

MLA CITATION & STYLE GUIDE



Many Fisher College professors require the MLA style for papers. Check with your professor about which format he or she expects you to use.

MLA FORMATTING:

Purdue OWL provides guidelines for papers using MLA style, <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/24/>

Microsoft Word offers MLA templates. Open Microsoft Word. Select “New.” In the search box at the top of the screen type “MLA.” A couple of templates will appear. Choose one.

For more information on plagiarism, visit Fisher College’s publication, “Plagiarism: a guidebook on responsible source citation.”

http://s3.amazonaws.com/MagicHour/Fisher/Uploads/ByDate/2013/June_2013/June_24th_2013/plagiarism92229.pdf

REMEMBER to keep track of where you are getting your material. If you use someone else’s idea, even if it is not a direct quote (paraphrased), you need to give credit to the author(s).

MOST COMMON MLA CITATION COMPONENTS

- Author(s)
- Editor(s)
- Title (article, book, chapter, journal, etc.)
- Date (published or created)
- Publisher
- Edition
- Location of Publisher
- Page Number(s)
- Date Accessed (online)

MLA IN-TEXT CITATIONS

Whenever you cite a book, magazine, scholarly journal, or other source within the body of your paper, the In-Text citation will reflect your Works Cited page.

Purdue OWL provides guidelines for In-Text citations using MLA style, <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/02/>

The following is an example of an In-Text citation **with a known author**:

“A company spokesman used the wheel-and-spokes concept that placed Martha at the center of the action” (Byron 200).

According to Byron, “A company spokesman used the wheel-and-spokes concept that placed Martha at the center of the action” (200).

The following is an example of an In-Text citation **without a known author**:

“Her brand may be tarnished, but her empire grossed more than \$221 million last year” (“Meltdown for Ratings”).

MLA IN-TEXT CITATION ~ PARAPHRASING

When Andy Warhol walked into the kitchen, he grabbed a can of Campbell’s soup from the pantry shelf (Matterson 67).

Works Cited: The page at the end of your paper that lists the materials (books, films, articles, etc.) that you used

MLA WORKS CITED EXAMPLES

When creating a citation, make sure to use 12pt Times New Roman font and to double space entries.

CITING A SOURCE FROM AN ONLINE DATABASE* USING MLA

STRUCTURE:

Author(s). "Title of Article." *Title of Journal*, Volume, Number,
Day Month Year, pages. *Database*, doi (if available)
or URL. Date Accessed.

EXAMPLE:

Callan, Michael, and Jamie S. Schwartz. "Regional Drought
in Rural Nebraska." *Western Ecology*, vol. 8, no. 2,
6 Mar. 2017, pp. 18-21, EBSCOhost, search.ebscohost.com
/login.aspx?direct=true&AuthType=Ip,cpid&cus
tid=s5072344&db=a9h&AN=11858055&site=ehost-live.
Accessed 15 Mar. 2017

NO NEED FOR URL WHEN CITING PRINT JOURNALS.

Notice!!! After the first line of a citation, indent one “Tab” for each additional line.

Creating a “hanging indent” in Microsoft Word accomplishes the same outcome. For instructions on how to do that, see Microsoft’s detailed instructions here:

<https://support.office.com/en-us/article/Create-a-hanging-indent-7bdfb86a-c714-41a8-ac7a-3782a91ccad5>

*Online databases include: Academic Search Ultimate, Business Source Complete, Communication Source, Academic OneFile, ProQuest Central, and others available through the Fisher College Library website, Boston Public Library, and other library websites.

Remember that most databases provide an auto citation tool. If you use one of these, make sure to double-check the style for accuracy.

CITING A PAGE FROM A WEBSITE USING MLA

STRUCTURE:

Editor, author, or compiler name (if available). “Title of Article from Website.” *Name of Site*. Date accessed. Web address.

EXAMPLE:

“The Humane Treatment of Free-Range Chickens.” *PETA: People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals*. Accessed 21 Nov. 2017. www.peta.org/chickens.

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CITING A BOOK USING MLA

STRUCTURE:

Last Name, First Name. *Title of Book*. Publisher, Publication
Date.

EXAMPLE:

Koch, Richard. *The 80/20 Principle: The Secret to Achieving More
with Less*. Crown Business, 2008.

Notice!!! After the first line of a citation, indent one “Tab” for each additional line.

Creating a “hanging indent” in Microsoft Word accomplishes the same outcome. For instructions on how to do that, see Microsoft’s detailed instructions here:

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CITING A MAGAZINE USING MLA

STRUCTURE:

Author(s). "Title of Article." *Title of Magazine*, Day Month Year,
pages.

EXAMPLE:

Case, Justin. "Possibilities for the Future." *The Economist*, 30
Oct. 2014, pp. 7-11.

Notice!!! After the first line of a citation, indent one "Tab" for each additional line.

Creating a "hanging indent" in Microsoft Word accomplishes the same outcome. For instructions on how to do that, see Microsoft's detailed instructions here:

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CITING A NEWSPAPER USING MLA

STRUCTURE:

Author(s). "Title of Article." *Title of Newspaper*, Day Month
abbreviation. Year, pages.

EXAMPLE:

Barker, Lara. "Senior Living Facility Creates Jobs in City Center."
International Herald Tribune, 12 Jun. 2003, p. B17.

Notice!!! After the first line of a citation, indent one "Tab" for each additional line.

Creating a "hanging indent" in Microsoft Word accomplishes the same outcome. For instructions on how to do that, see Microsoft's detailed instructions here:

<https://support.office.com/en-us/article/Create-a-hanging-indent-7bdfb86a-c714-41a8-ac7a-3782a91ccad5>

MONTHS ABBREVIATED

January = *Jan.*

February = *Feb.*

March = *Mar.*

April = *Apr.*

May = *May*

June = *Jun.*

July = *Jul.*

August = *Aug.*

September = *Sep.*

October = *Oct.*

November = *Nov.*

December = *Dec.*

CITING A FILM USING MLA

STRUCTURE:

Title. Directed by First Last Name, performances by First Last Name, First Last Name, and First Last Name, Production House, Release Year.

EXAMPLE:

Kramer vs. Kramer. Directed by Robert Benton, performances by Dustin Hoffman and Meryl Streep, Columbia Pictures, 1979.

Notice!!! After the first line of a citation, indent one “Tab” for each additional line.

Creating a “hanging indent” in Microsoft Word accomplishes the same outcome. For instructions on how to do that, see Microsoft’s detailed instructions here:

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CITING A CHAPTER OR WORK IN AN ANTHOLOGY USING MLA

STRUCTURE:

Last name, First name. "Title of Chapter or Work within an Anthology." *Title of Collection*, edited by Editor's Name(s), Publisher, Year, Page range of entry.

EXAMPLE:

Alexie, Sherman. "The Joy of Reading and Writing: Superman and Me." *The Writer's Presence: A Pool of Readings*. Edited by Donald McQuade and Robert Atwan. Bedford/St. Martin's, 2015, pp. 34-37.

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CITING AN IMAGE (DRAWING, PAINTING, PHOTOGRAPH, ETC.) FROM A PRINT BOOK USING MLA

STRUCTURE:

Last name, First name. (Image creator, if known.) *Title of Work*.

Work Date (if unknown, write N.d.). Image format. Name of individual or institution that owns image (if known), institution location. *Book Title*. By Author name.

City, State: Publisher, Date. Page, figure, or plate number.

EXAMPLE:

Van Gogh, Vincent. *Wheatfield and Cypresses*. 1889. Painting.

National Gallery, London. *Van Gogh*. By Jean Leymarie.

New York: Crown Publishers, 1987. 157.

Notice!!! After the first line of a citation, indent one “Tab” for each additional line.

Creating a “hanging indent” in Microsoft Word accomplishes the same outcome. For instructions on how to do that, see Microsoft’s detailed instructions here:

<https://support.office.com/en-us/article/Create-a-hanging-indent-7bdfb86a-c714-41a8-ac7a-3782a91ccad5>

CITING AN IMAGE (DRAWING, PAINTING, PHOTOGRAPH, ETC.) FROM A WEBSITE USING MLA

STRUCTURE:

Last Name, First Name (Image creator, if available). *Title of Image*. Work date (if known). Image format (Painting, Photograph, etc.). Name of individual or institution that owns work (if available), Institution location. Web. Date Retrieved.

EXAMPLE:

Van Gogh, Vincent. *Wheat Field with Cypresses*. 1889. Painting. Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York. Web. 28 Mar. 2018.

Notice!!! After the first line of a citation, indent one “Tab” for each additional line.

Creating a “hanging indent” in Microsoft Word accomplishes the same outcome. For instructions on how to do that, see Microsoft’s detailed instructions here:

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Citing something not listed here?

Follow this link to the Purdue OWL MLA guide:

<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/05/>

NOTES:

