

Modern Language Association (MLA) Guide to Style (8th ed.)

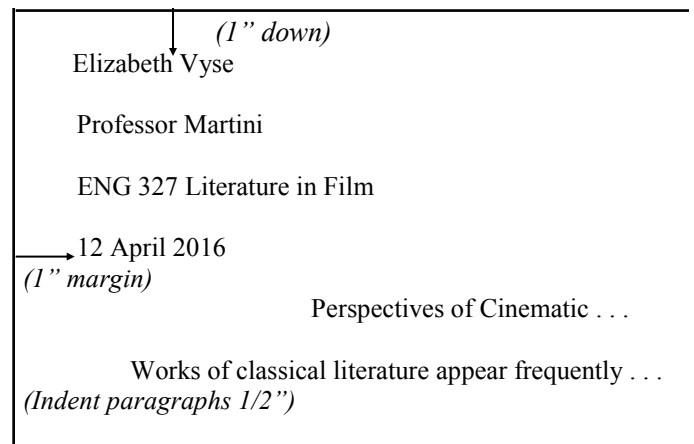
The new edition of the *MLA Handbook* focuses on principles and guidelines for citing the many types of sources available today both in print and electronically. As these sources vary widely, the Handbook does not give an example of each type of source. This guide describes the format recommended by the MLA for preparing a research paper. Examples of works cited are listed on the reverse side. A copy of the *MLA Handbook* is at the Reference Desk. More information about the MLA style is at: style.mla.org.

BASIC FORMAT:

- Use standard-sized paper, 8 ½ x 11 inches.
- Use an easily readable font (e.g., Times New Roman, 12 pt.)
- All margins (top, bottom, and sides) should be one inch wide.
- Type the paper double-spaced.
- Do not justify the right margin.
- Indent the first line of each paragraph five spaces or 1/2".
- There is no separate title page (unless your professor requires one). On the first page, beginning in the upper left corner, at the margin and one inch from the top of the page, type the following information double-spaced.

Your name
Your professor's name
Course title and number
Date

Center the Title, use upper and lower case letters.
Double space, then begin the text of the paper.



- Number each page in the upper right corner, ½ inch from the top of the page and flush with the right margin. Include your last name before each page number.
Example: Smith 2
- **Italicized Titles:** Italicize titles of books, plays, Web sites, online databases, films, magazines, journals, etc.
Example: Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* will be presented at the College Theater in October.
- **Titles in quotation marks:** Use quotation marks for titles of works published within a larger work: titles of essays, poems, an article in a journal, a short story in a collection, a chapter in a book, a Web page on a larger Web site, etc.

IN-TEXT CITATIONS: CITING ANOTHER PERSON'S IDEAS OR WORK:

- **Paraphrasing:** Give credit for ideas you have paraphrased by including the author's last name in the text and include the page number in parentheses.
Example: Bradford's research indicates that the Elizabethan era was a fashion-conscious time and clothing indicative of one's wealth (153).
- **Quoting:** Place quotation marks around words and sentences quoted directly. Include the author's last name and page number in parentheses at the end of the quotation.
Example: One historian states that the "Elizabethan era was a highly fashion-conscious age, and clothing was a primary indicator of wealth" (Bradford 153).
- **Web site:** For a Web site or Web page, use the full title of the site if it is short, otherwise abbreviate it to two or three words. Place quotation marks around words and sentences quoted directly. A page number is not necessary when citing a Web site.
Example: "The age of Shakespeare was considered a great time in English history" (Elizabethan England).

WORKS CITED

In MLA style, the **Works Cited** list appears at the end of your paper, beginning with a new page which is double-spaced. Center the title, Works Cited, one inch from the top of the page. Citations are arranged alphabetically, by author, or by title if there is no author. The first line of each citation begins at the left margin and all additional lines of the citation are indented five spaces or 1/2 inch. Double space each entry and double space between entries. (*To save space, examples on the reverse side are not double-spaced. However, your list should be double-spaced.*)

The Works Cited list includes only those works you have actually cited in the text of your paper. If you read additional sources when conducting your research but do not make reference to them in the text of your paper, do not include them.

EXAMPLES OF WORKS CITED

MAJOR WORKS: Books, Chapters in Edited Books, Entry in an Encyclopedia, Film or DVD

One Author

Furstenau, Marc. *The Film Theory Reader: Debates and Arguments*. Routledge, 2010.

Two or Three Authors: List all names in full. Only the first author's name is listed with the last name first.

Nicol, Brandon, Gene McNulty, and Patricia Pulham. *Crime Culture in Fiction and Film*. Continuum, 2011.

More than Three Authors: Use et al. or list all names in full in the same order as in the original work.

Mead, Sophia, et al. *Classics of the Silver Screen*. Columbia UP, 1990.

Editor

Frantz, Sarah S. ed. *New Approaches to Popular Romance Fiction*. McFarland, 2012.

Unknown author - begin with title

Encyclopedia of Renaissance Manners. Scribners, 2010.

Work in an anthology or collection - begin with the author of the chapter

Bahr, Donald. "Dream Songs." *Handbook of Native American Literature*. Ed. Andrew Wiget. Garland, 1996. pp. 119-123.

Entry in an encyclopedia or dictionary - begin with title of the entry in quotation marks

"Ethnomusicology." *The New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians*. 2nd ed. Macmillan, 2001.

DVD or Film - begin with title of the DVD or file in italics

Marie Antoinette. Dir. Sophia Coppola. Sony Pictures Home Entertainment, 2007.

PERIODICAL ARTICLES IN PRINT

Journal

Montblanc, Paul L. "Shakespeare, Film, and Visual Culture." *Renaissance Quarterly*, vol. 65, no.1, 2012, pp. 320-9.

Magazine

Corcoran, Jason. "Shakespeare Up Close." *Sight and Sound*, May 2011, pp. 53-54.

Newspaper

Hutchinson, Peter. "A Method to His Madness." *New York Times*, 20 June 2012, p. C18.

Anonymous

"From Shakespeare to Dramatization: This Is the One to Watch." *Newsweek*, 30 Apr. 2012, p 42.

PERIODICAL ARTICLE IN A LIBRARY DATABASE

Begin the entry as you would for citing an article in a print publication (see above). Include the name of the database (italicized), and the full URL without the beginning http:// or https://. The date of access is considered an "optional element." It can be added at the end.

Examples of Articles from Library Databases: Academic Search Complete, Project Muse and JSTOR

Burnett, Mark Thornton. "Screen Shakespeares: Knowledge and Practice." *Critical Quarterly*, vol. 52, no. 4, 2010, pp. 48-62. *Academic Search Complete*, web.ebscohost.com/ehost/pdfviewer/pdfviewer?vid=8. Accessed 2 May 2016.

Kottman, Paul A. "Defying the Stars: Tragic Love as the Struggle for Freedom." *Shakespeare Quarterly*, vol. 63, no. 1, 2012, pp. 1-38. *Project Muse*, muse.jhu.edu/article/470678. Accessed 21 Sept. 2016.

Weinberger, Jerry. "Pious Princes and Red-Hot Lovers: The Politics of Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*." *The Journal of Politics*, vol. 65, no. 2, 2003, pp. 350-75. *JSTOR*, www.jstor.org/stable/pdf/10.1111.pdf. Accessed 9 June 2016.

WEB SITE, WEB PAGE OR JOURNAL ARTICLE ON THE INTERNET

To cite a Web site, Web page or an article from a scholarly journal on the Internet (not from a Cheng Library database), begin the entry as you would for a comparable print publication. Include the author, title of the work (in quotation marks or italicized depending on if it is an independent work or part of a larger Web site), title of overall Web site italicized (if not included as the title). If the Web site has no author, begin with the title of the Web page in quotation marks and the title of the Web site in italics. If page numbers are not available, omit them. Include the URL for the Web site but omit http:// or https://. The date of access is considered an "optional element." It can be added at the end.

Web page on a Web site (no author)

"Elizabethan England." *Shakespeare Resource Center*, 2016, www.bardweb.net/england.html. Accessed 2 May 2016.

Web page on a Web site (Begin with the title of the site.)

"Maya Angelou." *Remember Them: Champions for Humanity*, 2013, www.remember-them.org/angelou.htm. Accessed 29 Apr. 2016.

Web Page (with author on a larger Web site, if the Web site has no pages indicated, omit them.)

Santayana, George. "Walt Whitman: A Dialogue." *The Walt Whitman Archive*, 1890, whitmanarchive.org/criticism/current/anc.00253.html. Accessed 30 June 2016.

Scholarly article on the Internet (with author)

DeArmas, Frederick A. "To See What Men Cannot: Teichoskopia in *Don Quijote*." *Cervantes*, vol. 28, no.1, 2008, pp. 83-102, www.cervantesvirtual.com/obra/to-see-what-men-cannot-teichoskopia. Accessed 2 Aug. 2016.