MLA Style

Modern Language Association style calls for (1) brief in-text documentation and (2) complete documentation in a list of works cited at the end of your text. The models in this chapter draw on the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers, 7th edition (2009). Additional information is available at www.mla.org.

A DIRECTORY TO MLA STYLE

In-Text Documentation 96

1. Author named in a signal phrase 97
2. Author named in parentheses 97
3. Two or more works by the same author 97
4. Authors with the same last name 98
5. Two or more authors 98
6. Organization or government as author 98
7. Author unknown 99
8. Literary works 99
9. Work in an anthology 100
10. Encyclopedia or dictionary 100
11. Legal and historical documents 100
12. Sacred text 101
13. Multivolume work 101
14. Two or more works cited together 101
15. Source quoted in another source 102
16. Work without page numbers 102
17. An entire work or one-page article 102

Notes 103
List of Works Cited 103

BOOKS 103

Documentation Map: Book 105

1. One author 104
2. Two or more works by the same author(s) 104
3. Two or three authors 106
4. Four or more authors 106
5. Organization or government as author 106
6. Anthology 107
7. Work(s) in an anthology 107
8. Author and editor 108
9. No author or editor 108
10. Translation 108
11. Graphic narrative 109
12. Foreword, introduction, preface, or afterword 109
13. Multivolume work 109
15. Book in a series 110
16. Sacred text 110
17. Book with title within the title 111
18. Edition other than the first 111
19. Republished work 111
20. Publisher and imprint 111

PERIODICALS 112

Documentation Map: Article in a Journal 113
Documentation Map: Article in a Magazine 114

21. Article in a journal 112
22. Article in a journal numbered by issue 112
23. Article in a magazine 115
24. Article in a daily newspaper 115
25. Unsigned article 115
26. Editorial 116
27. Letter to the editor 116
28. Review 116

ONLINE SOURCES 116

Documentation Map: Work from a Website 118
Documentation Map: Article Accessed through a Database 122

29. Entire website 117
30. Work from a website 119
31. Online book or part of a book 119
32. Article in an online scholarly journal 119
33. Article in an online newspaper 120
34. Article in an online magazine 120
35. Blog entry 120
36. Article accessed through a database 120
37. Online editorial 121
38. Online film review 121
39. Email 121
40. Posting to an online forum 121
41. Article in an online reference work 123
42. Wiki entry 123
43. Podcast 123

OTHER KINDS OF SOURCES (INCLUDING ONLINE VERSIONS) 123

44. Advertisement 123
45. Art 124
46. Cartoon 124
47. Dissertation 124
48. CD-ROM or DVD-ROM 125
49. Film, DVD, or video clip 125
Throughout this chapter, you’ll find models and examples that are color-coded to help you see how writers include source information in their texts and lists of works cited: tan for author or editor, yellow for title, gray for publication information: place of publication, publisher, date of publication, page number(s), and so on.

**MLA-a In-Text Documentation**

Brief documentation in your text makes clear to your reader what you took from a source and where in the source you found the information.
In your text, you have three options for citing a source: **QUOTING**, **PARAPHRASING**, and **SUMMARIZING**. As you cite each source, you will need to decide whether or not to name the author in a signal phrase—“as Toni Morrison writes”—or in parentheses—“(Morrison 24).”

The first examples in this chapter show basic in-text citations of a work by one author. Variations on those examples follow. The examples illustrate the MLA style of using quotation marks around titles of short works and italicizing titles of long works.

1. **AUTHOR NAMED IN A SIGNAL PHRASE**

If you mention the author in a signal phrase, put only the page number(s) in parentheses. Do not write page or p.

   **McCullough** describes John Adams’s hands as those of someone used to manual labor (18).

2. **AUTHOR NAMED IN PARENTHESES**

If you do not mention the author in a signal phrase, put his or her last name in parentheses along with the page number(s). Do not use punctuation between the name and the page number(s).

   Adams is said to have had “the hands of a man accustomed to pruning his own trees, cutting his own hay, and splitting his own firewood” (McCullough 18).

Whether you use a signal phrase and parentheses or parentheses only, try to put the parenthetical citation at the end of the sentence or as close as possible to the material you’ve cited without awkwardly interrupting the sentence. Notice that in the example above, the parenthetical reference comes after the closing quotation marks but before the period at the end of the sentence.

3. **TWO OR MORE WORKS BY THE SAME AUTHOR**

If you cite multiple works by one author, include the title of the work you are citing either in the signal phrase or in parentheses. Give the full title if it’s brief; otherwise, give a short version.
Kaplan insists that understanding power in the Near East requires “Western leaders who know when to intervene, and do so without illusions” (Eastward 330).

Include a comma between author and title if you include both in the parentheses.

Understanding power in the Near East requires “Western leaders who know when to intervene, and do so without illusions” (Kaplan, Eastward 330).

4. AUTHORS WITH THE SAME LAST NAME
Give the author’s first name in any signal phrase or the author’s first initial in the parenthetical reference.

Imaginative applies not only to modern literature (E. Wilson) but also to writing of all periods, whereas magical is often used in writing about Arthurian romances (A. Wilson).

5. TWO OR MORE AUTHORS
For a work by two or three authors, name all the authors, either in a signal phrase or in the parentheses.

Carlson and Ventura’s stated goal is to introduce Julio Cortázar, Marjorie Agosín, and other Latin American writers to an audience of English-speaking adolescents (v).

For a work with four or more authors, either mention all their names or include just the name of the first author followed by et al., Latin for “and others.”


6. ORGANIZATION OR GOVERNMENT AS AUTHOR
Cite the organization either in a signal phrase or in parentheses. It’s acceptable to shorten long names.
The U.S. government can be direct when it wants to be. For example, it sternly warns, "If you are overpaid, we will recover any payments not due you" (Social Security Administration 12).

7. AUTHOR UNKNOWN
If you don’t know the author, use the work's title or a shortened version of the title in the parentheses.

A powerful editorial in last week’s paper asserts that healthy liver donor Mike Hurewitz died because of “frightening” faulty postoperative care (“Every Patient’s Nightmare”).

8. LITERARY WORKS
When referring to literary works that are available in many different editions, cite the page numbers from the edition you are using, followed by information that will let readers of any edition locate the text you are citing.

NOVELS. Give the page and chapter number.

In *Pride and Prejudice*, Mrs. Bennet shows no warmth toward Jane and Elizabeth when they return from Netherfield (105; ch. 12).

VERSE PLAYS. Give the act, scene, and line numbers; separate them with periods.

Macbeth continues the vision theme when he addresses the Ghost with “Thou hast no speculation in those eyes / Which thou dost glare with” (3.3.96–97).

POEMS. Give the part and the line numbers (separated by periods). If a poem has only line numbers, use the word line(s) in the first reference.

Whitman sets up not only opposing adjectives but also opposing nouns in “Song of Myself” when he says, “I am of old and
young, of the foolish as much as the wise, / . . . a child as well as a man” (16.330–32).

One description of the mere in Beowulf is “not a pleasant place!” (line 1372). Later, the label is “the awful place” (1378).

9. WORK IN AN ANTHOLOGY

Name the author(s) of the work, not the editor of the anthology—either in a signal phrase or in parentheses.

“It is the teapots that truly shock,” according to Cynthia Ozick in her essay on teapots as metaphor (70).

In In Short: A Collection of Creative Nonfiction, readers will find both an essay on Scottish tea (Hiestand) and a piece on teapots as metaphors (Ozick).

10. ENCYCLOPEDIA OR DICTIONARY

Cite an entry in an encyclopedia or dictionary using the author’s name, if available. For an entry in a reference work without an author, give the entry’s title in parentheses. If entries are arranged alphabetically, no page number is needed.

Katz notes that before Spartacus, Kubrick went without work for two years (“Stanley Kubrick”).

11. LEGAL AND HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS

For legal cases and acts of law, name the case or act in a signal phrase or in parentheses. Italicize the name of a legal case.

In 2005, the Supreme Court confirmed in MGM Studios, Inc. v. Grokster, Ltd. that peer-to-peer file sharing is illegal copyright infringement.

Do not italicize the titles of laws, acts, or well-known historical documents such as the Declaration of Independence. Give the title and any relevant articles and sections in parentheses. It’s okay to use common abbreviations such as art. or sec. and to abbreviate well-known titles.
The United States Constitution grants the president the right to make recess appointments (US Const., art. 2, sec. 2).

12. SACRED TEXT

When citing sacred texts such as the Bible or the Qur’an, give the title of the edition used, and in parentheses give the book, chapter, and verse (or their equivalent), separated by periods. MLA style recommends that you abbreviate the names of the books of the Bible in parenthetical references.

The wording from *The New English Bible* follows: “In the beginning of creation, when God made heaven and earth, the earth was without form and void, with darkness over the face of the abyss, and a mighty wind that swept over the surface of the waters” (Gen. 1:1–2).

13. MULTIVOLUME WORK

If you cite more than one volume of a multivolume work, each time you cite one of the volumes, give the volume and the page numbers in parentheses, separated by a colon.

Sandburg concludes with the following sentence about those paying last respects to Lincoln: “All day long and through the night the unbroken line moved, the home town having its farewell” (4: 413).

If your works-cited list includes only a single volume of a multivolume work, give just the page number in parentheses.

14. TWO OR MORE WORKS CITED TOGETHER

If you’re citing two or more works closely together, you will sometimes need to provide a parenthetical citation for each one.

Tanner (7) and Smith (vii) have looked at works from a cultural perspective.
If you include both in the same parentheses, separate the references with a semicolon.

Critics have looked at both *Pride and Prejudice* and *Frankenstein* from a cultural perspective (Tanner 7; Smith viii).

15. SOURCE QUOTED IN ANOTHER SOURCE
When you are quoting text that you found quoted in another source, use the abbreviation *qtd. in* in the parenthetical reference.

Charlotte Brontë wrote to G. H. Lewes: “Why do you like Miss Austen so very much? I am puzzled on that point” (*qtd. in* Tanner 7).

16. WORK WITHOUT PAGE NUMBERS
For works without page numbers, including many online sources, identify the source using the author or other information either in a **SIGNAL PHRASE** or in parentheses.

Studies reported in *Scientific American* and elsewhere show that music training helps children to be better at multitasking later in life (“Hearing the Music”).

If the source has paragraph or section numbers, use them with the abbreviation *par.* or *sec.*: (“Hearing the Music,” par. 2). If an online work is available as a PDF, cite its page numbers in parentheses.

17. AN ENTIRE WORK OR ONE-PAGE ARTICLE
If you cite an entire work rather than a part of it, or if you cite a single-page article, identify the author in a signal phrase or in parentheses. There’s no need to include page numbers.

At least one observer considers Turkey and Central Asia explosive (Kaplan).
MLA-b Notes

Sometimes you may need to give information that doesn’t fit into the text itself—to thank people who helped you, provide additional details, refer readers to other sources, or to add comments about sources. Such information can be given in a footnote (at the bottom of the page) or an endnote (on a separate page with the heading Notes just before your works-cited list). Put a superscript number at the appropriate point in your text, signaling to readers to look for the note with the corresponding number. If you have multiple notes, number them consecutively throughout your paper.

TEXT

This essay will argue that small liberal arts colleges should not recruit athletes and, more specifically, that giving student athletes preferential treatment undermines the larger educational goals.¹

NOTE

¹I want to thank all those who have contributed to my thinking on this topic, especially my classmates and my teachers Marian Johnson and Diane O’Connor.

MLA-c List of Works Cited

A works-cited list provides full bibliographic information for every source cited in your text. See page 132 for guidelines on preparing this list; for a sample works-cited list, see page 135.

Books

For most books, you’ll need to provide information about the author; the title and any subtitle; and the place of publication, publisher, and date. At the end of the citation provide the medium—Print.
IMPORTANT DETAILS FOR CITING BOOKS

- **AUTHORS**: Include the author’s middle name or initials, if any.

- **TITLES**: Capitalize all principal words in titles and subtitles. Do not capitalize *a*, *an*, *the*, *to*, or any prepositions or coordinating conjunctions unless they are the first or last word of a title or subtitle.

- **PUBLICATION PLACE**: If there’s more than one city, use the first.

- **PUBLISHER**: Use a short form of the publisher’s name (Norton for W. W. Norton & Company, Yale UP for Yale University Press).

- **DATES**: If more than one year is given, use the most recent one.

1. **ONE AUTHOR**

   **Author’s Last Name, First Name.** *Title*. Publication City: Publisher, Year of publication. Medium.


2. **TWO OR MORE WORKS BY THE SAME AUTHOR(S)**

   Give the author’s name in the first entry, and then use three hyphens in the author slot for each of the subsequent works, listing them alphabetically by the first important word of each title.

   **Author’s Last Name, First Name.** *Title That Comes First Alphabetically*. Publication City: Publisher, Year of publication. Medium.

   ---. *Title That Comes Next Alphabetically*. Publication City: Publisher, Year of publication. Medium.


3. TWO OR THREE AUTHORS

First Author's Last Name, First Name, Second Author's First and Last Names, and Third Author's First and Last Names. Title. Publication City: Publisher, Year of publication. Medium.


4. FOUR OR MORE AUTHORS

You may give each author's name or the name of the first author only, followed by et al., Latin for “and others.”

First Author's Last Name, First Name, Second Author's First and Last Names, Third Author's First and Last Names, and Final Author's First and Last Names, Title. Publication City: Publisher, Year of publication. Medium.


5. ORGANIZATION OR GOVERNMENT AS AUTHOR

Organization Name. Title. Publication City: Publisher, Year of publication. Medium.


For a government publication, give the name of the government first, followed by the names of any department and agency.

6. ANTHOLOGY

   Editor’s Last Name, First Name, ed. *Title*. Publication City: Publisher, Year of publication. Medium.


   If there is more than one editor, list the first editor last-name-first and the others first-name-first.


7. WORK(S) IN AN ANTHOLOGY

   Author’s Last Name, First Name. “Title of Work.” *Title of Anthology*. Ed. Editor’s First and Last Names. Publication City: Publisher, Year of publication. Pages. Medium.


   To document two or more selections from one anthology, list each selection by author and title, followed by the anthology editor(s)’ names and the pages of the selection. Then include an entry for the anthology itself (see no. 6).


8. AUTHOR AND EDITOR
Start with the author if you’ve cited the text itself.

Author’s Last Name, First Name. Title. Ed. Editor’s First and Last Names. Publication City: Publisher, Year of publication. Medium.


Start with the editor to cite his or her contribution rather than the author’s.

Editor’s Last Name, First Name, ed. Title. By Author’s First and Last Names. Publication City: Publisher, Year of publication. Medium.


9. NO AUTHOR OR EDITOR

Title. Publication City: Publisher, Year of publication. Medium.


10. TRANSLATION
Start with the author to emphasize the work itself.

Author’s Last Name, First Name. Title. Trans. Translator’s First and Last Names. Publication City: Publisher, Year of publication. Medium.


Start with the translator to emphasize the translation.

11. GRAPHIC NARRATIVE
Start with the person whose work is most relevant to your research, and include labels to indicate each collaborator’s role.


If the work was written and illustrated by the same person, format the entry like that of any other book.

12. FOREWORD, INTRODUCTION, PREFACE, OR AFTERWORD

Part Author’s Last Name, First Name. Name of Part. *Title of Book*. By Author’s First and Last Names. Publication City: Publisher, Year of publication. Pages. Medium.


13. MULTIVOLUME WORK
If you cite all the volumes of a multivolume work, give the number of volumes after the title.

Author’s Last Name, First Name. *Title of Complete Work*. Number of vols. Publication City: Publisher, Year of publication. Medium.


If you cite only one volume, give the volume number after the title.


14. ARTICLE IN A REFERENCE BOOK
Provide the author’s name if the article is signed. If the reference work is well known, give only the edition and year of publication.
Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of Article." *Title of Reference Book*. Edition number. Year of publication. Medium.


If the reference work is less familiar or more specialized, give full publication information. If it has only one volume or is in its first edition, omit that information.

Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of Article." *Title of Reference Book*. Ed. Editor's First and Last Name. Edition number. Number of vols. Publication City: Publisher, Year of publication. Medium.


15. BOOK IN A SERIES

Editor's Last Name, First Name, ed. *Title of Book*. By Author's First and Last Names. Publication City: Publisher, Year of publication. Medium. Series Title abbreviated.


16. SACRED TEXT

If you have cited a specific edition of a religious text, you need to include it in your works-cited list.


17. BOOK WITH TITLE WITHIN THE TITLE

When the title of a book contains the title of another long work, do not italicize that title.


When the book title contains the title of a short work, put the short work in quotation marks, and italicize the entire title.


18. EDITION OTHER THAN THE FIRST

*Author’s Last Name, First Name*. *Title*. Name or number of ed. Publication City: Publisher, Year of publication. Medium.


19. REPUBLISHED WORK

Give the original publication date after the title, followed by the publication information of the republished edition.

*Author’s Last Name, First Name*. *Title*. Year of original edition. Publication City: Current Publisher, Year of republication. Medium.


20. PUBLISHER AND IMPRINT

Some sources may provide both a publisher’s name and an imprint on the title page; if so, include both, with a hyphen between the imprint and the publisher.
Periodicals

For most articles, you’ll need to provide information about the author, the article title and any subtitle, the periodical title, any volume or issue number, the date, inclusive page numbers, and the medium—Print.

**IMPORTANT DETAILS FOR CITING PERIODICALS**

- **AUTHORS:** If there is more than one author, list the first author last-name-first and the others first-name-first.

- **TITLES:** Capitalize titles and subtitles as you would for a book. For periodical titles, omit any initial A, An, or The.

- **DATES:** Abbreviate the names of months except for May, June, or July: Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr., Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec. Journals paginated by volume or issue need only the year (in parentheses).

- **PAGES:** If an article does not fall on consecutive pages, give the first page with a plus sign (55+).

**21. ARTICLE IN A JOURNAL**


**22. ARTICLE IN A JOURNAL NUMBERED BY ISSUE**

Author’s Last Name, First Name. “Title of Article.” *Title of Journal* Issue (Year): Pages. Medium.
Critical opinion now agrees that Shakespeare presents a sophisticated teaching about politics, ancient as well as modern. While it was long thought that Shakespeare knew little about ancient politics, we now have a different view, for instance, of the Roman plays. *Coriolanus* depicts the Republic’s subtle constitutional balance; *Julius Caesar* depicts the end of Republican liberty; *Antony and Cleopatra* describes the political, moral, and psychological conditions of the Empire (Cantor 1976). As regards modern politics, critics have long acknowledged that Shakespeare was a keen interpreter of the quintessential modern, Machiavelli. “It can hardly be doubted,” said E. M. W. Tillyard in 1944, that Shakespeare knew well the doctrines of Machiavelli (Tillyard 1991, 28–30). More recent critics—from both ends of the ideological spectrum—agree. One conservative sees *Measure for Measure* as “a Machiavellian scheme to bring good government to a bad city” (Jaffa 1981, 189), while a leading cultural materialist tells us that “Shakespeare’s Henry plays... can be seen to confirm the Machiavellian hypothesis of the origin of princely power in force and fraud even as they draw their audiences irresistibly toward the celebration of that power” (Greenblatt 1985, 20). Whereas Hume (1873, 357–58) once faulted Shakespeare for his indifference to English civil liberty (in the English history plays), we now know that...

I thank Paul A. Cantor, Werner J. Dannhauser, Adam Miller, and Richard Zimmer for their helpful criticism of this article’s earlier drafts.

The Wolf in Your Dog
By Michael W. Fox, DVM, PhD

Though in their deep heart’s core, there is a commonality of origin, spirit, emotional intelligence and empathetic sensibility, the wild wolf looks through us, while the dog looks to us.

OF ALL THE MURPHY MEMBERS OF THE ANIMAL KINGDOM, the domesticated dog (Canis lupus familiaris) is closest to us. With exception in other species, this canine species is the most understanding, if not also the most observant, of human behavior—of our actions and intentions. This is why dogs are so responsive to us, even mirroring or mimicking our behavior. And it is why dogs are so trainable.

Fear in untrained and abused dogs interfere with their attentiveness to and interpretation of human behavior and intentions. This is one reason why wild species like the coyote and wolf, even when born and raised in captivity, are difficult to train. The wolf “Tilly,” whom I bottle-raised and intensively socialized during her formative early days, never really lost her fear or distrust of strangers.

Tilly did not start mirroring human behavior until she was close to nine years old. At this point, she began to mimic the human-to-human greeting grin, revealing her front teeth as she curled her lips into a snarky smile. In my experience, dogs who can do this do so at a much earlier age, even as early as four to six months.

In comparing socialized (human-bonded) wolves and dogs in terms of how they relate to me as well as to their family members, friends and strangers, I would say that the main difference between the two species is the fear factor. Differences in traineeability hinge on this as I theorize in my new book (Dog Body, Dog Mind), domestication has altered the tuning of the dog’s adrenal and autonomic nervous systems. This tuning—which dampens adrenal fright, flight and fight reactions and possibly alters brain serotonin levels—is accomplished through selective breeding for docility and by gentle handling during the critical period for socialization. According to the earlier research of my mentors—Dr. John Paul Scott and John L. Fuller of the Jackson Laboratory in Maine—pups with no human contact during the first socialization period (which ends around 12 to 16 weeks of age) are wild and unapproachable.


23. ARTICLE IN A MAGAZINE

Author’s Last Name, First Name. “Title of Article.” *Title of Magazine* Day Month Year: Pages. Medium.


For a monthly magazine, include only the month and year.


24. ARTICLE IN A DAILY NEWSPAPER

Author’s Last Name, First Name. “Title of Article.” *Name of Newspaper* Day Month Year: Pages. Medium.


If you are citing a particular edition of a newspaper, list the edition (late ed., natl. ed., etc.) after the date. And if a section is not identified by a letter, put the name of the section after the edition information.


25. UNSIGNED ARTICLE

“Title of Article.” *Name of Publication* Day Month Year: Pages. Medium.

26. EDITORIAL


27. LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Author’s Last Name, First Name. “Title (if any).” Letter. *Name of Publication* Day Month Year: Page. Medium.


28. REVIEW

Reviewer’s Last Name, First Name. “Title (if any) of Review.” Rev. of *Title of Work*, by Author’s First and Last Names. *Title of Periodical* Day Month Year: Pages. Medium.


**Online Sources**

Not every online source gives you all the data that MLA would like to see in a works-cited entry. Ideally, you will be able to list the author’s name, the title, information about print publication, information about electronic publication (title of site, editor, date of first electronic publication and/or most recent revision, name of the publisher or sponsoring institution), the publication medium, date of access, and, if necessary, a URL.

**IMPORTANT DETAILS FOR CITING ONLINE SOURCES**

- **AUTHORS OR EDITORS** and **TITLES**: Format authors and titles as you would for a print book or periodical.
- **PUBLISHER**: If the name of the publisher or sponsoring institution is unavailable, use N.p.
• **DATES:** Abbreviate the months as you would for a print periodical. Although MLA asks for the date when materials were first posted or most recently updated, you won’t always be able to find that information; if it’s unavailable, use *n.d.* Be sure to include the date on which you accessed the source.

• **PAGES:** If the citation calls for page numbers but the source is unpaginated, use *n. pag.* in place of page numbers.

• **MEDIUM:** Indicate the medium—Web, email, CD-ROM, and so on.

• **URL:** MLA assumes that readers can locate most sources on the Web by searching for the author, title, or other identifying information, so they don’t require a URL for most online sources. When users can’t locate the source without a URL, give the address of the website in angle brackets. When a URL won’t fit on one line, break it only after a slash (and do not add a hyphen). If a URL is very long, consider giving the URL of the site’s home or search page instead.

29. **ENTIRE WEBSITE**

For websites with an editor, compiler, director, narrator, or translator, follow the name with the appropriate abbreviation (*ed.*, *comp.*).

**Author’s Last Name, First Name.** *Title of Site.* Publisher or Sponsoring Institution, Date posted or last updated. Medium. Day Month Year of access.


**PERSONAL WEBSITE**

**Author’s Last Name, First Name.** Home page. Sponsor, Date posted or last updated. Medium. Day Month Year of access.

30. WORK FROM A WEBSITE

Author’s Last Name, First Name. “Title of Work.” Title of Site. Ed. Editor’s First and Last Names. Sponsor, Date posted or last updated. Medium. Day Month Year of access.


31. ONLINE BOOK OR PART OF A BOOK

Cite a book you access online as you would a print book, adding the name of the site or database, the medium, and the date of access.


If you are citing a part of a book, put the part in quotation marks before the book title. If the online book is paginated, give the pages; if not, use N. pag.


To cite a book you’ve downloaded onto a Kindle, Nook, or other digital device, follow the setup for a print book, but indicate the ebook format at the end of your citation.


32. ARTICLE IN AN ONLINE SCHOLARLY JOURNAL

If a journal does not number pages or if it numbers each article separately, use n. pag. in place of page numbers.

Author’s Last Name, First Name. “Title of Article.” Title of Journal Volume.Issue (Year): Pages. Medium. Day Month Year of access.

33. ARTICLE IN AN ONLINE NEWSPAPER

Author’s Last Name, First Name. “Title of Article.” Title of Newspaper. Publisher, Day Month Year. Medium. Day Month Year of access.


34. ARTICLE IN AN ONLINE MAGAZINE

Author’s Last Name, First Name. “Title of Article.” Title of Magazine. Publisher, Date of publication. Medium. Day Month Year of access.


35. BLOG ENTRY

Author’s Last Name, First Name. “Title of Entry.” Title of Blog. Sponsor, Day Month Year posted. Medium. Day Month Year of access.


If the entry has no title, use “Blog entry” without quotation marks. Cite a whole blog as you would an entire website (see no. 29). If the publisher or sponsor is unavailable, use N.p.

36. ARTICLE ACCESSED THROUGH A DATABASE

For articles accessed through a library’s subscription services, such as InfoTrac and EBSCO, cite the publication information for the source, followed by the name of the database.
37. ONLINE EDITORIAL

“Title of Editorial.” Editorial. Title of Site. Publisher, Day Month Year of publication. Medium. Day Month Year of access.


38. ONLINE FILM REVIEW

Reviewer’s Last Name, First Name. “Title of Review.” Rev. of Title of Work, dir. First and Last Names. Title of Site. Publisher, Day Month Year posted. Medium. Day Month Year of access.


39. EMAIL

Writer’s Last Name, First Name. “Subject Line.” Message to the author. Day Month Year of message. Medium.


40. POSTING TO AN ONLINE FORUM

Writer’s Last Name, First Name. “Title of Posting.” Name of Forum. Sponsor, Day Month Year of posting. Medium. Day Month Year of access.

41. ARTICLE IN AN ONLINE REFERENCE WORK

“Title of Article.” Title of Reference Work. Sponsor, Date of work. Medium. Day Month Year of access.


42. WIKI ENTRY

“Title of Entry.” Title of Wiki. Sponsor, Day Month Year updated. Medium. Day Month Year of access.


43. PODCAST

Performer or Host’s Last Name, First Name. “Title of Podcast.”

Host Host’s First and Last Name. Title of Program. Sponsor, Day Month Year posted. Medium. Day Month Year of access.

Blumberg, Alex, and Adam Davidson. “The Giant Pool of Money.”


Other Kinds of Sources (including online versions)

Many of the sources in this section can be found online, and you’ll find examples here for how to cite them. If there is no Web model here, start with the guidelines most appropriate for the source you need to cite, omit the original medium, and end your citation with the title of the website, italicized; the medium (Web); and the day, month, and year of access.

44. ADVERTISEMENT


ADVERTISEMEN ON THE WEB

45. ART

*Artist’s Last Name, First Name*. *Title of Art*. Medium. Year. Institution, City.


ART ON THE WEB

Cite photographs you find online by giving the photographer, title, and date of the image, if available. If the date is unavailable, use n.d. For photographs you take yourself, see no. 64.


46. CARTOON

*Artist’s Last Name, First Name*. “*Title of Cartoon (if titled).*” Cartoon. *Title of Periodical* Date or Volume.Issue (Year): Page. Medium.


CARTOON ON THE WEB


47. DISSERTATION

Treat a published dissertation as you would a book, but after its title, add the abbreviation Diss., the institution, and the date of the dissertation.
Author's Last Name, First Name. Title. Diss. Institution, Year.
Publication City: Publisher, Year. Medium.


For unpublished dissertations, put the title in quotation marks and end with the degree-granting institution and the year.


48. CD-ROM OR DVD-ROM

Title. Any pertinent information about the edition, release, or version. Publication City: Publisher, Year of publication. Medium.


If you are citing only part of the CD-ROM or DVD-ROM, name the part as you would a part of a book.


49. FILM, DVD, OR VIDEO CLIP

Title. Dir. Director’s First and Last Names. Perf. Lead Actors’ First and Last Names. Distributor, Year of release. Medium.


To cite a particular person’s work, start with that name.

Cite a video clip on YouTube or a similar site as you would a short work from a website.

Director’s Last Name, First Name, dir. “Title of Video.” Title of Site. Sponsor, Day Month Year of release. Medium. Day Month Year of access.


50. BROADCAST INTERVIEW

Subject’s Last Name, First Name. Interview. Title of Program. Network. Station, City. Day Month Year. Medium.


51. PUBLISHED INTERVIEW

Subject’s Last Name, First Name. Interview, or “Title of Interview.” Title of Periodical Date or Volume-Issue (Year): Pages. Medium.


52. PERSONAL INTERVIEW

Subject’s Last Name, First Name. Personal interview. Day Month Year.


53. UNPUBLISHED LETTER

For medium, use MS for a hand-written letter and TS for a typed one.

Author’s Last Name, First Name. Letter to the author. Day Month Year. Medium.

Quindlen, Anna. Letter to the author. 11 Apr. 2002. MS.

54. PUBLISHED LETTER

Letter Writer’s Last Name, First Name. Letter to First and Last Names. Day Month Year of letter. Title of Book. Ed. Editor’s First and
Last Names. City: Publisher, Year of publication. Pages. 
Medium.


55. MAP OR CHART

*Title of Map*. Map. City: Publisher, Year of publication. Medium.

56. MUSICAL SCORE

Composer’s Last Name, First Name. *Title of Composition*. Year of composition. Publication City: Publisher, Year of publication. Medium. Series Information (if any).


57. SOUND RECORDING

Artist’s Last Name, First Name. *Title of Long Work*. Other pertinent details about the artists. Manufacturer, Year of release. Medium.


Whether you list the composer, conductor, or performer first depends on where you want to place the emphasis. If you are citing a specific song, put it in quotation marks before the name of the recording.

For a spoken-word recording, you may begin with the writer, speaker, or producer, depending on your emphasis.


**58. ORAL PRESENTATION**

*Speaker’s Last Name, First Name.* “Title of Lecture.” *Sponsoring Institution.* Site, City. Day Month Year. *Medium.*


**59. PAPER FROM PROCEEDINGS OF A CONFERENCE**

*Author’s Last Name, First Name.* “Title of Paper.” *Title of Conference Proceedings.* Date, City. Ed. Editor’s First and Last Names. Publication City: Publisher, Year. Pages. *Medium.*


**60. PERFORMANCE**

*Title.* By Author’s First and Last Names. Other appropriate details about the performance. *Site, City.* Day Month Year. *Medium.*


**61. TELEVISION OR RADIO PROGRAM**

“Title of Episode.” *Title of Program.* Other appropriate information about the writer, director, actors, etc. *Network.* Station, City, Day Month Year of broadcast. *Medium.*

TELEVISION OR RADIO ON THE WEB


62. PAMPHLET, BROCHURE, OR PRESS RELEASE

Author’s Last Name, First Name. Title of Publication. Publication City: Publisher, Year. Medium.


To cite a press release, include the day and month before the year.

63. LEGAL SOURCE

The name of a court case is not italicized in a works-cited entry.


For acts of law, include both the Public Law number and the Statutes at Large volume and page numbers.


64. MP3, JPEG, PDF, OR OTHER DIGITAL FILE

For downloaded songs, photographs, PDFs, and other documents stored on your computer or another digital device, follow the guide-
lines for the type of work you are citing (art, journal article, and so on) and give the file type as the medium.


Citing Sources Not Covered by MLA

To cite a source for which MLA does not provide guidelines, look for models similar to the source you are citing. Give any information readers will need in order to find your source themselves—author; title, subtitle; publisher and/or sponsor; medium; dates; and any other pertinent information. You might want to try out your citation yourself, to be sure it will lead others to your source.

MLA-d Formatting a Paper

Name, course, title. MLA does not require a separate title page. In the upper left-hand corner of your first page, include your name, your professor’s name, the name of the course, and the date. Center the title of your paper on the next line after the date; capitalize it as you would a book title.

Page numbers. In the upper right-hand corner of each page, one-half inch below the top of the page, include your last name and the page number. Number pages consecutively throughout your paper.

Spacing, margins, and indents. Double-space the entire paper, including your works-cited list. Set one-inch margins at the top, bottom, and sides of your text; do not justify your text. The first line of each paragraph should be indented one-half inch from the left margin.

Long quotations. When quoting more than three lines of poetry, more than four lines of prose, or dialogue between two or more char-
acters from a drama, set off the quotation from the rest of your text, indenting it one inch (or ten spaces) from the left margin. Do not use quotation marks, and put any parenthetical documentation after the final punctuation.

In *Eastward to Tartary*, Kaplan captures ancient and contemporary Antioch for us:

At the height of its glory in the Roman-Byzantine age, when it had an amphitheater, public baths, aqueducts, and sewage pipes, half a million people lived in Antioch. Today the population is only 125,000. With sour relations between Turkey and Syria, and unstable politics throughout the Middle East, Antioch is now a backwater—seedy and tumbledown, with relatively few tourists. I found it altogether charming. (123)

In the first stanza of Arnold’s “Dover Beach,” the exclamations make clear that the speaker is addressing a companion who is also present in the scene:

Come to the window, sweet is the night air!
Only, from the long line of spray
Where the sea meets the moon-blanchéd land,
Listen! You hear the grating roar
Of pebbles which the waves draw back, and fling. (6–10)

**Illustrations.** Insert illustrations in your paper close to the text that discusses them. For tables, provide a number (*Table 1*) and a title on separate lines above the table. Below the table, include a caption and provide information about the source. For figures (graphs, charts, photos, and so on), provide a figure number (*Fig. 1*), caption, and source information below the figure. If you give only brief information about the source (such as a parenthetical citation), or if the source is cited elsewhere in your text, include the source in your list of works cited. Be sure to discuss any illustrations, and make it clear how they relate to the rest of your text.
List of Works Cited. Start your list on a new page, following any notes. Center the title and double-space the entire list. Each entry should begin at the left margin, and subsequent lines should be indented one-half inch (or five spaces). Alphabetize the list by authors’ last names (or by editors’ or translators’ names, if appropriate). Alphabetize works that have no identifiable author or editor by title, disregarding A, An, and The. If you cite more than one work by a single author, list them all alphabetically by title, and use three hyphens in place of the author's name after the first entry.

MLA-e Sample Pages

The following sample pages are from “Against the Odds: Harry S. Truman and the Election of 1948,” a report written by Dylan Borchers for a first-year writing course. They are formatted according to the guidelines of the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers, 7th edition (2009). To read the complete report, go to wwnorton.com/write/little-seagull-handbook.
Dylan Borchers  
Professor Bullock  
English 102, Section 4  
31 March 2009  

Against the Odds: Harry S. Truman and the Election of 1948  

“Thomas E. Dewey's Election as President Is a Foregone Conclusion,” read a headline in the New York Times during the presidential election race between incumbent Democrat Harry S. Truman and his Republican challenger, Thomas E. Dewey. Earlier, Life magazine had put Dewey on its cover with the caption “The Next President of the United States” (qtd. in “1948 Truman-Dewey Election”). In a Newsweek survey of fifty prominent political writers, each one predicted Truman’s defeat, and Time correspondents declared that Dewey would carry 39 of the 48 states (Donaldson 210). Nearly every major media outlet across the United States endorsed Dewey and lambasted Truman. As historian Robert H. Ferrell observes, even Truman’s wife, Bess, thought he would be beaten (270).

The results of an election are not so easily predicted, as the famous photograph on page 2 shows. Not only did Truman win the election, but he won by a significant margin, with 303 electoral votes and 24,179,259 popular votes, compared to Dewey’s 189 electoral votes and 21,991,291 popular votes (Donaldson 204–07). In fact, many historians and political analysts argue that Truman would have won by an even greater margin had third-party Progressive candidate Henry A. Wallace not split the Democratic
vote in New York State and Dixiecrat Strom Thurmond not won four states in the South (McCullough 711). Although Truman's defeat was heavily predicted, those predictions themselves, Dewey's passiveness as a campaigner, and Truman's zeal turned the tide for a Truman victory.

In the months preceding the election, public opinion polls predicted that Dewey would win by a large margin. Pollster Elmo Roper stopped polling in September, believing there was no reason to continue, given a seemingly inevitable Dewey landslide. Although the margin narrowed as the election drew near, the other pollsters predicted a Dewey win by at least 5 percent (Donaldson 209). Many historians believe that these predictions aided the president in the long run. First, surveys showing Dewey in the lead
Sample Works Cited List, MLA Style

- Works Cited


