

HHS LIBRARY - MLA 8th Edition Guide



According to MLA there are multiple ways to do a citation that can be correct, however *your teacher who is grading your assignment is the ultimate authority*.

The latest MLA edition uses a completely different structure and was designed to standardize how things are cited across formats. The 8th Edition has been designed to be flexible enough to be used for anything you might want to cite by using general categories. **If you don't have any of the information the citation asks for or it doesn't apply to what you're citing, omit that portion.**

Basic example

Author. Title of Source. Title of Container, Other Contributors, Version, Number, Publisher, Publication Date, Location.

Example within a larger framework (for instance a named website or database):

Author. Title of Source. Title of Container, Other Contributors, Version, Number, Publisher, Publication Date, Location. Title of container, Other contributors, Version, Number, Publisher, Publication date, Location.

If you need to create a citation for items not listed in this handout, visit the library to check the 8th edition of the *MLA Handbook* or consult online reference guides available on the HHS Library Card Catalog home page. In addition to the updated edition, MLA has also launched a free website which offers more features including sample papers, more citation examples, and a place to ask questions from the people in charge of the system. <https://style.mla.org/>

Books, Brochures, and Pamphlets

Single Author

Last Name, First Name. *Title of Book*. Shortened Publisher Name, Publication Year.

Stone, Tanya L. *The Good, the Bad, and the Barbie: A Doll's History and Her Impact on Us*. Viking, 2010.

Two Authors

Windham, Ryder, and Peter Vilmur. *Star Wars: The Complete Vader*. Ballantine, 2009.

Three or More Authors

Dewitt, Larry W., et al. *Social Security: A Document History*. CQ Press, 2008.

Second or Later Edition, or Revised, Updated, etc. Edition

Sova, Dawn B. *Literature Suppressed on Social Grounds*. 3rd ed., Facts on File, 2011.

Edited Book

Lawton, Sandra A., editor. *Complementary and Alternative Medicine Information for Teens*. Omnigraphics, 2007.

Chapter in Anthology or a Compilation

Author(s) of Chapter. "Chapter Title." *Title of Book*. Edited by followed by the editor's name. Shortened
Publisher Name, Copyright Year. Pages of Chapter.

Black, Holly. "Everything Amiable and Obliging." *Steampunk: An Anthology of Fantastically Rich and Strange Stories*. Edited by Kelly Link and Gavin J. Grant. Candlewick, 2011. pp. 353-375.

Encyclopedias

Neumann, Caryn E. "Benedict Arnold." *Encyclopedia of Media and Propaganda in Wartime America*. Edited by Martin J. Manning and Clarence R. Wyatt. ABC-CLIO, 2011. pp.10-14.

Vancko, Robert M. "Zero." *World Book Encyclopedia*. 2016 ed., 2016.

Dictionary

"Superfluous." *The American Heritage High School Dictionary*. 3rd ed., 1997.

Serials (Databases, Journals, Magazines)

Online Version of Database Article

Author(s). "Title of Article." *Title of Journal*, vol. Volume #, no. Issue #, Month Year, pp. page number(s).

Database Provider Name. www.....or DOI

URLs should be copied from browser window and pasted in. The http:// at beginning should be deleted. If the record provides a DOI, use that in place of the URL. DOI is an abbreviation for Digital Object Identifier and consists of a series of numbers and sometimes letters.

Chan, Evans. "Postmodernism and Hong Kong Cinema." *Postmodern Culture*, vol. 10, no. 3, May 2012.

JSTOR, doi:10.1353/pmc.2000.0021.

Butrymowicz, Sarah. "Charter Schools Have Had Mixed Results." *Charter Schools*. Edited by Margaret Haerens and Lynn Zott. Detroit: Greenhaven Press, 2012. "Charter Schools: An Experiment with Mixed Results." *Politics Daily*. 2011. *Gale Opposing Viewpoints in Context*.
ic.galegroup.com/ic/ovic/ViewpointsDetailsPage/ViewpointsDetailsWindow?
disableHighlighting=false&displayGroupName=Viewpoints&currPage=&scanId=&query=&source=&prodId=OVIC&search_within_results=&p=OVIC&mode=view&catId=&u=kirkwood_main&limiter=&isplayquery=&displayGroups=&contentModules=&action=e&sortBy=&documentId=GALE|EJ3010800207&windowstate=normal&activityType=&failOverType=&comm entary=. Accessed 16 July 2016.

Literary Criticism Articles and Chapters in Books

Book Cited

Grasso, Joshua. "Rudyard Kipling." *British Writers: Retrospective Supplement III*, Edited by Jay Parini. Gale, 2010. pp. 181-198.

Smith, Annie. *Environmental Protection*. Mentor, 1990. pp. 34-36. *Contemporary Literary Criticism*, general editor, Thomas Votteler, vol. 20. Gale, 1999. pp. 23-36.

Original Essay (as in author biographies in *Something About the Author* or *Contemporary Authors*)

Deeb, Robert, and Charles D. Brower. "Law and Justice." *American Decades: 1950-1959*. Edited by Richard Layman. Gale, 1995. pp. 225-256.

Miscellaneous Sources

Personal Interviews

Zehner, Charlene. Personal interview. 28 Sept. 2016.

Personal Correspondence, E-mail or Letter

Name of Writer Last Name, First Name. "Subject Line." Received by Recipient's Name. Date received.

Raycroft, Ric. "Student Internet Access." Received by Laura Vanadore. 30 Aug. 2016.

Film or Video Recording, DVD

NOTE: MLA says the proper citation for a film, TV show, etc. depends on the focus of what you're citing, clarify with your teacher, but these are basic forms.

Director's Name, director. *Title*. Distributor, Year of Release.

Film

Bruce Beresford, director. *Tender Mercies*. Universal Pictures, 1983.

TV Show

“To Kill a Mocking Girl.” *Pretty Little Liars*, created by Oliver Goldstick, performance by Lucy Hale, season 1, episode 3, Warner Brothers, 2010.

Internet Sources

NOTE: Web addresses/URL are now included. Remove http:// or https:// from beginning.

No Author and No Date

“Title of Page.” URL. Accessed Date of Access.

“Home for the Holidays.” www.holidaytraditions/travel. Accessed 16 Aug. 2016.

With Author and Date

Author. “Title of Page.” *Title of site if different*, Publisher or Sponsor. Date of the Site, URL. Accessed Date of Access.

Lambert, Verity. “Time and Relative Dimensions in Space.” *Gallifrayan Compendium*. 4 Sept. 2012. www.tombakerltd.edu/timevehicle. Accessed 9 Oct. 2016.

Visual Art, Painting or Photograph from Website

Artist’s name. *The Name of the Painting*. Date of painting. Museum Name, City. *Name of Website*. URL. Accessed Date of access.

Wood, Grant. *American Gothic*. 1930. Art Institute of Chicago. *Art Institute Chicago*. www.artic.edu/aic/collections/artwork/6565. Accessed 23 Nov. 2016.

NOTE: If you use images from google.com you must click on “Visit Page” to get more detailed information – DO NOT cite the google search.

If no name is given, start with the title. If no title given, give brief description e.g. Table of stained oak

Video or Audio: Online or Streaming (YouTube, CNN, PBS, NPR)

NOTE: If you don’t have the director’s name or other information, you may also use the poster’s name, either personal or company name. In those cases, remove the director. If you don’t have any name, skip to the title.

Director Last Name, First Name, director. "Title of Video/Segment." *Title of Website/Program*. Publisher of Website. Date of Release. URL. Accessed Date Accessed.

Lohr, Kathy, director. "Controversy Swirls Around Harsh Anti-Obesity Ad." *All Things Considered*. NPR. 9 Jan. 2012. www.npr.org/2012/01/09/144799538/controversy-swirls-around-harsh-anti-obesity-ads. Accessed 10 Jan. 2016.

McGonigal, Jane. "Gaming and Productivity." *YouTube*, uploaded by Big Think, 3 July 2012, www.youtube.com/watch?v=mkdzy9bWW3E. Accessed 15 Aug. 2016.

Online Books or e-books

NOTE: The 8th edition does not ask you to specify what database it was retrieved from or the URL. Check with your teacher to see if they want you to add the URL.

Author Last Name, First Name. *Title of Book*. e-book, Shortened Publisher Name, Year Published.

Conrad, Joseph. *Heart of Darkness*. E-book, Tin House Books, 2013.

In-text Citations for MLA: Important Information

✓ **The quotation mark comes before the parenthetical citation.**

✓ **If a block quotation is used, place the punctuation before the parenthetical citation.**

✓ **The period at the end of the sentence comes after the parenthetical citation.**

Important Information About the Works Cited Page

✓ **The reference list** should be on a separate sheet of paper at the end of the paper. Use one-inch margins.

✓ **Center the words:** Works Cited, use Work Cited (if you use only one source) **Do not bold any information.**

✓ **The font and its size** should be the same throughout the list and the same as the text of the paper, size 12.

Times New Roman is given as an example, but any easily readable font will do. The entire list is **double-spaced** (one line in between). **Do not put extra spaces** between the citations.

✓ **Indent** the second and subsequent lines in each citation one-half (1/2) inch. This is called hanging indentation.

✓ **Alphabetize** the citations in one list, either by the name of the author or editor or if there is no author or editor, use the first significant word of the title. In the sample on the next page, the title, "The Apple of Her Eye," comes before the author, Brown, because the word, "The," is ignored in alphabetizing. The words, "A" and "An" at the beginning of a title are ignored, too.

✓ **Numerals** in titles are alphabetized as if they were spelled out.

✓ Prepositions in titles are **NOT** capitalized.

Handout Modified From

Kirkwood Community College Library Sources. "Citations using MLA, 8th Edition, 2016." *Kirkwood*

Community College Library Services, Kirkwood Community College. Aug. 2016.

http://guides.kirkwood.edu/ld.php?content_id=24523983. Accessed 13 Oct. 2016.

Modern Language Association. *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*. 8th ed.

Avoid Common Mistakes

BOOKS AND GENERAL GUIDELINES

- ✓ **Shorten publisher names.** Use the surname of the first person's name. For John Wiley and Sons, use: Wiley. For Harcourt Brace, use: Harcourt.
- ✓ **Omit articles** (A, An, The), business abbreviations (Co., Inc.) and descriptive words (Books, House, Press, Publishers).
- ✓ **Use:** UP for University Press. **Use:** Federation P for Federation Press. **Use:** U of Cambridge P for University of Cambridge for Ohio State University Press, use Ohio State UP.
- ✓ **List the authors or editors for each** citation in the order given on the publication. If there are two authors or editors, put the last name and then first name of the first author. Then put the second names with the first name first: White, Jean Marie, and Sue Ellen Adams. When there is a corporate author, do not use the beginning A, An, or The. If corporate author is also publisher, skip the author and list it as publisher only.
- ✓ When listing a **specific edition** such as Abbreviated, or Revised, spell out the type of edition followed by abbreviation ed. Use numbers for number editions. Abbreviated ed. – Revised ed. – 2nd ed.
- ✓ The edition, if any, should be listed on the title page or its reverse.
- ✓ **Capitalize** the first word, proper nouns, and all important words of a book title, Internet article title, a magazine article title, and a subtitle.
- ✓ **Months** should be abbreviated when used except May, June, and July.
- ✓ **Do not use** Associated Press as an author.

MAGAZINE ARTICLES

- ✓ **Page numbers** are now identified by a p. for a single page and pp. for a range of pages.
- ✓ If the **pages are not consecutive**, use the first page followed by a +. Example: pp. 23+.
- ✓ The **title** of the article is in “quotation marks” and the title of the magazine is in *italics*.
- ✓ Magazines may list volume or issue numbers if available.
- ✓ If there is no author listed, start with the title followed by the rest of the citation.

JOURNAL ARTICLES

- ✓ Identify the volume and issue by abbreviation followed by the number and separated by a comma. Example: vol. 128, no. 1 If a DOI number is available, include after DOI: Citations with DOIs should OFFICIALLY not also include URLs, but your teacher may require you to include the URL as well.
- ✓ **In newspaper articles:** If the pages are not consecutive, use the first page followed by a +. Example: A23+. (p. 110)
- ✓ Italicize **book titles**, **magazine titles**, and **newspaper names**. Use quotation marks for things within a larger container such as “article titles.”
- ✓ **Copy URL in FULL** from your browser window. **Do NOT use short URL generators, etc.** Permalinks are permitted.
- ✓ **Place of Publication** is no longer included.
- ✓ **Accessed Date** is optional; we have included it in our examples.