination or by Issue) (pp. 39-40, MLA Style FAQ)

Author(s). "Title of Article." *Title of Journal*, vol. Volume number, no. Issue number, Month Year, pp. Page numbers.

Example:

Kauffman, James M., and Harold J. Burbach. "Creating Classroom Civility." *Journal of Education*, vol. 181, no. 3, Feb. 2013, pp. 12-18.

Library Subscription Service (Gale, EBSCOhost, Opposing Viewpoints, CQ Researcher, JSTOR, etc.) (pp. 38, 110, 113)
Author(s). "Title of Article." *Title of Journal*, vol. Volume number, no. Issue number, Month Year, pp. page

number(s). *Database Provider Name*, www.urlwhereyoufoundarticleorpermalink.edu.

Example Without doi:

Smith, Gary. "Onward to the Top." *Successful Business*, vol. 24, no. 7, 2019, pp. 204-210. *EBSCOhost*,
resources.kirkwood.edu/login?url=http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&d
b=bsh&AN=5265312&site=ehost-live&scope=site.

URLs should be copied from browser window and pasted in. The http:// at beginning should be deleted. If the record provides a doi, use that in place of the URL. Check with your instructor if they want to follow this rule or want you to use both when available.

Example With doi, substitute doi: and number for the URL in example above:

Chan, Evans. "Postmodernism and Hong Kong Cinema." *Postmodern Culture*, vol. 10, no. 3, Mar. 2017. *JSTOR*,
doi:10.1353/pmc.2000.0021.

Newspaper Articles (pp. 42-43, 111)

NOTE: MLA now requires that you include articles such as The at the beginning of newspaper names.

Price, Hugh B. "S.A.T. Scores." *The New York Times*, 26 Apr. 2017, late ed., pp. A23+.

"Security in Airports." *The Gazette* [Cedar Rapids], 5 May 2013, p. A1.

Websites (pp. 41-45, 53, MLA Style FAQ)

NOTE: Web addresses/URL are included. Remove http:// or https:// from beginning. (pp. 41, 110, MLA Style FAQ)

No Author and No Date:

"Title of Page." URL. Accessed Date of Access.

Example:

"Home for the Holidays." www.holidaytraditions/travel. Accessed 16 June 2019.

A Website with Individual Articles on Separate Pages – Remember skip any information not available (p. 28, MLA Style FAQ):

Author's name. "Article Title." *Website name*, Publisher of the website if different from website name, Date of publication, URL. Accessed Date of Access.

Example (without a different publisher listed):

Lambert, Verity. "Time and Relative Dimensions in Space." *Gallifreyan Compendium*, 4 July 2017,
www.tombakerltd.edu/timevehicle. Accessed 9 Oct. 2019.

Example (with a different publisher listed – name of site and organization different):

"Don't Just Manage Your Money, Own It!" *Feed the Pig*, American Institute of CPA, www.feedthepig.org/manage-your-money#.WMLUKvKs6Rg. Accessed 10 Aug. 2019.

Government Site (pp. 104-105)

Name of Government, Department of Government. *Title of web publication*, Date of Publication, URL. Accessed Access date.

Example:

United States, Census Bureau. *Statistical Abstract of the United States*, 2012,

www.census.gov/library/publications/2011/compendia/statab/131ed.html. Accessed 1 Dec. 2019.

United States, Congress. Public Law 111-122. *United States Statutes at Large*, vol. 123, 2009, pp. 3480-82. *U.S. Government Publishing Office*, www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/STATUTE-123/pdf/STATUTE-123.pdf. Accessed 6 May 2019.

Video or Audio: Physical or Streaming (YouTube, CNN, PBS, NPR)
(pp.24, 36,40-45,53, Kanopy, MLA Style FAQ)

Remember if any information isn't available, skip it. If you have additional information see the MLA Handbook.

NOTE: MLA says the proper citation for a film, TV show, etc. depends on the focus of what you're citing and why you are citing it, for example if focusing on an actor might put their name first with their title ie performer. Clarify with your instructor, but this is the basic form.

Director Last Name, First Name, director. "Title of Video/Segment." *Title of Website/Program*. Publisher of Website,
Date of Release, URL. Accessed Date Accessed.

NOTE: If you don't have the director's name, you may also use the poster's name, either personal or company name. In those cases, remove the word director. If you don't have any name, skip to the title.

Examples:

Lohr, Kathy, director. "Controversy Swirls Around Harsh Anti-Obesity Ad." *All Things Considered*. NPR, 9 Jan.

2018, www.npr.org/2012/01/09/144799538/controversy-swirls-around-harsh-anti-obesity-ads. Accessed 10 Jan. 2019.

McGonigal, Jane. "Gaming and Productivity." *YouTube*, uploaded by Big Think, 3 July 2012,

www.youtube.com/watch?v=mkdzy9bWW3E. Accessed 15 Aug. 2019.

Sanjay Talreja and Sut Jhally. *Advertising and the End of the World*. Media Education Foundation, 1997, *Kanopy*,

kirkwood.kanopystreaming.com/video/advertising-end-world. Accessed 15 July 2019.

Film or Video Recording, DVD (pp. 40-45, 36, Kanopy)

Director's Name, director. *Title*. Distributor, Year of Release.

Example Film:

Frank Capra, director. *It's a Wonderful Life*. RKO, 1946.

Example TV Show:

"Hush." 1999. *Buffy the Vampire Slayer: The Complete Fourth Season*, created by Joss Whedon, performance by Sarah Michelle Gellar, episode 10, Twentieth Century Fox, 2003, disc 3.

Talon (MLA Style FAQ)

NOTE: Sometimes an instructor will upload materials on Talon such as an article, a chapter from a book, or a handout. They might not include all the information you would need to cite it normally. This is how to cite those materials with little information. As always if you don't have a piece of information skip it.

Author Last Name, First Name. "Chapter Title." *Title of the platform*, uploaded by Professor Name, Upload date if known, URL.

Example (for a chapter of a book or article):

Anderson, W.T. "As a Farm Woman Thinks." *Talon*, uploaded by Bessie Wilder, 21 Dec. 2017, www.kirkwood.edu/talon.

Example (for a handout):

Economic definitions. *Talon*, uploaded by Adam Smith, 6 Jan. 2019, www.kirkwood.edu/talon.

E-books (MLA Style FAQ)

NOTE: The 8th edition does not ask you to specify what database your article was retrieved from or the URL. Check with your instructor if they want you to add the URL.

Author Last Name, First Name. *Title of Book*. e-book, Shortened Publisher Name, Year Published.

Example:

MLA Handbook. 8th ed., e-book, Modern Language Association of America, 2016.

Literary Criticism/Articles and Chapters Reprinted in Books (pp. 22-23, 36)

Magazine Article Cited

Wilson, Edmund. "The Ambiguity of Henry James." *The Hound and Horn*, vol. 7, no. 3, 1934, pp. 385-406. *Short Story Criticism*, general editor, Thomas Votteler, vol. 8, Gale, 1991. pp. 274-276.

Book Cited

Smith, Annie. *Environmental Protection*. Mentor, 1990. pp. 34-36. *Contemporary Literary Criticism*, general editor, Thomas Votteler, vol. 20. Gale, 1999. pp. 23-36.

Original Essay (as in author biographies in *Something About the Author* or *Contemporary Authors*) (pp. 36, 39)

"Erdrich, Louise 1954-." *Something About the Author*. Edited by Scot Peacock. Vol. 141. Gale, 2003.

Deeb, Robert, and Charles D. Brower. "Law and Justice." *American Decades: 1950-1959*, Edited by Richard Layman. Gale, 1995. pp. 225-256.

From Gale Literature Online

Grossman, Edward. "Vonnegut & His Audience." *Commentary*, May 1974, pp. 40-46. Edited by Carolyn Riley and Phyllis

Carmen Mendelson. *Contemporary Literature. Criticism*. vol. 5. Gale Research, 1976. *Literature Resource Center*.

/link.galegroup.com/apps/doc/H1100000832/LitRC?u=kirkwood_main&sid=LitRC&xid=3b48fa10. Accessed 9

Dec. 2019.

Opposing Viewpoints

NOTE: Greenhaven P is Greenhaven Press

Author of Chapter. "Chapter Title." *Title of Book*. Edited by Followed by the editor's name. Shortened Publisher Name,

Copyright Year. pp. Pages of chapter.

Example:

Clancy, Tom, and Russell Seitz. "Nuclear Proliferation is Inevitable." *Nuclear Proliferation: Opposing*

Viewpoints. Edited by Charles P. Cozic. Greenhaven P, 2017. pp. 33-48.

Online Version of Opposing Viewpoints:

Butrymowicz, Sarah. "Charter Schools Have Had Mixed Results." *Charter Schools*. Edited by Margaret Haerens and

Lynn Zott. Detroit: Greenhaven Press, 2012. "Charter Schools: An Experiment with Mixed Results." *Politics Daily*.

2011. *Gale Opposing Viewpoints In Context*. resources.kirkwood.edu/login?url=http://link.galegroup.com/

apps/doc/EJ3010800207/OVIC?u=kcccedar&xid=4c792463. Accessed 16 Aug. 2019.

Images and Art

Visual Art, Painting or Photograph from Book (p. 49, MLA Style FAQ)

Artist Last Name, First Name. *Title of Work*. Date of composition. Institution/Collection. *Title of Publication*. Edited by

Editor's name. Publisher, Date Published. (Note: Page or plate number or description opposite page number is

included in-text citation only.)

Examples:

Eakins, Thomas. *Spinning*. 1881. Private Collection. Thomas Eakins. Edited by Darrel Sewell. Yale UP, 2016.

Goya, Francisco. *The Family of Charles IV*. 1800, Museo del Prado, Madrid. *Gardener's Art Through the Ages*, 10th ed., by

Richard G. Tansey and Fred S. Kleiner, Harcourt Brace, 2015.

Visual Art, Painting or Photograph from website (pp. 29, 41, 49, MLA Style FAQ):

Artist's name. *The Name of the Painting*. Date of painting. Museum Name, City. *Name of Website*. URL. Accessed

Date of access. (Skip name of museum if it is the same or nearly the same as the website.)

Examples:

Wood, Grant. *American Gothic*. 1930. *Art Institute Chicago*. www.artic.edu/aic/collections/artwork/6565. Accessed 23 Sept.

2019.

Close, Chuck. *Big Self-Portrait*. 1968. Walker Art Center, Minneapolis. *CAMIO*.

camio.oclc.org/cdm/singleitem/collection/WCQ/id/868/rec/1. Accessed 6 Oct. 2019.

Baines, Jon. *The Church of St Lawrence!*. 30 Apr. 2013. *Flickr*. [flic.kr/p/efyzB9](https://www.flickr.com/photos/efyzB9/) Accessed 6 Nov. 2019.

Images from google.com same as above, but make sure you click on “Visit Page” to get information, do **NOT** cite the google search. If no name is given, start with the title. If no title given, give brief description e.g. Chair of stained oak

Visual Art Seen in Person (p. 49, Style MLA FAQ)

Artist’s Last Name, First Name. *Title*. Date of Composition, Medium. Institution/Collection, City.

Example:

Perutz, Dolly Hellman. *Bird Flying Machine*. 1973, Bronze. Central Park, New York.

Miscellaneous Sources

Personal Interviews (MLA Style FAQ)

Reynolds, Serenity. Interview. By Jayne Cobb. 24 June 2019.

Gellar, Ross. E-mail interview. Conducted by Rachel Green, 6 June 2019.

Personal Correspondence, E-mail or Letter (p. 29)

Name of Writer Last Name, First Name. “Subject Line.” Received by Recipient’s Name. Date received.

Examples:

Blythe, Gilbert. “Windy Poplars.” Received by Anne Shirley. 15 July 2019.

In-text Citations for MLA: Important Information (pp. 214-232)

- **The quotation mark comes before the parenthetical citation.** (p. 127)
- **The period at the end of the sentence comes after the parenthetical citation.** (p. 127)
- **Only use page or paragraph numbers if explicit in the text. Do *NOT* count yourself. Cite it to the entire work.** (pp. 123)
- **If a block quotation is used, place the punctuation before the parenthetical citation.** (p. 55)
- **For multiple works by one author or authors with the same last name, see p. 55.**

One Work by One Author (p. 55-57)

Gregory Lampe spoke highly of Douglass (125-35). **OR** He spoke highly of Douglass (Lampe 125-135).

Two or Authors (p. 116)

Others found many changes (Andrews and Curtis 65).

Three or More Authors (p. 116)

“King was put in jail” (Smith et al. 123).

No Author (pp. 55-56)

If no author is given, use a shortened form of the title, including the first word listed in the list of references, in place of the author’s name: (“Founding”)

Electronic Sources (p. 221)

“They were going to go” (Cook).

Important Information About the Works Cited Page

See the full page example on the next page.

For full formatting information and sample papers see style.mla.org

- **The reference list** should be on a separate sheet of paper at the end of the paper. (p.112)
- **Use** one-inch margins.
- **Center the words:** Works Cited, Use Work Cited (if you use only one source) (p.111)
- **Do not** bold **any** information.
- The **font and its size** should be the same throughout the list and the same as the text of the paper, size 12. Times New Roman is given as an example, but any easily readable font will do. (MLA Style FAQ)
- The entire list is **double-spaced** (one line in between). **Do not put extra spaces** between the citations.
- **Indent** the second and subsequent lines in each citation one-half (1/2) inch. This is called a hanging indentation. (p.112)
- **Alphabetize** the citations in one list, either by the name of the author or editor or if there is no author or editor, use the first significant word of the title. In the sample on the next page, the title, “The Apple of Her Eye,” comes before the author, Brown, because the word, “The,” is ignored in alphabetizing. The words, “A” and “An” at the beginning of a title are ignored, too. (p. 112)
- Numerals in titles are alphabetized as if they were spelled out. (p. 115)
- Prepositions in titles are NOT capitalized. (p. 67)

Modern Language Association. MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers. 8th ed.

Updated: March 2010, by Genny Yarne, Shelby Myers-Verhage, and Sarah S. Uthoff. Updated: August 2012 by Sarah S. Uthoff.

Updated: June 2014, April 2015, Nov. 2015 by Sarah S. Uthoff and Julie Petersen.

Updated: August 2016, January 2017, December 2017, October 2018 and May 2019 by Sarah S. Uthoff

Works Cited

“The Apple of Her Eye.” *The Whole Basket of Apples*, 6 Oct. 2017,

www.apples.com/bestvarieties. Accessed 15 Aug. 2019.

Brown, Jimmie, and Virginia Allen. *The Next President of the United States: The Leader of the Free World*. Little, 2016.

“Don’t Just Manage Your Money, Own It!” *Feed the Pig*, American Institute of CPA,

www.feedthepig.org/manage-your-money#.WMLUKvKs6Rg. Accessed 10 Mar. 2019.

“Home for the Holidays.” *Holiday Traditions*, www.holidaytraditions/travel. Accessed 16 Aug. 2019.

Smith, Gary. “Onward to the Top.” *Successful Business*, vol. 24, no. 7, 2015, pp 204-210.

EBSCOhost.

resources.kirkwood.edu/login?url=http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=bsh&AN=5265312&site=ehost-live&scope=site.

Smith, Susan. “My Journeys with Grandfather.” *Universal Network of Iowan Timelords*, 23 Nov.

2013, www.tombakerltd.com/Susan. Accessed 16 Dec. 2019.

United States, Census Bureau. *Statistical Abstract of the United States: 1999*. Government Printing Office, 2007.