Every scholarly field has its preferred citation format or “style.” MLA style, as presented in this handout, is widely accepted in most disciplines in the humanities.

For more detailed information, consult the **MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers** (on Reserve and in Reference, 808.02 G350e) or ask a librarian.

### Parenthetical Citations

Each time you borrow a quote or fact from another work, you need to cite where it came from. Each citation in your text, usually the name of the author and the page number(s) in parentheses, should lead the reader to an accompanying entry in the Works Cited. Generally, include the author’s name and the page number(s) where you got the quote or fact. If you include the author’s name in a signal phrase (“Smith argues that…”), you don’t need to include the name again in parentheses.

**Work by a single author:** (Smith 72)

**Work without page numbers (ebook, Web site, etc.):** (Smith, Rodriguez, and Ault) or (Hasegawa and Takagashi, ch. 4)

**Work with neither author nor page numbers:** (“Utah Mine Rescue Funeral”)

**Indirect source (as quoted in another work):** (qtd. in Boswell 450-451)

### Works Cited

(See the rest of this packet for examples)

- Make the list of Works Cited a separate page at the end of your paper
- Use the heading Works Cited
- Double-space your citations
- List the entries in alphabetical order (if *a,* *an,* or *the* is the first word, use the second to alphabetize).
- Give each entry a hanging indent of ½ inch.

### SAMPLE ESSAY (EXCERPT) WITH WORKS CITED

Marion Nestle also points to the astronomical sums that junk food producers spend on advertising and supermarket marketing as a reason why messages about healthy eating go ignored or misunderstood (21-23). For instance, even though the USDA recommends a daily sodium intake of less than 2,300 milligrams (or less than 1,500 milligrams for older and at-risk populations), it estimates that the average daily sodium intake is around 3,400 milligrams (US Department of Agriculture 21). Consumers’ confusion is understandable though: one study of product packaging in Canadian supermarkets found many different unregulated references to “high” fiber content, implying to consumers that even junk foods are healthy (Sacco, Sumanac, and Tarasuk).

*Note: Your text should be double-spaced, with the Works Cited on a separate page.*

**Works Cited**


SAMPLE MLA CITATIONS

BOOKS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author last name, first name</th>
<th>City of publication</th>
<th>Year of publication</th>
<th>Publisher (abbreviate words like University and Press)</th>
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E-book from a library database

E-book *(not from a library database)*


**ENCYCLOPEDIA OR REFERENCE ENTRIES**

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<th>Article/entry title</th>
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**Encyclopedia or reference entry – in print**

**Encyclopedia or reference entry – in an online database**


**NEWSPAPER ARTICLES**

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<th>Article Title</th>
<th>Publication Date</th>
<th>Edition, if specified</th>
<th>Database (for articles from the Web or print, see examples below)</th>
<th>Date you accessed it</th>
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</table>

Newspaper article in print

Newspaper article from a database

Newspaper article from a Web site

Journal article with separate issue numbers, in print

Journal with consecutive page numbering throughout a volume (no issue number listed), in print

Journal article from an online database (e.g. JSTOR, Academic Search Complete, Physical Education Index etc.)


Magazine article in print

Magazine article that continues on nonconsecutive pages, in print

Magazine article from a database

Magazine article from the Web
Audio Interview

Art or Image from the Web


Blog

Class Moodle Site

Document on the Web That Has Also Appeared in Print

E-mail

Government Document from an Online Database

Tweet
Athar, Sohaib (ReallyVirtual). “Helicopter hovering above Abbottabad at 1AM (is a rare event).” 1 May 2011, 12:58 p.m. Tweet. [Use your local time zone.]

Web Page

Video from a Database

Video on the Web (YouTube, TED Talks)


OTHER SOURCES

Film or Video (e.g., DVD)

TV Programs

Television.

Performance of a Play

Personal Interview
Gomez, María. Telephone interview. 22 Oct. 2014.

Playbill or Performance Program

Sound Recording

Interview

Work of Visual Art

For other examples, changes in MLA citation style, or additional information consult the latest MLA Handbook (in Ref 808.02 G350e) or the official MLA Handbook Web site at http://www.mla-handbook.org.

Ask a librarian if you need help!