

Citing Sources Using MLA Format

The Modern Language Association (MLA) style format is used primarily by those in literature, language studies, and other fields in the humanities. This handout gives examples of the format used for the Works Cited list that appears at the end of your paper. Remember to alphabetize your references by author (if there is no author use the first word in the title) and to double-space them. For assistance in writing internal citations or for creating footnotes, refer to one of the MLA manuals listed below.

MLA Style from *Online! A Reference Guide to Using Internet Resources* by Andrew Harnack and Eugene Kleppinger, <http://www.bedfordstmartins.com/online/cite5.html>

MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers in Grafton Library,
Ready Ref LB2369.G53 2009

MLA Style Manual and Guide to Scholarly Publishing in Grafton Library,
Ready Ref PN147.G444 1998

The OWL at Purdue: MLA Formatting and Style Guide,
<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/557/01/>

Using MLA Style from *The Essential Guide: Research Writing Across the Disciplines* by James D. Lester. Ready Ref LB2369 .L47 2005

Book

Basic Format

Author. *Full Title of Book Including Subtitle*. Edition (if the book is a second or later edition). Place of Publication: Shortened Form of the Publisher's Name, Date of Publication. Print.

Example

Maimon, Elaine P. *Writing in the Arts and Sciences*. Boston: Little, Brown, 1981. Print.

Electronic Book from a Database

Basic Format

Author. *Full Title of Book Including Subtitle*. Edition (if the book is a second or later edition). Place of Publication: Shortened Form of the Publisher's Name, Date of Publication. *Database*. Web. Access Day Month Year.

Example

Maimon, Elaine P. *Writing in the Arts and Sciences*. Boston: Little, Brown, 1981.
NetLibrary. Web. 3 April 2003.

Journal Article (Note: Formats for journal, magazine, and newspaper articles differ. See the manuals listed above for guidance.)

Basic Format

Author. "Title of Article." *Journal Title* Volume.Issue (Date): Pages. Print.

Example

Mori, Kyoko. "Staying True to the Story." *Writer* 114.3 (2001): 26. Print.

Journal Article from a Full-Text Database

Basic Format

Author. "Title of Article." *Journal Title* Volume.Issue (Date of Publication): Pages.
Database. Web. Access Day Month Year.

Example

Murray, Aife. "Miss Margaret's Emily Dickinson." *Signs* 24.3 (1999): 697-702. *Expanded Academic ASAP*. Web. 3 May 2000.

An Entire Web Site

Basic Format

Author/Editor. *Title*. Institution or Sponsoring Organization, Date of Publication or Last Update. Web. Access Day Month Year <URL>.

Example

Smith, Martha Nell, ed. *Dickinson Electronic Archives*. Institute for Advanced Technology in the Humanities, 2000. Web. 3 May 2000
<<http://jefferson.village.virginia.edu/dickinson>>.

A Short Work from a Web Site (Short Work = poem, short story, article, or similar document)

Basic Format

Author/Editor. "Title of Document." *Title of Web Site*. Institution or Sponsoring Organization, Date of Publication or Last Update. Web. Access Day Month Year <URL of specific document>.

Example

Shiva, Vandana. "Bioethics: A Third World Issue." *NativeWeb*. N.p., n.d. Web. 24 Feb. 2001 <<http://www.nativeweb.org/pages/legal/shiva.html>>.

Updated June 22, 2009