



WRITING CENTER

(614) 688-4291 • www.cstw.osu.edu

MLA Documentation Style References

The following entries illustrate the Modern Language Association (MLA) form for sources in the works cited list. In MLA style, an alphabetized, double spaced list of works cited appears at the end of your paper that provides full publishing information for each of the sources you have used in the paper.

BOOKS

Basic Format For Books

Jones, Gregory P. *Red on Red: Native American Literary Separatism*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2002.

Two or Three Authors

Miller, Sanchez, and Laura Rogan. *Trees of Life*. Boston: Beacon, 1997.

Four or More Authors

Medhurst, Martin J., et al. *The Nuclear Age*. New York: Greenwood, 1989.

Corporate Author

Fidelity Investments. *Mutual Fund Services Handbook*. Boston: Fidelity Investments, 1991.

Unknown Author

The Times Atlas of the World. 10th ed. New York: New York Times, 1996.

Editor

Dubus, Andre, Ed. *From the Front Lines: Modern American War Writing*. Cambridge: Green Street, 1988.

Author With An Editor

Franklin, Benjamin. *The Autobiography*. Ed. Kenneth Silverman. New York: Penguin, 1986.

Two Or More Works By The Same Author

Tan, Amy. *The Joy Luck Club*. New York: Putnam's, 1989.

— *The Kitchen God's Wife*. New York: Putnam's, 1991.

Work In an Anthology

Bambara, Toni Cade. "My Man Bovanne." *Breaking Ice: An Anthology of Contemporary Afro-American Fiction*. Ed. Terry McMillan. New York: Penguin, 1990. 33-38.

Introduction or Preface

Hoffman, James. Introduction. *Last Operas and Plays*. By Gertrude Stein. Ed. Hoffman. New York: Vintage-Random: 1978. vii-xix.

Unsigned Encyclopedia Article

"Elephants." *Encyclopedia Britannica*. 11th ed. 1910.

PERIODICALS**Article In A Monthly Magazine**

Thomson, Rebecca. "When the Nazis Took Aim at Modern Art." *Smithsonian* July 1991: 86-95.

Article In A Weekly Magazine

Gorman, Christine. "I Can't Believe It's Not Butter!" *Time* 15 July 1991: 52-56.

Article In A Newspaper

Marks, Larry. "Why Freud Matters." *Washington Post* 12 July 1991: A3.

Article In A Journal Paginated By Volume

Segal, Phillip. "I Kant Believe It" *Philosophical Review* 98 (1989): 189-214.

Article In A Journal Paginated By Issue

Bellamy, Sid. "Early Childhood Concerns." *Psychological Review* 98.2 (1991): 204-17.

Unsigned Periodical Article

"A Future Without Oil." *U. S. News and World Report* 25 June 2006: 17-18.

Review

Morley, June. "A Worldly Philosopher." Rev. of *The Examined Life*, by Robert Nozick. *Wilson Quarterly* 14.2 (1990): 92-94.

Editorial

"Heat Wave." Editorial. *Miami Herald* 19 June 1990: 10A.

Letter To The Editor

Daley, Dan, and Sheila Daley. Letter. *Detroit Free Press*. 15 June 1990: 300.

Pamphlet Or Government Publication

United States. Dept. of the Interior. National Park Service. *The Washington Monument*. Washington: GPO, 1989.

Dissertation

Daniels, Wendy. "Fiction Lite: Popular Writing of the 21st Century" Diss. Rutgers U, 1987.

Published Interview

Peterson, Tanya. Interview. *Writer* August 1990: 9-10.

SECONDARY SOURCES

In Works Cited

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

ELECTRONIC SOURCES:

General Web Site

Harris, Julia. "The Witch Hunts." *Witchhunt*. 19 April 1997. 19 Nov. 2002.
<<http://witchhunt.htm>>.

Personal Site

Pellegrino, Joseph. Home page. 24 Sept. 1997. 7 Nov. 1997. <<http://www.english.eku.edu>>.

Books Accessed Electronically

Melville, Herman. *Moby Dick, or The White Whale*. Ed. Howard Vincent. New York: Viking Press, 1957. Online. U. of Virginia Lib. Internet. 10 Mar. 1995. Available FTP: text.virginia.edu.

Journals Or Periodicals Accessed Electronically

Jones, Jerry. "Investigations of Waco," *The New York Times*, May 8, 1995: 2, 10. New York: New York Times. *America Online*. Online. May 8, 1995.

One-Time Electronic Issue Journal Or Periodical

Taubes, Gary. "Reviews in Cyberspace." *Physics* 14 (1994). Online. Internet:
<http://www.lanl.gov/>

Information Service Databank

Smithsonian Institute. "Talking with Whales." *The Smithsonian Online*. Online. America Online. Released 10-11-94. AOL/Education/Smithsonian.

Electronic Journal Or Conference

Shimabukuru, Edward, ed. "Net Years." *Electronic Journal on Virtual Culture* 3.1 (1997): 62 par. Online. BITNET. 5 Feb 1998.

OTHER:

Film

North by Northwest. Dir. Alfred Hitchcock. MGM, 1959.

Television Program

"Mr. Sears' Catalogue." *Americana*. Narr. David McCullough. PBS. WGBH, Boston, 7 Aug. 1990.

Recording

Handel, George Frederick. *Messiah*. Cond. Charles Mackerras. Detroit Symphony Orchestra. Angel, R 67-2682, 1979.

Live Performance Of A Play

As You Like It. By William Shakespeare. Dir. Michael Kahn. The Shakespeare Theater, Washington, DC. 29 May 1992.

IN-TEXT CITATIONS

The Modern Language Association (MLA) calls for in-text citations that refer readers to a list of works cited at the end of the paper. An MLA in-text citation consists of a signal phrase and a parenthetical reference. The signal phrase usually names the author of the source and the parenthetical reference includes at least a page number.

Author in signal phrase, page number in parentheses. If you can name the author in a signal phrase (i.e., in the sentence itself), you can keep the information in parentheses brief (i.e, page number only).

Amelia Whitford claims that writing for at least ten minutes each day “increases one’s vocabulary and refines one’s critical thinking skills” (67).

The signal phrase (“Amelia Whitford claims”) provides the name of the author; the parenthetical citation gives the page number where the quoted sentence may be found. Readers can then refer to the works cited page for more information on this source.

Author and page number in parentheses. If the signal phrase does not include the author’s name, the author’s last name must appear in parentheses with the page number.

Each time there is an earthquake, there is greater chance for tsunamis, tornadoes, and other natural disasters (Davis 42).

Multiple authors. When a source has two or three authors, either name all the authors in a signal phrase or include their last names in the parenthetical reference.

“Our data also suggests that 45% of all incoming freshman experience high anxiety during the first three weeks of the semester” (Marsella, Hilgers, and McLaren 187).

When a source has four or more authors, use the name of the first author followed by “et al.” (Latin for “and others”)

Unknown author. If you cannot identify an author, either mention the full title in a signal phrase or use a short form of the title in parentheses. For example, you would write (“Talking” 40) to cite information on page 40 from an unsigned article “Talking the Talk.”

Two or more works by the same author. If your list of works cited includes more than one work by the same author, either mention the full title of the work in the signal phrase or use a short form of the title in the parentheses. Titles of books are put in italics: (*Eloquent* 67). Titles of articles are put in quotation marks: (“Talking” 40). If you have not used the author's name in a signal phrase, include it in the parentheses: (Davis, *Eloquent* 67).

Work in an anthology. Put the name of the author of the work (not the editor of the anthology) in the signal phrase or in the parentheses. Only list the editor’s name in the works cited list.

A novel, play, or poem. Include information that will enable readers to find the passage in various editions of the work. For a novel, put the page number first and then, if possible, indicate

the part or chapter in which the passage can be found: (56; ch. 3). For a verse play, list the act, scene, and line numbers: (3.2.21-23) or (V.i.36-57). For a poem, cite the part (if there are a number of parts) and the line numbers: (10.209-11).

Multi-volume work. If your paper cites more than one volume of a multi-volume work, you must indicate which volume you are referring to in the parenthetical citation: (Billings 2:279).

Indirect source. When a writer quotes another writer in his/her text, use the abbreviation “qtd. In” before the author’s name in the parenthetical reference: (qtd. in Chester 24).