

MLA DOCUMENTATION STYLE 7TH EDITION

This handout is based on the 2009 MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers 7th Edition. Please consult this source if you require further information and examples.

MLA documentation (*or citation*) style provides a way to display your sources of information to your reader. You cite sources of information in-text, and show more detailed information about how to find these sources on a separate Works Cited page located at the end of your document. The following examples show you how to create in-text citations and full Works Cited citations the MLA way.

General Advice about When and How to Cite Sources in Your Text:

When do I need to cite my sources?

All documentation styles, MLA included, require you to cite all uses of source material, whether you are quoting directly, paraphrasing from source material, or summarizing more generally from your sources. You must show the source of your information both within the body of your document (in-text citations) and on a separate Works Cited page located at the end of your document.

How do I cite my sources?

In text citations: either by citing in a **reporting frame with a following page number (if possible)** *or* in a **parenthetical citation**. (Reporting frame = author(s) name(s) and reporting verb: X says...; X and Y suggest.)

Reporting frames: often at the beginning of the sentence as a grammatical part of the sentence:

Sandhu discusses the origins of the concept of literacy (212).

Parenthetical citations are generally located in brackets at the end of a sentence in which ideas or information have been cited from a source:

The origins of the concept of literacy are typically tied to the rise of organized education (**Sandhu 218**). (paraphrase)

OR: Critical literacy can be further defined as “a set of practices that allow learners to change their wor(l)ds” (**Sandhu 218**). (direct quotation of specific words)

Works Cited: Full reference citations of every source you have cited within your paper (except for unpublished interviews) must be listed on a separate **double spaced** page, titled **Works Cited**, at the end of your document. Everything cited in the body of your paper must correspond

to an entry on the **Works Cited** page at the end. **Works Cited** entries are organized alphabetically, according to the first initial of the surname of the first author of a source (A – Z).

What Happens if I Want to Show the Range of Opinion in a Parenthetical Citation?

The sources are separated by semi-colons.

Experts have extensively noted this concern (Taylor B-1; Moulthro, pars. 39 – 53; Armstrong, Yang, and Cuneo 80-82; Fukuyama 42).

What Happens When One Expert/Source Cites Another?

If you cannot trace the original source, cite another's use of that source this way:

In-text: Samuel Johnson admitted that Edmund Burke was an “extraordinary man” (qtd. in Boswell 2:450). [note here that 2:450 means Volume 2, page 450]

Works Cited: this usage will look as follows:

Boswell, James, *The Life of Johnson*. Ed. George Birkbeck Hill and L. F. Powell. 6 Vols. Oxford: Clarendon, 1934-50. Print.

What Is Especially of Interest/NEW for MLA 7th Edition 2009?

Required now:

- Use of medium of publication in Works Cited. (e.g., Print, Web, Film, CD-ROM, DVD)
- Use of italics for titles of larger works **instead of** underlining (books, journal names, etc.)

Omitted now:

- information to do with pagination (instead, ALWAYS provide issue numbers, when available)
- URLs (URLs are now always omitted **except** when specifically requested by instructor or editor for a particular situation).

DOI: Not “new” but perhaps surprising now:

- MLA does **not** presently use the DOI number (digital object identifier number for journal articles etc.), as opposed to its current usage in APA style.

ELECTRONIC SOURCES

Periodicals

Scholarly Journal Article from a Database or Online Source Only

Works Cited:

Dane, Gabrielle. “Reading Ophelia’s Madness.” *Exemplaria* 10.2 (1998): n. pag. Web. 22 June 2002.

In-text: Dolby suggests a major review of policy regarding youth.

****since there are no page numbers in the document, there is nothing to put in parentheses at the end.***

Scholarly Journal Article that also Appears in Print

Works Cited:

Wheelis, Mark. "Investigating Disease Outbreaks under a Protocol to the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention." *Emerging Infectious Diseases* 6.6 (2000): 595-600. Web. 8 Feb. 2009.

In-text: Wheelis indicates that new procedures for investigating bio-toxin contamination are underused (596). **Or:** Thus these new procedures are underused (Wheelis 596).

Article from Online Database (or Other Electronic Subscription Service) Note date of access at end

Works Cited:

Junge, Wolfgang, and Nathan Nelson. "Nature's Rotary Electromotors." *Science* 29 Apr. 2005: 642 - 44. *Science Online*. Web. 5 Mar. 2009.

In-text: This exploration of power sources enters new realms of improbability (Junge and Nelson 643).

Online Magazine Article

Works Cited:

Bourette, S. "Bring on the Geekettes: Educators Insist a Culture Shift will Lure Females to Sciences and Math." *Macleans.ca* (May 2005): n. pag. Web. 8 Nov. 2010.

Green, Joshua. "The Rove Presidency." *The Atlantic.com*. Atlantic Monthly Group, Sept. 2007. Web. 15 May 2009.

Article in a Newspaper with an Author

Works Cited:

Rollason, K. "Respirator Masks Flying off City Shelves." *Winnipeg Free Press*. May 2009. *Proquest*. Web. 10 May 2010.

Article in a Newspaper without an Author

Works Cited:

"Dying for Science: A Crackdown on Risky Human Experiments." Web. 30 July 2010.

In-text: As "Dying for Science" suggests, society is still complacently ignorant about the extent of human subject testing.

Other Important and Regularly Used Online Document Types

Document from Government, University Department, Organization or Corporate Website

Works Cited:

Canada. Indian and Northern Affairs Canada. *First Nations Stories: Building Sustainable Communities in British Columbia Summary of Proceedings*. Ottawa: Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, 2004. Government of Canada Depository Services Program. Web. 10 July 2009.

In-text: Clearly, Canadians need to attend to other ways of knowing in order to support sustainable First Nations Communities, as the Proceedings published in 2009 by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada suggest.

Document Available through a University Programme or Department Website

Works Cited:

Kloster, Moira. *Philosophy of Law: Course Outline Winter 2009*. UFV, 28 Aug. 2009. Web. 10 Oct. 2010.

A Page on a Web Site

Works Cited:

“How to Make Vegetarian Chilli.” *eHow.com*. eHow, n.d. Web. 24 Feb. 2009.

In-text: “How to Make Vegetarian Chilli” provides much more than a handy recipe, however.

Entire Website

Works Cited:

The Purdue OWL Family of Sites. The Writing Lab and OWL at Purdue and Purdue U, 2008. Web 23 Apr. 2008.

In-text: The Writing Lab and OWL offer invaluable support to the puzzled writer.

Blog

Works Cited:

Geoff’s Mobile Video Blog. *OrganicLives in Vancouver: Raw Vegan Restaurant and Food Store*. n.p. 31 Jan. 2010. Web. 10 Aug. 2010.

In-text: Geoff’s Mobile Video Blog gives further proof of the success of vegetarian initiatives on the West Coast.

E-book

Works Cited:

Cameron, Deborah. *Verbal Hygiene*. London: Routledge, 1995. *Ebrary*. Web. 7 Oct. 2011.

In-text: As Cameron notes, while she does not endorse prescription OR description, “the essential precondition for these practices –normativity—IS fundamental” (2).

Print-Based (Non-Electronic) Sources: Periodicals

Scholarly Journal Article (With Volume and Issue Number)

Works Cited:

Gowdy, John. “Avoiding Self-organized Extinction: Toward a Co-evolutionary Economics of Sustainability.” *International Journal of Sustainable Development and World Ecology* 14.1 (2007): 27-36. Print.

In-text: Gowdy’s central concern is to foreground the urgency of the situation (28).

Newspaper Article Signed

Works Cited:

Hutchinson, Allan. "A Case of Private Rights and Public Wrongs." *Globe and Mail* 10 December 1990: A21. Print.

Newspaper Article Unsigned

Works Cited:

"Crisis in the Valley." *Chilliwack Progress* 14 Nov. 1990: 1. Print.

Magazine Article Signed

Works Cited:

Zuehlke, Mark. "The Pitfalls of Freeing Enterprise." *Canada and the World* Apr. 1990: 24-27. Print.

Magazine Article Unsigned

Works Cited:

"Other Museums in the Province." *Datum* Spring 1982: 15-21. Print.

In-text: Surprisingly, women are more prone to digestive difficulties after pregnancy (*Women's Health*).

Print-Based (Non-Electronic) Sources: Books

One Author

Works Cited:

Laurence, Margaret. *The Stone Angel*. New York: Knopf, 1964. Print.

In-text: Laurence's character Hagar is an enduring example of misguided fortitude, as we see in her first battle with her husband (105).

Two Authors (*notice the reversal of only the first author's name in the entry*)

Works Cited:

M'gonigle, Michael, and Wendy Wickwire. *Stein, the Way of the River*. Vancouver: Talonbooks, 1988. Print.

In-text: The Stein and its preservation are of supreme importance (M'gonigle and Wickwire).

Three Authors (*notice the reversal of only the first author's name in the entry*)

Works Cited:

MacNair, Peter L., Alan L. Hoover, and Kevin Neary. *The Legacy: Tradition and Innovation in Northwest Coast Indian Art*. Vancouver: Douglas, 1984. Print.

Four or More Authors

Works Cited:

Granatstein, J.L., et al. *Twentieth Century Canada*. Toronto: McGraw, 1983. Print.

Group or Corporate Author

Works Cited:

Western Canada Wilderness Committee. Carmanah: Artistic Visions of an Ancient Rainforest. Vancouver: The Committee, 1989. Print.

United Nations. Economic Commission for Africa. Industrial Growth in Africa. New York: United Nations, 1963. Print

No Author

Works Cited:

The National Atlas of Canada. 5th ed. Ottawa: Energy, Mines and Resources Canada, 1985. Print.

Author and Editor

Works Cited:

Richler, Mordecai. *The Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz*. Ed. Malcolm Ross. Toronto: McClelland, 1969. Print.

Translation

Works Cited:

Tremblay, Michel. *The Fat Woman Next Door Is Pregnant*. Trans. Sheila Fischman. Vancouver: Talonbooks, 1981. Print.

Several Volumes

Works Cited:

Stacey, C.P. *Canada and the Age of Conflict: A History of Canadian External Politics*. Vol. 1. Toronto: Macmillan, 1977-1981. 2 vols. Print.

Play, Story, or Essay from a Collection

Works Cited:

Pollock, Sharon. "Whiskey Six Cadenza." *NeWest Plays by Women*. Ed. Diane Bessai and Don Kerr. Edmonton: NeWest, 1987. 137-247. Print. [Note: while more than 1 editor, 'Ed.' Has no 's']

Chapter in a Book

Works Cited:

Innis, Harold. "Cod." Chap. in *The Cod Fisheries: The History of an International Economy*. Rev. ed. Toronto: U of Toronto, 1954. 23-41. Print.

Signed Article in a Reference Book

Works Cited:

Allen, Anita L. "Privacy in Health Care." *Encyclopedia of Bioethics*. Ed. Warren T. Reich. Rev. ed. 5 vols. New York: Macmillan-Simon, 1995. Print.

Unsigned Article in a Reference Book (e.g., an encyclopedia)

Works Cited:

"Salishan Indians." *The Oxford Companion to Canadian History and Literature*. Toronto: Oxford, 1967. Print.

Unsigned Article in a Reference Book (e.g., a dictionary)

Works Cited:

"Noon." Def. 4b. *The Oxford English Dictionary*. 2nd ed. 1989. Print.

Government Publication

Works Cited:

Canada. Indian and Northern Affairs. *Outstanding Business: A Native Claims Policy*. Ottawa: Minister of Supply and Services Canada, 1982. Print.

Pamphlet

Works Cited:

Women's Health: Problems of the Digestive System. American College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, 2006, Print.

Other Frequently Used Types of Sources

Interview

Works Cited:

Kelly, Walt. Telephone interview. 20 April 2009.

Blanchett, Cate. "In Character with: Cate Blanchett." *Notes on a Scandal*. Dir. Richard Eyre. Fox Searchlight, 2006. DVD.

Wiesel, Elie. Interview by Ted Koppel, *Nightline*. ABC. WABC, New York. 18 Apr. 2002. Television.

Film or Video Recording

Works Cited:

Mifune, Toshiro, perf. *Rashomon*. Dir. Akira Kurosawa. Daiei, 1950. Film.

Recording

Works Cited:

Ellington, Duke, cond. *First Carnegie Hall Concert*. Duke Ellington Orch. Rec. 23 Jan. 1943. Prestige, 1977. LP.

Radio or Television Programme

Works Cited:

"The Phantom of Corleone." Narr. Steve Kroft. *Sixty Minutes*. CBS. WCBS, New York, 10 Dec. 2006. Television.

Live Performance

Works Cited:

Hamlet. By William Shakespeare. Dir. Ian Fenwick. Perf. Andy Thompson. Chilliwack Community Arts Centre, Chilliwack. 14 March 1990. Performance.

Work of Visual Art

Works Cited:

Evans, Walker/ *Penny Picture Display*. 1936. Photograph. Museum of Mod. Art, New York.

Rembrandt Harmensz van Rinj. *Aristotle with a Bust of Homer*. 1653. Oil on canvas. Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York.

Historical Texts and Literature

Bible:

Works Cited:

The New Jerusalem Bible. Henry Wansbrough, gen. Ed. New York: Washington Square - Pocket, 1985, Print.

In-text: In one of the most vivid prophetic visions in the Bible, Ezekiel saw "what seemed to be four living creatures," each with the faces of a man, a lion, an ox, and an eagle (*New Jerusalem Bible*, Ezek. 1.2-10). **Typical brief mentions:** (1 Chron. 21.8); (Rev. 21.3)

Poetry and Well known Literary Works, including Shakespeare

In citing commonly studied verse plays and poems, omit page numbers altogether and cite by division (act, scene, canto, book, part) and line, with periods separating the various numbers: EG “*Illiad* 9.19 refers to book 9, line 19. For line numbers, don’t use *I.* or *II.* which can be confused with numbers. Instead initially use the word *line* or *lines* and then give the numbers alone: EG (*Ant.* 5.1.5-12). To use roman numerals for citations of acts and scenes in plays: (*Hamlet* IV.i); if not, (*Hamlet* 4.1).

Works Cited

Shakespeare, William. *Hamlet*. Ed. Barbara A. Mowat and Paul Werstine. New York: Washington Square Pocket, 1992. Print.

In-text: One Shakespearean protagonist seems resolute at first when he asserts, “Haste me to know’t, that I, with wings as swift/ As meditation.../May sweep to my revenge” (*Ham.* 1.5.35 -37).

Sample Works Cited Page:

Works Cited

Armstrong, Larry, Dori Jones Yang, and Alice Cuneo. “The Learning Revolution: Technology is Reshaping Education – at Home and at School.” *Business Week* 28 Feb. 1994: 80 -88. Print.

Boswell, James, *The Life of Johnson*. Ed. George Birkbeck Hill and L. F. Powell. 6 Vols. Oxford: Clarendon, 1934-50. Print.

Canada. Indian and Northern Affairs Canada. *First Nations Stories: Building Sustainable Communities in British Columbia. Summary of Proceedings*. Ottawa: Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, 2004. *Government of Canada Depository Services Program*. Web. 10 July 2009.

Douglass, Frederick. *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass*. Boston, 1845. *Department of History, University of Rochester*. Web. 15 Mar. 2007.

Guidelines for Family Television Viewing. Urbana: ERIC Clearinghouse on Elementary and Early Childhood Educ., 1990. CD-ROM. *ERIC*. SilverPlatter. Oct. 1993.

Hallin, Daniel C. “Sound Bites News: Television Coverage of Elections, 1968-1988.” *Journal of Communications* 42.2 (1992): 5 – 24. Print.

“Noon.” Def. 4b. *The Oxford English Dictionary*. 2nd ed. 1989. Print.

United Nations. Economic Commission for Africa. *Industrial Growth in Africa*. New York: United Nations, 1963. Print.

“Yes...but is it Art?” Narr. Morley Safer. *Sixty Minutes*. CBS . WCBS, New York. 19 Sept. 1993. Television.