Guide to Citing Research Sources: MLA Style

You can use this guide to citing sources in MLA (Modern Language Association) style, which is the style used primarily in the humanities, such as English language and literature. For further information, see the book *MLA Handbook, 8th Edition* (Located at the Library’s Research Help/Information Desk).

NoodleTools, a web based citation software at: [http://www.noodletools.com/login.php](http://www.noodletools.com/login.php) will generate a citation or “Works Cited” list from fill-in information the user provides. NoodleTools use is free, but you must register for the site using a campus computer, before using it off campus.

**Works Cited**

The Works Cited listing, placed at the end of your paper, sets forth basic information about your sources, including the author’s name, title of the work and publication information. Sources are alphabetized by the author’s last name. The list is double-spaced with a hanging indent of five spaces. The following citations are examples of commonly used resources in a Works Cited list:

**BOOKS (not accessed online):**

*General Formula:*

Author’s last name, first name middle name. (exactly as it appears on the title page) *Title of Work.* (as it appears on title page) Revised/updated edition (if specified), Publisher, date of publication.

**One Author:**


*Note:* in publisher names, replace “University Press” with the abbreviation “UP.” Also eliminate business words from the name, such as Company (Co.), Corporation (Corp.), Incorporated (Inc.), and Limited (Ltd.).

**Two Authors:**


**Three or more Authors:**


**An Editor or Compiler**


**Author and Illustrator, Translator or Editor:**

Corporation, Association, Committee or other group in which individuals are not named on title page:

Note: When you are citing a corporation as an author, the full corporate name is used.

One work from an Anthology or Book Chapter:

Title within a Title:

Introduction, a Preface, a Foreword or an Afterword:

ARTICLES (not accessed online):
General Formula:
Author’s name. (last, first middle-- as it appears on title page). “Title of the article.” Name of Journal, vol. xx, no. xx, date of publication, pp. ##–##.

Article in a Journal or Magazine with volume and issue numbers:

Article in a Scholarly Journal with issue number only:

Newspaper Article in different editions:

Note: If an article starts on one page and continues at a non-consecutive page within the publication, cite the first page with a plus (+) sign to indicate it continues. Cite a range of page numbers when the article is paginated continuously.
Article in a Dictionary or Encyclopedia:

*Note:* Signed articles in an encyclopedia should include the author’s name and the title of the article in quotes at the beginning of the citation.


WEBSITES & ONLINE PUBLICATIONS:
*General Formula:*
Author’s name. (last, first middle). “Title of the Document.” *Title of the Internet site*, Publisher of site
(if different from the author or title of the site), Date of publication or latest revision, website address (without http://).

*General Web Page*
Griffin, R. Morgan. “E-Cigarettes 101.” *Smoking Cessation Health Center*, WebMD, 2015,


*Note:* it is optional whether to include the date you accessed the website, but is recommended if the source provides no publication date; add this to the end of the citation in this format: Accessed 3 Aug. 2016.

*Newspaper (Article on newspaper website or on newswire)*
Bhanoo, Sindya N. “Humans, like Animals, Are Fearless without Amygdala.” *New York Times*,


*Note:* New York Times in print is a periodical publication; its website is not.

*Essay in an Online Database:*
E-Book (with publisher and date) from a database:

*eBook Collection (EBSCOhost), ezproxy.uwc.edu/login?url=http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?
direct=true&AuthType=cookie,ip,cpid&custid=s5805083&db=nlebk&AN=81230&site=ehost-live&scope=site.*

ARTICLES ACCESSED ONLINE:
*General Formula:*
Author’s name. (last, first middle-- as it appears on title page). “Title of the article.” *Name of Journal*, vol. xx, no. xx, date of publication, pp. ##-##. *Name of database containing article* (if applicable), DOI (if available) or website address (without http://). If from an online articles database, use the “permalink” address is available).

**Scholarly Journal Article in Online Database (with DOI):**


**Scholarly Journal Article in Online Database (with permalink):**
ip,cpid&custid=s5805083&db=ufh&AN=52526880&site=ehost-live&scope=site.

**Article in an e-Journal (not from an articles database):**

OTHER SOURCES:

**T.V. or Radio Broadcast** - *General Formula:*
“Title of the episode or segment.” *Title of the program or series*, Name of the network, (if any)

Broadcast date. *Online service* (if applicable) and URL.
Television:

Radio:

Film or Video Recording - General Formula:
Title. Directed (or created) by first name last name, Distributor, Year of release.

Film/Video:

Interviews-General Formula:
Name of person interviewed. (last, first middle) “Title of the Interview.” (If the interview has no title, use Interview with no italics or quotation marks.) Name of Publication. (add appropriate bibliographic information according to the source: if the interview is in a book, include publisher and date of publication. If the interview is in a periodical, include volume and issue numbers, date of publication and page numbers.)

Published Interview:

Interview that you conducted:

E-mail message received by you:

Tweets:
@persiankiwi. “We have report of large street battles in east & west of Tehran now - #Iranelection.”

Twitter, 23 June 2009, 11:15 a.m., twitter.com/persiankiwi/status/2298106072.
PARENTHEtical citations in text

MLA style requires use of parenthetical citations in text, rather than footnotes or endnotes. The reference in the citation (source and/or page number) is usually placed at the end of all punctuation, except the last punctuation mark. The purpose is to lead the reader from sources cited within the paper to the alphabetically arranged Works Cited list at the end of your paper. Citations of online resources follow the same rules as for print sources. Examples follow:

One name: In text: Langman contends that mass violence in schools is not new (3). In reference: The difference in school violence today is that teenagers are the perpetrators (Langman 3-4).

Two names: In text: Ramirez and Lucero argue that Ortiz’s writing has had a tremendous impact on contemporary Native American literature (52). In reference: Ortiz is one of the most influential writers of contemporary Native American literature (Ramirez and Lucero 52).

Name and title in text: In his book, Why Kids Kill, Langman explores the psychological causes of school shootings. (Note: a page number is not necessary when citing the reference as a whole.)

Citing a work listed by title: “Soft skills” are those that are required for work, but are not listed in a job description (“Preparing for your Career”).

Quotations in text: Langman defines paranoid people as “obsessed with independence and self-control” (33).

“Paranoid people are obsessed with independence and self-control; they are hypersensitive about being influenced by others” (Langman 33).

Volume and page of a multi-volume work: According to the Encyclopedia of Careers and Vocational Guidance, assessment tests are an important tool in determining an occupation that is right for you (1: 10-14).

Name of a corporate author in text: The Modern Language Association has simplified the MLA citation style for works published on the Web (xvii).