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MLA Guide to Citing Online Sources

You can use this guide to citing online sources, such as periodical articles, with [NoodleTools](#), a web based citation software at: <http://www.noodletools.com/login.php>. Registration is free, **but you must do so using a campus PC**, before using it off campus.

For more information see the book [MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers](#) (Behind the Research Help/Information Desk) or go to the Library Web page at <http://sheboygan.uwc.edu/library>, and select *Citation Guides* under *Library Quick Links*.

If you are paraphrasing, quoting or summarizing from an online source, print it for future reference so your instructor can verify its accuracy.

- **PERIODICAL ARTICLES** from online full-text databases such as those listed on the UWS Library home page at: <http://sheboygan.uwc.edu/library/alldatabases.shtm>

Formula: Author's last name, first name middle name (if given). "Title of Article." *Name of Periodical* day (if given) Month (abbreviated) year: page numbers (if not given use n. pag.). Name of database used. Medium of publication = Web. Date of access.

MAGAZINE Articles

Tucker, Abigail. "Birth of a Robot." *Smithsonian* July 2009: 56-66. Readers Guide. Web. 15 July 2009.

Sawchuk, Stephen, and Jessica Cain. "Testing Faces Ups and Downs Amid Recession." *Education Week* 13 May 2009: 1-17. Academic Search Premier. Web. 15 July 2009.

SCHOLARLY JOURNAL Articles

Formula: same as above except: after *Name of the Periodical* add vol.issue number (year of publication)

Humberg, Lee A., Travis L. Devault, and Olin E. Rhodes Jr. "Survival and Cause Specific Mortality of Wild Turkeys in Northern Indiana." *American Midland Naturalist* 161:2 (2009): 313-322. BioOne. Web. 17 July 2009.

Satz, Debra. "Equality, Adequacy, and Education for Citizenship." *Ethics* 117:4 (2007): 623-648. JSTOR Web 17 July 2009.

NEWSPAPER Article

McNeil, Donald G., Jr. "An Outbreak of Autism, Or a Statistical Fluke?" *New York Times* 17 March 2009: late ed.: D1. LexisNexis Academic. Web. 12 Aug. 2009.

ELECTRONIC BOOK

Roberts, Alasdair. *Blacked Out: Government Secrecy in the Information Age*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006. Web. 12 Aug. 2009.

ESSAY IN ONLINE DATABASE

Chittom, Lynn-nore. "Point: We Have a Better Understanding of Autism." *Points of View Reference Center*. EBSCO Publishing, 2008. Web. 4 Sept. 2009.

ONLINE ENCLYCLOPEDIA Article

"swine flu." *Encyclopedia Britannica Online*. Encyclopedia Britannica, 2009. Web. 27, Aug. 2009.

GENERAL WORLD WIDE WEB RESOURCES

Basic Format: Author's (compiler's, director's, editor's, narrator's, performer's, or translator's) last name, first name. "Title of the Document." *Title of the Internet Site* (italicized) if given. Publisher or sponsor of the site; if not available, use N.p. Date of publication or latest revision. Medium of publication (*Web*). Date of access (day, month and year). Follow each part by a period except for publisher or sponsor, after which use a comma. (Taken from *MLA Handbook* 5.6.2.)

Madden, Mary. "The State of Music Online: Ten Years After Napster." *Pew Internet & American Life Project*. Pew Research Center, June 2009. 27 Aug. 2009.

For more information, go to the UWS Library web page, <http://sheboygan.uwc.edu/library>, and select *Citation Guides* under *Library Quick Links* or use the guides at Duke University Libraries at: http://www.lib.duke.edu/libguide/cite/works_cited.htm.

- **CITING ONLINE SOURCES IN THE TEXT.** This method, *parenthetical documentation*, is used in place of footnotes or endnotes within your paper, usually at the end of a sentence in which the quoted or paraphrased resource is used. The purpose is to lead the reader from sources cited within the paper to an alphabetically arranged Works Cited list at the end of your paper. Online citations follow the same rules as for print sources. In parentheses, include the author's last name and page number if given.

- **Example of citing Author and Title in the Text** (you do not need to use Parenthetical Citation since you are citing the complete work instead of an idea from the work)
In "Birth of a Robot", that appeared in the July 2009 issue of *Smithsonian*, Abigail Tucker explores the promises and disappointments of robots becoming more human.
- **Example of Author not listed in Text**
Robots can tell jokes but do not understand humor. (Tucker 58)
- **Example of Author listed in Text**
Tucker compares building a humanoid robot to that of a virgin birth (65)
Example of Quotation with Author's Name Used
Tucker notes it can do an incredible range things, but still, "...Einstein is no Einstein." (58)
- **Example Quotation without Author's Name Used**
"What a social robot's face should look like is a critical, and surprisingly difficult, decision."
(Tucker 64)

If you have more than one title by the same author in your works-cited list, put a comma after the author's name and the title, or a shortened version of a long title. (Tucker, "Birth" 59).

The parenthetical documentation information was adapted from the Sacramento State University Library's "MLA Style Guide" at <http://library.csus.edu/guides/rogenmoserd/general/mla.html>.