

MLA Style Guide

This guide is based on the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers, 5th ed.* available in the Nimitz Library ready reference area (call number: LB2369 .G53 1999).

This guide lists only the most commonly cited print and electronic sources. Consult the *MLA Handbook* or the *MLA Style Manual* for examples of how to cite other types of resources.

Check with your instructor if you need additional guidance. Your instructor may prefer alternative citation forms. Be sure you know your instructor's preferences.

Works Cited items are listed alphabetically at the end of the research paper. These items are referred to in the body of the paper using the **in-text** style of parenthetical notes.

Print Sources

BOOK (SINGLE AUTHOR)

Works Cited: Parker, Michael. Seamus Heaney: The Making of the Poet.
Iowa City: U of Iowa Press, 1993.

Parenthetical Note: (Parker 158)

BOOK (TWO OR THREE AUTHORS)

Works Cited: Ashmore, Wendy and Robert J. Sharer. Discovering Our Past.
Mountain View: Mayfield, 1988.

Parenthetical Note: (Ashmore and Sharer 95-99)

BOOK (MORE THAN THREE AUTHORS)

Works Cited: Holloway, Susan D., et al. Through My Own Eyes: Single Mothers
the Cultures of Poverty. Cambridge: Harvard UP, 1997.

Parenthetical Note: (Holloway et al. 125)

BOOK (WORK WITHIN AN ANTHOLOGY)

Works Cited: Baldwin, James. "A Talk to Teachers." The Graywolf Annual Five: Multi-Cultural Literacy. Eds. Rick Simonson and Scott Walker. Saint Paul: Graywolf, 1988. 3-12.

Paraphrased Note: (Baldwin 8)

BOOK (CORPORATE AUTHOR)

Works Cited: Modern Language Association. Transactions of the Modern Language Association of America. Baltimore: Modern Language Association, 1970.

Paraphrased Note: (Modern Language Association 8)

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENT

Works Cited: Hobbs, Frank and Nicole Stoops. Demographic Trends in the 20th Century. U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Special Reports, Series CENSR-4. Washington: GPO, 2002.

Paraphrased Note: (Hobbs and Stoops 100)

JOURNAL ARTICLE

Works Cited: Cong, Dachang. "The Roots of Amish Popularity in Contemporary America." Journal of American Culture 17.2 (1994): 59-66.

Paraphrased Note: (Cong 63-64)

MAGAZINE ARTICLE

Works Cited: Smith, Gary. "Stranger in a Strange Land" Reader's Digest June 2002: 174.

Paraphrased Note: (Smith 174)

NEWSPAPER ARTICLE

Works Cited: Boudette, Neal E. "European Cars to Get Boxier Look." Wall Street Journal 5 Mar. 2003: D4.

Paraphrased Note: (Boudette D4)

ARTICLE (NO AUTHOR GIVEN)

Works Cited: "The Great Leap Forward: Cars in China." The Economist 1 Feb. 2003: 53-56.

Parenthetical Note: (“Great Leap”)

ENCYCLOPEDIA ARTICLE

Works Cited: Etheridge, Brian. “Marshall Plan.” Encyclopedia of American History. Eds. Allan M. Winkler, Susan V. Spellman and Gary B. Nash. 11 vols. New York: Facts On File, 2003.

Parenthetical Note: (Etheridge 194)

ARTICLE IN A MULTIVOLUME SERIES

Works Cited: Miller, Ruth. “Emily Dickinson.” Dictionary of Literary Biography. Ed. Joel Myerson. Vol. 1 Detroit: Gale, 1978. 34-45.

Parenthetical Note: (Miller 37)

Electronic Sources

Some Tips for Citing Electronic Sources

- Examples are based on the *MLA Style Manual and Guide to Scholarly Publishing, 2nd ed.* (1998), the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers, 5th ed.* and MLA's official website, <<http://www.mla.org/>>. For further examples, consult the manual (available at the reference desk) or the website.
- In general, one needs the following information (if available/applicable) to cite an **electronic source**:
 - author (inverted);
 - title of poem, short story, or similar short work within a larger project, database, or periodical (in quotation marks);
 - title of the scholarly project, database, periodical, or professional or personal site (underline);
 - editor or compiler of project;
 - version of source or, for a journal, the volume number and issue number, and a page or paragraph range if numbered;
 - date of electronic publication or latest update (day, month, year);
 - name of sponsoring institution or organization;
 - date of access (day, month, year);

- electronic address or URL (in angle brackets). Note: If you must divide the URL between two lines, break only after a slash; do not insert a hyphen at the break.
- For **parenthetical notes** on electronic material, only fixed pages, fixed paragraphs (abbreviated to "pars."), or section numbers can be cited, such as (Cooper 15) and (Sumner, pars. 34). If the source has no fixed pagination, then no numbers will appear in your parenthetical note, such as (Sherman). Remember, page numbering derived from a printout should not be cited because the pagination may vary in different printouts.

WEBSITE (SCHOLARLY PROJECT)

Works Cited: Timeline of Art History. 2000-2002. Metropolitan Museum of Art. 18 Mar. 2003 <<http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/>>

Parenthetical Note: (Timeline)

WEBSITE (PROFESSIONAL OR PERSONAL)

Works Cited: Callahan, Robert. Work in Progress: A James Joyce Website. 23 Mar. 2003 <<http://www.2street.com/joyce/>>

Parenthetical Note: (Callahan)

ELECTRONIC JOURNAL ARTICLE FROM FULL-TEXT DATABASE

Works Cited: Habicht, Werner. "Shakespeare Celebrations in Times of War." Shakespeare Quarterly. 52.4 (2001). 441-455. Project Muse. 20 Mar. 2003 <www.muse.jhu.edu>

Parenthetical Note: (Habicht)

NEWSPAPER ARTICLE FROM FULL-TEXT DATABASE

Works Cited: Krepinevich, Andrew F. "A New War Demands A New Military." Wall Street Journal 10 Sept. 2002. ProQuest. 20 Mar. 2003 <<http://proquest.umi.com>>

Parenthetical Note: (Krepinevich)

ARTICLE IN A REFERENCE DATABASE

Works Cited: "Kerouac, Jack." Encyclopædia Britannica 2003
Encyclopædia Britannica Online. 20 Mar, 2003
<<http://search.eb.com/eb/article?eu=46223>>

Parenthetical Note: ("Kerouac")

ARTICLE IN AN ONLINE PERIODICAL

Works Cited: "Inside the Ruins." Atlantic Monthly 17 June 2002. 9 Mar. 2003
<<http://www.theatlantic.com/unbound/interviews/int2002-06-17.htm>>

Parenthetical Note: ("Inside the Ruins")

General Rules for MLA Style

- Citations for print material are very similar, but there are differences between book and article entries.
- Rather than using footnotes or endnotes to cite page references, the MLA suggests brief parenthetical acknowledgments whenever you incorporate another person's words, facts, or ideas.
- A **Book** entry consists of the following information (if available/applicable):
 - author (inverted);
 - title (italicized or underlined);
 - editor, compiler, or translator;
 - edition;
 - number of the volume(s) (if applicable);
 - series name (if applicable);
 - place of publication, name of publisher, and date of publication.
- An **Article** entry has the following information (if available/applicable):
 - author (inverted);
 - title of the article (in quotation marks);
 - name of the periodical (italicized or underlined);
 - series number or name;
 - volume number;
 - issue number (if available);
 - date of publication (in parentheses); page numbers.
- A parenthetical note inserted into your text, either at the end of a

quote or end of a sentence, consists of the author's last name and a page reference in parentheses.

- Hanging indentation is used for the **Works Cited** listing.
- **For citing electronic versions of articles or information obtained from a website, see the [Electronic Resources](#) section of this guide.**