

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 web site <http://www.mla.org> Go to MLA Style, then Frequently Asked Questions.

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 1999

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

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.

Example

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

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. Subscriber Library Name. Access Day Month Year <URL>.

Example

Maimon, Elaine P. Writing in the Arts and Sciences. Boston: Little, Brown, 1981.
netLibrary. Mary Baldwin College Lib. 3 April 2003 <<http://www.NetLibrary.com>>.

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.

Example

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

Journal Article from a Full-Text Database

Basic Format

Author. "Title of Article." Journal Title Volume.Issue (Date of Publication): Pages.
Database. Subscriber Library Name. Access Day Month Year <URL>.

Example

Murray, Aife. "Miss Margaret's Emily Dickinson." Signs 24.3 (1999): 697-. Expanded Academic ASAP. Mary Baldwin College Lib. 3 May 2000
<<http://web7.infotrac.galegroup.com/itw/session/>>.

An Entire Web Site

Basic Format

Title. Editor of Site. Date of Publication or Last Update. Institution or Sponsoring Organization. Access Day Month Year <URL>.

Example

Dickinson Electronic Archives. Ed. Martha Nell Smith. 2000. Institute for Advanced Technology in the Humanities. 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. Date of Publication or Last Update. Institution or Sponsoring Organization. Access Day Month Year <URL of specific document>.

Example

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