

MLA

Format and Documentation 8th ed.

This handout provides a quick reference guide to the basic citation rules of MLA Style.

Information for this guide came from:

MLA Handbook 8th edition, Modern Language Association of America, 2016.

More resources:

MLA Library Guide: <http://libguides.uco.edu/MLA>

MLA Style Center: <https://style.mla.org/>

OWL (Purdue Online Writing Lab): <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>

In-Text Citations

- The goal of the in-text citation is to guide the reader to the corresponding entry in the works cited list usually with the author and page number. One or both of these elements may be in parentheses. If citing an entire work, the handbook suggests that the name of the author appear in the text, rather than in a parenthetical reference.
- If an electronic source has no page numbers but does have paragraph numbers, give the relevant number along with the abbreviation “par.” or “pars.” If an electronic source has no page or paragraph numbers, cite the work in its entirety.
- There is *no punctuation* after the author’s name in parentheses, and any punctuation that the sentence requires goes *outside* the parentheses. Here are a few examples from the handbook:
 - This point has already been argued (Tannen 178-85).
 - Others, like Jakobson and Waugh (210-15), hold the opposite point of view.
 - It may be true that “in the appreciation of medieval art the attitude of the observer is of primary importance...” (Robertson 136).
 - “The debut of Julius Caesar,” according to Sohmer, “proclaimed Shakespeare’s Globe a theater of courage and ideas” (par. 44).
 - Fukuyama’s *Our Posthuman Future* includes many examples of this trend.

Works Cited Page

- All citations, regardless of format follow this same template with corresponding punctuation.
- Elements 3-9 (the “container” and following) may be repeated.
- Entries are arranged in alphabetical order.
- In titles, capitalize the first, last, and all principal words.
- Italicize the title of a book/magazine/newspaper/etc., Titles of articles or any other items contained within a larger work are enclosed in quotation marks.

- 1 Author.
- 2 Title of source.
- 3 Title of container,
- 4 Other contributors,
- 5 Version,
- 6 Number,
- 7 Publisher,
- 8 Publication date,
- 9 Location.

Books

Type	In-Text	Works Cited Entry
Book with 1 author	(Fukuyama 24-30)	Fukuyama, Francis. <i>Our Posthuman Future: Consequences of the Biotechnology Revolution</i> . Farrar, 2002.
Book with 2 authors	(Doris and Erdrich 42)	Doris, Michael, and Louise Erdrich. <i>The Crown of Columbus</i> . HarperCollins, 1999.
Book with 3 or more authors	(Plag et al. 124-128)	Plag, Ingo, et al. <i>Introduction to English Linguistics</i> . Mouton, 2007. Et al. is Latin for <i>and others</i>
Book with a corporate author	(American Medical Association 225)	American Medical Association. <i>The American Medical Association Encyclopedia of Medicine</i> . Random, 1989.
Book with no author or editor	(<i>Encyclopedia</i> 226)	<i>Encyclopedia of Virginia</i> . Somerset, 1993.
Book with translator, editor, or other contributor	(Tolstoy 30-45)	Tolstoy, Leo. <i>Anna Karenin</i> . Translated by Rosemary Edmonds, Penguin Books, 1978. Other common contributors: Directed by, Adapted by, Edited by, Introduction by, Performance by, etc.
eBook	(Bremmer and Van Den Bosch 42)	Bremmer, Jan, and Lourens Van Den Bosch. <i>Between Poverty and the Pyre: Moments in the History of Widowhood</i> . Taylor and Francis, 2002. ProQuest eBook <i>Central</i> , ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/ucok-ebooks/detail.action?docID=169555. Accessed 20 October 2017.
Chapter or work in an anthology	(Okazaki 235)	Okazaki, Akio. "European Modernist Art into Japanese School Art: The Free Drawing Movement in the 1920s." <i>Histories of Art and Design Education: Collected Essays</i> , edited by Mervyn Romans, Intellect Books, 2005, pp. 229-245.
Entry in an encyclopedia or dictionary – from a database	(Gaukroger 442-452)	Gaukroger, Stephen. "Bacon, Francis (1561-1626). <i>Encyclopedia of Philosophy</i> , edited by Donald M. Borchert, 2nd ed., vol. 2, Macmillan Reference USA, 2006, pp. 442-452. <i>Gale Virtual Reference Library</i> , http://go.galegroup.com/ps/retrieve.do?resultListType=true&contentSegment=&prodId=GVRL&isETOC=true&docId=GAL E CX3446800150# . Accessed 20 October 2017.
Book with more than one edition	(Lafont, 24040)	Lafont, Maria. <i>Soviet Posters: The Sergo Grigorian Collection</i> . 2nd ed., Prestel, 2008.
Multi-volume work	(Ramersad 222)	Rampersad, Arnold <i>The Life of Langston Hughes</i> . 2nd ed., vol. 2, Oxford UP, 2002.

Articles

Type	In-Text	Works Cited Entry
Journal article from a database	(Hurdle D6)	Hurdle, Jon. "Arming China's Terra-Cotta Warriors with Your Phone." <i>New York Times</i> , 3 Oct. 2017, p. D6(L), <i>Opposing Viewpoints in Context</i> , galegroup.com/apps/doc/A507778640/OVIC?u=edmo56673&xid=434df2cc. Accessed 20 Oct. 2017.
Journal article from the open web	(Barker)	Barker, Jessica. "Legal Crisis and Artistic Innovation in Thirteenth Century Scotland." <i>British Art Studies</i> , vol. 6, 2016, doi.org/10.17658/issn.2058-5462/issue-06/jbarker/000. Accessed 20 October 2017. When a source uses explicit paragraph numbers, use that in your in-text citation. If there are no page or part number, then no number should be given. "Do not count unnumbered paragraphs or other parts." p. 56
Journal article in print	(Weintraub and Cohen 95)	Weintraub, Arlene, and Laura Cohen. "A Thousand-Year Plan for Nuclear Waste." <i>Business Week</i> , 6 May 2002, pp. 94-96.
Article with no author	("Famous")	"Famous Dog Race Faces Doping Scandal." <i>The Washington Post</i> . 25 Oct. 2017, www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/kidspost/famous-dog-race-faces-doping-scandal/2017/10/25/471397e4-b51c-11e7-be94-fabb0f1e9ffb_story.html?utm_term=.a9bf1ad49c16
A review	(Armstrong)	Armstrong, Grace. Review of <i>Fortune's Faces: The Roman de la Rose and the Poetics of Contingency</i> , by Daniel Heller-Roazen. <i>Bryn Mawr Review of Comparative Literature</i> , vol. 6 no. 1, Winter 2007, www.brynmawr.edu/bmrcl/Winter2007/Fortune.htm. Accessed 20 Jan. 2018.

Images

Type	In-Text	Works Cited Entry
Image from an online source with creator listed	(Asselijn)	Asselijn, Jan. "The Threatened Swan." 1650, Rijksmuseum, www.rijksmuseum.nl/en/search/objects?q=dogs&p=1&ps=12&st=OBJECTS&ii=3#/SK-A-4,3. Accessed 6 Feb. 2017.
Image from a database - Artstor	(Cranach)	Cranach, Lucas. <i>Reclining Water Nymph</i> . 1518, Museum der Bildenden Künste, Artstor, http://library.artstor.org.vortex3.uco.edu/asset/LESSING_ART_1039789032. Accessed 6 Feb. 2017.
Image from a database – no creator listed	(Gallo)	<i>Gallo-Roman gate of Saint Andre (Porte Saint Andre)</i> . 10 B.C. Autun, France, Artstor, http://library.artstor.org.vortex3.uco.edu/asset/ASITESP_HOTOIG_10313395979. Accessed 6 Feb. 2017.

Web Sources

An access date is optional, but can be an important element especially for online sources that have no date specifying when it was produced or published. Omit <http://>.

Type	In-Text	Works Cited Entry
Web page with author	(Mayo Clinic)	Sterba, Aaron. "Pet Therapy: Man's Best Friend as Healer." <i>Mayo Clinic</i> , Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research, 19 Aug. 2016, www.mayoclinic.org/healthy-lifestyle/consumer-health/in-depth/pet-therapy/art-20046342 . Accessed 9 Nov. 2017.
Web page with no author	("Berlin")	"Berlin Wall." <i>The History Channel</i> , A&E Television networks, 2009, www.history.com/topics/cold-war/berlin-wall , Accessed 4 May 2016.
Web page with no date	(Frisbie)	Frisbie, Chelsea. "3D Printing Vending Machines Aim to Customize Your Food." <i>Mashable</i> , mashable.com/2016/05/05/3d-printing-vending-machines/?utm_cid=mash-prod-nav-sub-st#kuNRCXzQHZqs . Accessed 4 May 2016. Note: The publisher may be omitted from the citation if the website title is essentially the same as the publisher. See pg. 42 of the manual.
Entire website	(Sam Noble)	<i>Sam Noble Museum</i> . University of Oklahoma, Nov. 2017, samnoblemuseum.ou.edu/ . Accessed 15 Nov. 2017.
YouTube Video	("Who")	"Who is Bigfoot One?" <i>YouTube</i> , uploaded by KarmalooTV, 18 June 2008, https://youtu.be/hiOOW4-eJn8 . Accessed 6 Feb. 2017.
Film online	(Heart)	<i>Heart of Darkness: A Filmmaker's Apocalypse</i> . Directed by George Hickenlooper, Paramount Home Entertainment, 2007. <i>Kanopy</i> , uco.kanopystreaming.com/video/heart . Accessed 6 Feb. 2017.
Podcast	(Vogt)	Vogt, PJ. "The Case of the Phantom Caller." <i>Reply All</i> , episode 104, Gimlet Media, 7 Sept. 2017, gimletmedia.com/episode/104-case-phantom-caller/ . Accessed 6 Feb. 2017.

Citing Indirect Sources

If you read a book or an article that cites information you would like to cite, always refer to the source where you found the information – not the original source. See pg. 124 in the manual. For example, you read an article by Hoffman who quotes a study by Ordendall and Meintjes.

In your paper:

Ordendall and Meintjes found that cortisol levels declined in patients that interacted with the dogs (qtd. in Hoffman 146).

Corresponding Work Cited entry:

Hoffmann, Andreas et al. "Dog Assisted Intervention Significantly Reduces Anxiety in Hospitalized Patients with Major Depression." *European Journal of Integrative Medicine*, vol. 1, 2009, pp. 145-148. *Science Direct*, doi.org/10.1016/j.eujim.2010.07.002.