

Jamestown Community College Libraries

A Guide to MLA Documentation

Fall 2010 edition (revised)

This guide to the 2009 MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers, 7th edition, provides basic information about the MLA style of documenting sources referred to in a research paper. For additional examples and for variations not included in this guide, consult the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers. A copy is located at the library's reference desk.

Section I: Citing Print Sources in the Works Cited List

Section II: Citing Electronic Sources in the Works Cited List

Section III: Documenting Sources in the Body of the Paper

Section I: Citing PRINT Sources in the Works Cited List

BOOKS

One, Two or Three Authors--

Goldsmith, Jack L., and Tim Wu. *Who Controls the Internet?: Illusions of a Borderless World*.
New York: Oxford UP, 2006. Print.

Annotations:
- Year of publication
- Title italicized.
- City of publication
- Publisher (UP is the standard abbreviation for University Press)
- Medium of Publication Consulted
- Publishers' names: Shorten publishers' names, using standard abbreviations and/or MLA guidelines. See *MLA Handbook*, 247-249.

More Than Three Authors--

Monahan, Frances Donovan, et al. *Phipps' Medical-Surgical Nursing: Health and Illness Perspectives*. 8th ed.
St. Louis: Mosby, 2007. Print.

Annotations:
- And others. Not necessary to list additional authors by name.
- Edition, if not first

Edited Book--

Hurley, Jennifer A., ed. *Readings on Flannery O'Connor*. San Diego: Greenhaven, 2001. Print.

Corporate Author (a group such as a council, a commission, an association, etc.) --

American Council on Education. *American Universities and Colleges*. Ed. James J. Murray III. 16th ed.
New York: Gruyter, 2001. Print.

Essay, Article, or Work Within an Anthology or Collection--

Gonzalez, Rosalinda. "Distinctions in Western Women's Experience: Ethnicity, Class, and Social Change." *The Women's West*. Ed. Susan Armitage. Norman: U of Oklahoma, 1987. 237-52. Print.

Annotations:
- Author of essay
- Title of essay
- Title of anthology
- Editor of anthology

Scholarly Journal Article Reprinted in a Collection--

Nebeker, Helen E. "The Lottery: Symbolic Tour de Force." *American Literature* 46.1 (1974): 100-07.
Rpt. in *Contemporary Literary Criticism*. Ed. Christopher Giroux. Vol. 87. Detroit: Gale, 1995. 227-29. Print.

Annotation:
- Volume 46. Issue 1

Book Excerpt Reprinted in a Collection—

Hendin, Josephine. "Flannery O'Connor and Southern Literature." Excerpt from *The World of Flannery O'Connor*.
Bloomington: IU Press, 1970. 147-51. Rpt. in *Short Story Criticism*. Ed. Margaret Haerens and Drew Kalasky. Vol. 23. Detroit: Gale, 1969. 189-91. Print.

Most Encyclopedias, Dictionaries, or Other Reference Books -- Signed Article

Shehan, Constance L. "Parental Roles." *Encyclopedia of Sociology*. Ed. Edgar F. Borgatta and Rhonda

J.V. Montgomery. 2nd ed. Vol. 3. New York: Macmillan, 2000. Print.

Include volume number when referencing only one volume of a multivolume work. For additional guidelines, see *MLA Handbook*, p. 168-170.

Most Encyclopedias, Dictionaries, or Other Reference Books -- Unsigned Article

"Chromatography." *Encyclopedia of Forensic Science: A Compendium of Detective Fact and Fiction*.

Ed. Barbara Gardner Conklin, Robert Gardner, and Dennis Shortelle. Westport: Oryx, 2002. Print.

An Exception...

Citations for very well-known reference books or encyclopedias such as World Book Encyclopedia may be shortened as in the following examples. It should be noted, however, that it is never incorrect to provide the full publication information.

Signed Article—very well-known encyclopedia

Tuma, Elias H. "Land Reform and Tenure." *The New Encyclopaedia Britannica*. 15th ed. 2007. Print.

Unsigned Article—very well-known encyclopedia

"Solar Energy." *The World Book Encyclopedia*. 2008 ed. Print.

A Graphic Narrative Created by One Person –

A citation for a graphic narrative created by one person is formatted like that for any other print publication.

Spiegelman, Art. *Maus: A Survivor's Tale*. 2 vols. New York: Pantheon-Random, 1986. Print.

If you are using two or more volumes of a multivolume work, cite the total number of volumes in the work. For additional guidelines, see *MLA Handbook*, p. 168-170.

A Graphic Narrative Created through Collaboration –

A citation for a graphic narrative created through collaboration should identify each person's role using the terms provided in the source.

Moore, Alan writer. *V for Vendetta*. Art by David Lloyd. Coloring by David Lloyd, Steve Whitaker and Siobhan

Dodds. Lettering by Jenny O'Connor, Steve Craddock and Elitta Fell. New York: DC Comics, 2005. Print.

PERIODICALS (printed)**Magazine Article -- Signed**

Messinger, Eric. "Get the Perfect Part-Time Job." *Parents* Oct. 2003: 65-72. Print.

Magazine title italicized.

Date

Pages

Article title in quotes

Mathews, Jay. "The New College Game." *Newsweek* 1 Sept. 2003: 40-42. Print.

Date includes day.

Magazine Article -- Unsigned

"What's on TV Tonight? Photography!" *Popular Photography* June 1995: 26+. Print.

Use a plus sign (+) when article is not printed on consecutive pages.

Scholarly Journal

Kon, Alexander A. "Assent in Pediatric Research." *Social Work* 117.5 (2006): 1806-10. Print.

Volume 117. Issue 5

Pages

Rubin, Lawrence C. "Psychotropia: Medicine, Media, and the Virtual Asylum." *Journal of Popular Culture* 39.2 (2006): 260-72. Print.

Year of publication in parentheses

Volume 39. Issue 2

Section indicated by letter, followed by page.

NEWSPAPERS (printed)

Lohr, Steve. "Fighting the Idea That All the Internet Is Free." *New York Times* 9 Sept. 2003, late ed.: C1+. Print.

McGeehan, Patrick. "Quick: What's the Boss Making?" *New York Times* 21 Sept. 2003, early ed.,

sec. 3: 1+. Print

Section indicated by number, followed by page.

Specify edition if listed on the masthead.

Wielaard, Robert. "EU to Query Iran." *Post Journal* [Jamestown, NY] 26 Aug. 2006: A2. Print.

Give city of publication in brackets if not part of name. *Omit* if newspaper is published nationally--e.g., Wall Street Journal.

Rafferty, Terrence. "What're You Staring At?" *New York Times* 16 Nov. 2008, late ed.,

Arts and Leisure sec.: 18+. Print.

Section indicated only by title, followed by page.

Section II: Citing ELECTRONIC Sources in the Works Cited List

Computerized sources of information must be documented as carefully as print sources, regardless of whether the information has been retrieved from a commercial online vendor such as *ProQuest* or *EBSCOhost*, an Internet web site, or any other electronic source.

Treat a source as "electronic" when it provides the complete text (article, book, encyclopedia, etc.), not just a citation.

Regarding URLs (Web Addresses): In the past it was recommended to include the URL of a source in works-cited-list entries. It is now recommended to only include a URL **if your instructor requires it**, or if your reader would not be able to locate the source without it. If you include a URL, it should be placed **immediately following the date of access**, a period and a space. Enclose the URL in angle brackets followed by a period. The following is an example:

<<http://www.blakearchive.org/blake/>>.

THE LIBRARIES' SUBSCRIPTION DATABASES:

A citation for an article taken from an online subscription database will include the same elements required in a citation for a corresponding print source. Additional information, however, is required in order to identify the electronic source.

The following example illustrates a typical citation for a journal article found in one of the libraries' subscription databases. Examples *by database* are provided on the following pages.

Johnson, W. Carter, et al. "Vulnerability of Northern Prairie Wetlands to Climate Change."
Bioscience 55.10 (2005): 863-72. *MasterFILE Premier*. Web. 15 Aug. 2006.

More than 3 authors

Vol. 55. Issue 10

Year

Database

If pagination is not available, use n.pag. in place of the page numbers.

Medium of publication consulted

Date of Access

SAMPLE CITATIONS FOR JCC'S LIBRARY ONLINE DATABASES

Business and Company Resource Center

Magazine article

Royalty, Doug. "Throwing the Book at Adelphia." *Business Week* 5 Aug. 2002: 60. *Business and Company Resource Center*. Web. 18 Sept. 2003.

Journal article

Ayers, Wayne M. "Trade Deficit – The Evil Twin?" *ABA Banking Journal* 90.5 (1998): 19. *Business and Company Resource Center*. Web. 14 Aug. 2003.

CountryWatch

CountryWatch makes its Country Reviews available in print, in PDF, and in HTML formats. For their most recent updates, use the HTML version. CountryWatch recommends that you start your citation with a reference to the print version. See 5.6.2.c., p.187 in the *MLA Handbook* for a work on the web that also appears in print.

The HTML version of an article from Country Review :

Youngblood-Coleman, Denise, ed. "Foreign Relations." *Afghanistan: 2009 Country Review*. Houston: CountryWatch, 2009. N. pag. *CountryWatch*. Web. 4 Nov. 2009.
<http://www.countrywatch.com/cw_topic.aspx?type=text&vcountry=1&topic=POFOR>.

*When inclusive page numbers are not present in the source, use N. pag. (Capitalize n after a period.)

**The URL is included as it is not obvious in the database how to access it.

The PDF version of an article from Country Review:

Youngblood-Coleman, Denise, ed. "Foreign Relations." *Afghanistan: 2009 Country Review*. Houston: CountryWatch, 2009. 80-91. *CountryWatch*. 2009. PDF file. 4 Nov. 2009. <<http://www.countrywatch.com/pdfs/reviews/B3333LZ9.01b.pdf>>.

*Use inclusive page numbers for an article from a specialized reference work if it is not arranged alphabetically. See 5.5.7. p, 160 for more information.

**MLA covers multiple versions of a document in section 5.7.18 of its handbook, p.211.

***The URL is included as it is not obvious in the databases how to access it.

CQ Researcher Online

Clemmitt, Marcia. "Fighting Superbugs." *CQ Researcher* 17.29 (2007): 673-96. *CQ Researcher Online*. Web. 27 Aug. 2007.

EBSCOhost Databases

Academic Search Premier
Business Source Premier
Cinahl Plus
Education Research Complete
Military & Gov. Collection

Health Source Consumer Ed.
Health SourceNursing/Acad. Ed
MasterFILE Premier
Medline
Newspaper Source

Professional Development Collection
Psych. & Behavioral Sciences Collection
Regional Business News
Religion & Philosophy Collection

Magazine article

Gibbs, Nancy, Alice Park, and Dan Cray. "Stem Cells: The Hope and the Hype." *Time* 7 Aug. 2006: 40-46.

MasterFILE Premier. Web. 15 Sept. 2006.

EBSCOhost database in which article was found.

Journal article

Stueve, Ann, and Lydia N. O'Donnell. "Early Alcohol Initiation and Subsequent Sexual and Alcohol Risk

Behaviors among Urban Youths." *American Journal of Public Health* 95.5 (2005): 887-93.

Academic Search Premier. Web. 10 Sept. 2006.

EBSCOhost database in which article was found.

Newspaper article

Include as many of the elements of the following citation as the newspaper database provides.

Sanders, Peter. "Casinos Emerge as Winners in Wake of Hurricane Katrina." *Wall Street Journal* 3 Aug. 2006,

eastern ed.: A1+ . *Newspaper Source*. Web. 10 Sept. 2006.

EBSCOhost database in which article was found.

Gale Virtual Reference Library

Encyclopedia/Reference Source Article

Newton, David E., and Douglas Dupler. "Wind Energy." *Environmental Encyclopedia*. Ed. Marci Bortman,

et al. 3rd ed. Vol. 2. Farmington Hills, MI: Gale, 2003. 1524-26. *Gale Virtual Reference Library*.

Web. 3 Sept. 2006.

Health Reference Center Academic or Health & Wellness Resource Center (Gale)

Magazine article

Dixon, Bruce K. "Bypass Grafting Trumps PCI for Coronary Disease." *Family Practice News* 1 Mar. 2006: 12+.

Database

Health Reference Center – Academic. Web. 22 July 2006.

Journal article

Kline, Mark W. "Perspectives on the Pediatric HIV/AIDS Pandemic: Catalyzing Access of Children to

Care and Treatment." *Pediatrics* 117.4 (2006): 1388+ . *Health & Wellness Resource Center*. Web. 31 Aug.

2006.

Database

Use a plus sign (+) when an online service provides only the first page number of a multi-page article.

LexisNexis Academic

Newspaper article

Markhoff, John. "Data Very Hard to Hide From Computer Sleuths." *New York Times* 14 Jan. 2002,

late ed. - final: C2. *LexisNexis Academic*. Web. 25 Aug. 2004.

Newsire Service

Barton, Jill. "Floridians Struggle to Rebuild after Frances as President Signs Relief Bill." *Associated*

Press 8 Sept. 2004. n. pag. *LexisNexis Academic*. Web. 14 Sept. 2004 .

Literature Resource Center

The LRC provides a wealth of information from a variety of sources, including many of the Gale publications as well as articles/excerpts collected from journals and books. Because the sources are so varied, citations will also vary somewhat. Several representative citations are provided below. For other cases, consult the MLA Handbook or talk with a librarian.

NOTE: Citations should include original dates and places of publication, when furnished by the database.

Excerpt from a book, republished in *Literature Resource Center*.

Eisinger, Chester E. "The Naked and the Dead: Overview." *Reference Guide to American Literature*.

Ed. Jim Kamp. 3rd ed. St. James, 1994. n. pag. *Literature Resource Center*. Web. 10 Sept. 2004 .

NOTE: Citations should include original dates and places of publication, when furnished by the database.

Journal article, reprinted in *Contemporary Literary Criticism* & republished in *Literature Resource Center*.

Maida, Patricia Dinneen. "Convergence in Flannery O'Connor's *Everything That Rises Must Converge*." *Studies*

in Short Fiction 7 (1970): 549-55. Rpt. in *Contemporary Literary Criticism*. Ed. Deborah A. Schmitt. Vol.

104. Detroit: Gale, 1998. 125-27. *Literature Resource Center*. Web. 8 Sept. 2008.

Original article in *Poetry for Students*, republished in *Literature Resource Center*.

Meyer, Bruce. "Overview of *A Red, Red Rose*." *Poetry for Students*. Ed. Mary K. Ruby and Ira Mark Milne.

Vol. 8. Detroit: Gale, 2000. *Literature Resource Center*. Web. 5 Sept. 2008.

Original unsigned Gale article in *Contemporary Literary Criticism*, republished in *Literature Resource Center*.

"Robert (Lee) Frost." *Contemporary Literary Criticism Select*. Detroit: Gale. *Literature Resource Center*. Web.

9 Sept. 2008.

Original unsigned Gale article in *Contemporary Authors Online*, republished in *Literature Resource Center*.

"(Mary) Flannery O'Connor." *Contemporary Authors Online*. Detroit: Gale, 2004. *Literature Resource Center*.

Web. 8 Sept. 2008.

MagillOnLiterature Plus

Madden, David. "A *Rose for Emily* by William Faulkner." *Masterplots II: Short Story Series*. Rev. ed.

Salem P, 2004. *MagillOnLiterature Plus*. Web. 13 Sept. 2006.

Hanley, Katherine. "Jane Austen." *Cyclopedia of World Authors*. Rev. 4th ed. Salem P, 2004. *MagillOnLiterature*

Plus. Web. 30 Aug. 2006.

Opposing Viewpoints

Vreeland, Leslie. "Adult Women Are at Risk of Eating Disorders." *Opposing Viewpoints: Eating Disorders*

Ed. Vigi Wagner. Detroit: Greenhaven Press, 2007. Excerpt from "Dying to Be Thin--After 30." *Good Housekeeping* 1 March 1998. *Gale Opposing Viewpoints In Context*. Web. 23 Aug 2010.

Renes, Susan. "Anorexics Are Victims of Society's Obsession with Thinness." *At Issue: Anorexia*. Ed. Karen F.

Balkin. San Diego: Greenhaven Press, 2001. Rpt. From "The Tyranny of Thinness," *Professional Counselor* August 1997. *Gale Opposing Viewpoints In Context*. Web. 30 Aug 2010.

ProQuest

Magazine article

Sutton, Clare. "Deep Jungle." *The Ecologist* May 2006: 12. *ProQuest*. Web. 10 Sept. 2006.

Journal article

Hartshorn, Gary S. "Understanding Tropical Forests." *Bioscience* 56.3 (2006): 264+ . *ProQuest*. Web. 5 May 2006.

Newspaper

Dionne, E.J., Jr. "Getting Centered in N.Y." *Washington Post* 31 Aug. 2004, final ed.: A21. *ProQuest*. Web. 9 Sept. 2004.

PsycArticles

Journal article

Correia, Christopher J., and Trisha A. Benson. "The Use of Contingency Management to Reduce Cigarette Smoking among College Students." *Experimental and Clinical Psychopharmacology* 14.2 (2006): 171-79. *PsycArticles*. Web. 11 July 2006.

Science Direct

Journal Article

Slocombe, Katie E., and Klaus Zuberbühler. "Functionally Referential Communication in a Chimpanzee." *Current Biology* 15.11 (2005):1779-84. *Science Direct*. Web. 12 Aug. 2006.

Twayne's Authors Series

Winchell, Donna Haisty. *Alice Walker*. Twayne, 1992. *Twayne's United States Authors Series Online*. Web. 12 Sept. 2006.

Web Publications

IMPORTANT NOTE: To accurately document a source found on the world wide web, it may be necessary to go to the home page or “about us” page of the sponsoring website for elements of the information required for a citation.

Articles from a Web Source (i.e., articles accessed by *connecting directly* to the online source, *not* by going through a subscription service such as *ProQuest* or *EBSCOhost*). Use publication information as provided on the website.

Gewertz, Catherine. “Report Probes Educational Challenges Facing Latinas.” *Education Week*.

Website Name

Editorial Projects in Education, 27 Aug. 2009. Web. 27 Aug 2009. <<http://www.edweek.org/>>.

Name of Publisher followed by a comma.

Date of Publication.

Include a URL of the source’s homepage only if your instructor requires it, or if your reader would not be able to locate the source without it.

Article from a Scholarly Journal Published Online Only

Thanouli, Eleftheria. “‘Art Cinema’ Narration: Breaking Down a Wayward Paradigm.” *Scope : an Online*

Journal of Film Studies 14 (2009): n. pag. Web. 27 Aug. 2009.

If Journal does not use Volume numbers, cite the issue alone.

No Pagination

Name of Publisher not required for scholarly journal.

Article from a Scholarly Journal Published both in Print and Online

Scott, H. Denman, et al. “Physicians Helping the Underserved: The Reach Out Program.” *JAMA: The Journal of*

the American Medical Association 283.1 (2000): 99-104. Web. 27 Aug. 2009.

Medium of publication consulted

Sponsor or publisher followed by a comma. If not available use N.p.

A Web Site

Crane, Gregory, ed. *The Perseus Digital Library*. Tufts University, n.d. Web. 23 June 2009.

Date of access

<<http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/>>.

Name of author, compiler, director, editor, narrator, performer or translator if available.

URL (Optional)

Date of Publication. If none available use n.d.

A Document or Work within a Scholarly Project or Information Database on the Web

Fitzhugh, William, dir. “Crossroads of Continents.” *Arctic Studies Center*. Smithsonian Institution, n.d. Web.

23 June 2009.

Title of work

Title of overall website if distinct from title of work.

Carney Coston, Barbara, prod. “Faces of Freedom.” *The Underground Railroad*. National Geographic, n.d. Web. 29

June 2009.

A Professional or Personal SiteSponsor or publisher not available
use N.p. followed by a comma.Date of electronic
publication or update, if
given.

Gray, Terry A. *Mr. William Shakespeare and the Internet*. N.p., 26 May 2009. Web. 29 June 2009.

< <http://shakespeare.palomar.edu> >.

Lemay, J.A. Leo, ed. *Benjamin Franklin: A Documentary History*. U of Delaware, 1997. Web. 29 June 2009.

<<http://www.english.udel.edu/lemay/franklin/>>.

Publication/Article from an Association or Organization

International Reading Association. "Literacy Development in the Preschool Years: A Position Statement of the International Reading Association." *International Reading Association*. International Reading Association, Jan. 2005. Web. 29 June 2009.

Corporate Author.

Website Name
in italics

Zauber, Karen. "Management Tips for New Teachers: Bringing Order to the Classroom." *National Education Association*. NEA, 2003. Web. 30 June 2009.

Name of Publisher followed by a comma.

A Listserv, Discussion Group, or Blog Posting

Editor, screen name, author, or compiler name

Title of Post

Name of Blog, List or Group

Tennant, Roy. "Kindle 2 Announced; This Writer Yawns." *Tennant: Digital Libraries*. Library Journal, 9 Feb. 2008. Web. 3 Dec. 2010.

Name of institution/organization affiliated with the site (sponsor or publisher)

Date of Publication. If none available
use n.d.

Section III Documenting Sources in the Body of the Paper

Give credit to all sources from which you have taken information, whether you have directly quoted, paraphrased, or summarized the author's words. *Failing to document your sources constitutes plagiarism.* MLA style calls for briefly identifying a source at the point of reference within the text (body) of your paper. In parentheses, include as specified only the information required to identify the source in the Works Cited list at the end of the paper.

If the author's name is mentioned in your sentence--

In his 1994 study of fifth graders, Howard McKenzie reported that more than half the students tested were reading at or above grade level (121-22).

If the author's name is omitted in your sentence--

A 1994 study of fifth grade students found that more than half the students tested were reading at or above grade level (McKenzie 121-22).

If the work cited has two or three authors--

A parallel study in the suburban Detroit schools reported a positive correlation between parents reading to children and children's reading readiness (Brown and Livingston 289).

If more than one source by the same author is cited--

A five-year follow-up to students' reading levels found that a significant number of students who had been reading below grade level in the fifth grade were still reading below grade level (McKenzie, *When Johnny* 221).

If the source does not give the name of the author--

Begin with the title. Use the full title if it is brief; otherwise, use a shortened version, disregarding the words *a*, *an*, and *the*.

Book:

Curriculum changes were made in response to a study of reading readiness and gender differences among first graders (*Reading* 144).

Periodical article:

A Central University study confirmed a negative correlation between reading achievement of primary grade children and number of hours spent watching television ("TV" 37).

If an ELECTRONIC source does not provide page numbers—

*Use paragraph numbers, section numbers or even chapter numbers if they are given (abbreviate *par.*, *sec.*, or *ch.*).

(Goldsmith, par. 7)

(McKenzie, ch. 4, sec. II)

(Johnson, sec. 2)

(Albright, ch. 3, sec. 1)

***If no page, paragraph, section, or chapter numbers are provided, cite the entire work, not just a section of it.**

For additional examples and for cases not covered by this handout, see the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers, 7th edition, Chapter 6, "Documentation: Citing Sources in the Text," pages 213-232.