



MLA STYLE DOCUMENTATION

Library Media Center

This handout gives some examples of how to document (or cite) information sources in bibliographies, works cited, or reference pages using Modern Language Association of America (MLA) style. For more detailed information, consult the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers, 6th edition (call number REF LB 2369.G53 2003). You can also find more information at the MLA Style web page: <http://www.mla.org>.

A bibliography or works cited page appears at the end of a research paper. It informs the reader of the sources of quotes, facts and information used to formulate the opinions in your research paper. It is important to provide an accurate and complete bibliography to prevent plagiarism. Follow punctuation, capitalization, and underlining provided in the examples. Begin each entry even with the **left margin**. Subsequent lines for that entry are indented 5 spaces or 1/2 inch from the left margin.

- **Double-space** within and between all entries.
- **Alphabetize** entries by author; if no author is given, begin with title, ignoring the articles **a, an, the**.
- Do NOT number the entries.
- MLA notes that you may use *italics* rather than underlining to identify titles. However, we suggest that you check with your instructor for his or her preference.

NOTE: The examples in this handout are **NOT** properly double-spaced as MLA formatting requires.

BOOKS

BASIC FORMAT..... Author last name, First name. Book Title. City of Publication: Publisher, copyright date.
 MLA 5.6

ONE AUTHOR Halberstam, David. War in Time of Peace. New York: Scribner, 2001.
 MLA 5.6.1

TWO OR THREE AUTHORSChickering, Arthur W., and Nancy K. Schlossberg. Getting the Most Out of College. Needham Heights, MA: Allyn Bacon, 1995.
 MLA 5.6.4

MORE THAN THREE AUTHORS Browne, William, et al. Sacred Cows and Hot Potatoes. Boulder: Westview Press, 1992.
 MLA 5.6.4

EDITOR Fitzgerald, Terence J., ed. Police in Society. New York: H. W. Wilson, 2000.
 MLA 5.6.2

MULTI-VOLUMES Leach, Maria, ed. Dictionary of Folklore. 2 vols. New York: Funk and Wagnalls, 1950.
 MLA 5.6.15

AUTHORED ARTICLE IN A BOOK Cole, D.C. "Apache." Native America in the 20th Century. Ed. Mary B. Davis. New York: Garland Publishing, Inc., 1994. 44-48.
 MLA 5.6.8

GOVERNMENT SOURCE United States. Bureau of Census. Statistical Abstract of the United States. 121st ed. Washington: GPO, 2001.
 MLA 5.6.21

ENCYCLOPEDIA ARTICLES

ENCYCLOPEDIA ARTICLE Slotte, Michael. "Ethics." Encyclopedia of Bioethics. Rev.ed. New York: Simon & Schuster MacMillian, 1995.
 MLA 5.6.8

UNSIGNED ENCYCLOPEDIA ARTICLE....."Alzheimer's Disease." Well Connected Health Reports. Atlanta: A.D.A.M. Inc., 2007.
 MLA 5.6.8

PERIODICAL ARTICLES

If you can't identify the author(s) of your periodical article, start the citation with the title of the article.

- BASIC FORMAT (MAGAZINE ARTICLE).....Author last name, First name. "Title of Article." Title of Periodical
MLA 5.7 Date of Source: page numbers.
- MAGAZINE..... Winters, Rebecca, and Matt Kelly. "Harvard's Crimson Face." Time
MLA 5.7.6 31 Jan. 2005: 52.
- NEWSPAPER ARTICLE.....Postman, David. "Rossi Backers Push for Revote." Seattle Times
MLA 5.7.5 4 Jan. 2005: B1+.
- BASIC FORMAT (JOURNAL ARTICLE)..... Author last name, First name. "Title of Article." Journal Title
MLA 5.7.2 Volume.Issue Number (Year): page numbers.
- SCHOLARLY JOURNAL ARTICLE..... Pope, Myron L. "Community College Mentoring: Minority
MLA 5.7.2 Student Perception." Community College Review 30.3
(2002): 31-45.

ARTICLES FROM PERIODICAL DATABASES

Cite the article as you would a regular magazine, newspaper, or journal article and then add information about the database you used and the date you accessed the information.

- BASIC FORMAT..... Author last name, First name. "Title of Article." Title of Periodical
MLA 5.9.1 Date of Source: page number. Database Name. Name of
Subscription Service. Library Name and Location. Date of
Access <URL of database search page>.
- EBSCOHOST..... Duffy, Michael et. al. "A Question of Trust." Time
MLA 5.9.7 21 July 2003: 22. Business Source Elite. EBSCOhost.
Bellevue Community College Library Media Center, Bellevue,
WA. 9 Sept. 2003 <<http://www.ebscohost.com>>.
- PROQUEST..... Nappi, Rebecca. "Using the Past to See the Present." Spokesman
MLA 5.9.7 Review 8 Dec. 2004: B1. ProQuest Newspapers. ProQuest.
Bellevue Community College Library Media Center, Bellevue,
WA. 22 Feb. 2005 <<http://www.proquest.com>>.
- GALE LITERARY RESOURCES Huerta, Jorge. "An Introduction to Zoot Suit and Other Plays, by
MLA 5.9.7 Luis Valdez." Contemporary Literary Criticism Select. Gale
Group. King County Library System, Issaquah, WA. 30 Aug.
2003 <<http://infoweb.newsbank.com>>.

INTERNET RESOURCES

- BASIC FORMAT..... Author. "Article Title." Title of Publication or Web Site. Date of
Publication/Latest Update. Name of Sponsoring Organization.
Date of Access <URL>.
- WEB SITES Van Heerden, Ivor. "How New Orleans Flooded." Storm that
MLA 5.9.1 Drowned a City. Oct. 2005. NOVA. 2 Jan. 2008 <<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/orleans/how.html>>.
- WEB SITES (NO AUTHOR LISTED) "Hurricane Season 2005: Katrina." Life on Earth. 13 Oct. 2005.
MLA 5.9.1 NASA. 2 Jan. 2008 <http://www.nasa.gov/vision/earth/lookingatearth/lh2005_katrina.html>.
- PERSONAL HOME PAGES.....Runner, Jennifer. Home page. 26 July 2003. 15 Nov.
MLA 5.9.2c 2003 <<http://www.elite.net/~runner/jennifers/>>.
- GOVERNMENT PUBLICATION..... U.S. Census Bureau. We the People: Asians in the United States.
MLA 5.9.3C By Terrance J. Reeves and Claudette E. Bennett. Dec. 2004.
18 Feb. 2005 <<http://www.census.gov/prod/2004pubs/censr-17.pdf>>.