Research requires reading what others have written on the subject you are studying. Whenever you use another person's work, whether it is to quote it exactly or even just to use its ideas, it is necessary to give credit to the authors by properly citing the information source you used. It is equally important for your readers to be able to understand what you are citing, who created it, where it came from and when it was published. You must identify the work by using a standard citation format. The following is the standard for the Modern Language Association (MLA). In this guide you will find the correct citation form for a variety of materials. These examples are based on the latest edition of the MLA Handbook:


You might need to refer to the Handbook for additional examples as not every possible format can be included here. This MLA Handbook is available at the EdCC library Reference Desk or on our Library website at [http://www.edcc.edu/library](http://www.edcc.edu/library). When you cannot find a good example for your need, the librarian will be happy to help you. If that is not possible, the most important thing to remember is to be consistent in the way you present the information and include all of the elements necessary to identify it. When in doubt about the citation format for a specific resource, you should always contact the instructor of the course.

**MLA Bibliographic Citations**

Each source is usually identified by three key elements: the author's name, the title of the work, and the publication information. A period and a space follow each element. Additional elements such as series title, number of volumes or edition numbers might be required.

The first line of each source starts at the left margin; the second and any succeeding lines are indented five spaces. Double-space within and between entries.

Each source is listed separately and is arranged alphabetically by the author's last name. When a personal name is in the first position, last name precedes first name. When personal names are elsewhere in the citation, put the first name first (see example for books with more than one author). If no author’s name is shown on the publication, the title comes first. The title should be italicized followed by a period and a space.

**NEW!** Since a variety of formats are now being used and cited by students, MLA requires including the medium of the source (Ex: Print, Web, DVD, Videocassette, Television) in the citation. In addition, MLA no longer requires including the URL (web address) of an online source. However, your individual instructors may want you to include a URL, depending on the assignment. Be sure to refer to your instructor's published materials.

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I. PRINT BOOKS

Author information is in first position with the last name first. Title information is in the second position unless no author is shown, in which case title is first. Publication information comes last.

- **Single author:**

- **Two authors:**

- **Three authors:**

- **More than three authors:**

- **Unknown author:** (Begin with title information; include editor or translator if given)

- **An edition other than the first edition:**

- **Multi-volume work:**

- **One piece or article from an anthology or a collection:**
  Name the author of the specific piece; include the editor’s name after the title, as shown, and include the page numbers of the specific piece.


II. ELECTRONIC BOOKS (eBooks)

- **Entire Online Book**
• **Part of an Online Book**

**III. ARTICLES IN PRINT AND ONLINE REFERENCE BOOKS**
Citations formats for articles in *print* reference books will be slightly different from those in *online* reference books. In general, articles cited from online reference databases, such as Encyclopaedia Britannica Online or History Resource Center, should be followed by the name of the database (*italicized*), publisher, the medium (*Web*) and the date the article is accessed. The web address (URL) is no longer required.

**• General Encyclopedias:**
When citing widely used reference books, it is not necessary to include publication information. If the article is signed, give the author's name first. If the article is not signed, give the title first.


**• Subject Encyclopedias and Other Reference Books:**
With specialized reference works, include publication information: If the articles are in alphabetical order, it is not necessary to include the volume number or page numbers. If they are not in alphabetical order, include the page numbers and, if there is more than one volume, include the volume number.

**• Article from a multi-volume work in alphabetical order**

**• Article from a single-volume work in alphabetical order**

**• Article in a single-volume work not in alphabetical order:**

**• Article from a multi-volume work not in alphabetical order:**

**• Article from an online Reference Book on a Library Database:**

IV. PERIODICAL ARTICLES

There are essentially three ways of retrieving periodical articles, 1) by locating the actual hard copy of the publication, 2) by locating the publisher’s online version of the publication, and 3) by locating the article in an electronic database, such as ProQuest, Ethnic NewsWatch, eLibrary, etc. Regardless of which method you use, the publication information must be cited. Each citation must include author’s name (when shown), title of article, title of periodical, date of periodical and page numbers. The title of the article is in double-quotations and the title of the journal is italicized. Citations for journal articles should also include the volume number, issue number and year of publication. Citations for articles from magazines and newspapers do not need the volume or issue number but they do need the complete date. As with other materials, put the author's name first if it is given; if the author is not identified, put the title first.

- **Periodical Articles in Print Format:**
  If you have the actual copy of the publication in your hand, cite the article's publication information, like this:

  - **Articles in scholarly journals:**

  - **Articles in weekly magazines:**

  - **Articles in monthly magazines:**

  - **Newspaper Articles:**

  - **Anonymous articles:**

  - **Editorials (in a newspaper or magazine):**

- **Periodical Articles from Web-Based Research Databases:**
  If you obtain an article by printing it from an electronic database, such as ProQuest or Ethnic NewsWatch, the citation will include the same information as the print but the citation also includes information about the database. Here is the generic format, first for magazines, then for newspapers and scholarly journals:

  - **Magazine:**
Author's Last Name, First Name and Middle Initial. “Title of Article.” *Title of Magazine* Day Month Year: Page Range (if known). *Name of Database Collection (if known)*, Name of Database. Medium (Web). Day Month Year of Access.

- **Newspaper:**
  Author's Last Name, First Name and Middle Initial. “Title of Article.” *Title of Newspaper* Day Month Year, edition: Page Range (if known). *Name of Database Collection (if known)*. Name of Database. Medium (Web). Day Month Year of Access.

- **Journal:**
  Author's Last Name, First Name and Middle Initial. “Title of Article.” *Title of Journal* Volume Number and/or Issue Number (Year): Page Range. *Name of Database Collection (if known)*. Name of Database. Publisher. Medium (Web). Day Month Year of Access.

**Examples from EdCC Library Databases**

- **Magazine Article from eLibrary:**

- **Daily Newspaper Article from Ethnic NewsWatch:**

- **Magazine Article from ProQuest:**

- **Scholarly Journal Article from ProQuest:**
  (Note the difference in publication information from the magazine in the example above. For a scholarly journal article, include the volume and number of the scholarly journal. See the example below.)
Generally, you will not know the author of a government document. When that is the case, cite the government agency that issued the work as the author. State name of government first, followed by the agency’s name. Abbreviate common words such as department (Dept.). Follow the guidelines in section 5.6.21 of the MLA Handbook if the work is not like the examples below. For government documents found online, end the citation with the date of access.


If the author is known, you can either begin the citation with the governmental agency, as in the examples above, and list the author’s name after the document title, preceded by the word “By” or an abbreviation, such as Ed., or you can begin the citation with the author’s name. Either format is correct.


OR


VI. WORLD WIDE WEBSITES

When citing websites and the articles and pages within them, begin with the author, title of article or page within a website, title of website, publisher or sponsor, document date or date of the last revision, the medium (Web), and the date you accessed the web site. If no publisher or sponsor is available, use the initials N.p. If no date is available, use the initials n.d.

- **A Professional or Personal Site:**

- **Entire Web Site:**


- **Page or Article within a Web Site (with author, no sponsor, no date):**
• **Page or Article Within a Web Site (no author):**

• **Article in a Newspaper Online:**

• **Article in an Online Magazine:**

• **Photograph, Painting, Sculpture:**


• **Map:**

**VII. PAMPHLETS**

Treat a pamphlet as you would a book.


**VIII. AUDIOVISUAL MATERIALS**

In general, citations for AV materials must include author (if available; if in doubt, put the title first), title, producing company and date. Other elements vary depending on the type of material, so follow the examples closely and keep referring to the *MLA Handbook*.

• **Television or Radio Program:**
  In this example, "Cuba and Cocaine" is the name of the segment and *Frontline* is the name of the TV program. Notice that the name of the company producing the program (in this case, Documentary Consortium) is followed by the name of the network as well as the call letters and city of the local station (if any).

- **Music Recordings:**
  Start with the name of either the composer or the performer. Then give the title of the recording, the performer (if not put first), the manufacturer, and the year. If the recording is not a CD, include ‘Audiocassette’ or ‘LP’ (phonograph record) before the manufacturer.

- **Performer and composer are the same or no composer shown:**

- **Composer and Performer:**

- **Videos and DVD’s:**
  List title, director, form of media, distributor and year. Other items such as the writer, performers and producer aren’t required but may be inserted before the distributor.

  *Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.* Dir. Denise Guyen. SVE Inc, 1988. DVD.

  *It’s a Wonderful Life*. Dir. Frank Capra. Perf. James Stewart, Donna Reed, Lionel Barrymore, and Thomas Mitchell. RKO, 1946. DVD.

**IX. INTERVIEWS**

Begin with the name of the person interviewed. Enclose the title of the interview in quotation marks if it is part of a program or publication. If the interview is untitled, call it *Interview*. If you are the interviewer, name the kind of interview conducted and the date, as shown below.


- **Interview found online:**
MLA In-Text Citations

When quoting or paraphrasing another person’s words or ideas, you must give credit to that person. You can do this by listing her or her last name and the page number(s), if available, within the text of your paper. This is called an in-text citation. An in-text citation is in parenthesis at the end of the phrase or sentence(s) you are quoting or paraphrasing. With a print source, an in-text citation will look like this: (last name page number). With a web site, where there is usually no page numbers, just list the author.

Below are some examples. (See the MLA Handbook for more.)

When the author’s name is part of the text, list just the page number

Example:
Wordsworth extensively explored the role of emotion in the creative process (263).

When the author’s name is not part of the text, list the name and page number

Example:
Romantic poetry is characterized by the “spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings” (Wordsworth 263).

Full citation for the Bibliography or Works Cited page:

When using a web site, with no page number, list just the author’s name

Example:
The incident at Virginia Tech involved a greater number of deaths than any campus shooting in U.S. history (Johnson).

Full citation for the Bibliography or Works Cited page:

When there is no author, use a short form of the title, followed by the page number

Example:
As of 2001, at least three hundred towns and municipalities had considered legislation regulating use of cell phones while driving ("Lawmakers" 2).

When there are two authors, list both names, followed by the page number

Example:
With research showing varying results, it is difficult to predict the extent to which the cochlear implant will make a significant difference for deaf children (Christiansen & Leigh 318).

When using an indirect quote, list the source you used, followed by the page number

Example:
Ravitch argues that high schools are pressured to act as “social service centers, and they don’t do that well” (qtd. in Weisman 259).