MLA STYLE

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>Book title</th>
<th>Publisher (abbreviate words like University and Press)</th>
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By a single author

By two or three authors

By more than three authors

Two or more books by the same author


By a corporate or group author

Editor in place of author

A translation

Edition other than the first

Bible or other sacred text

Work in an anthology

Chapter in a Saint Mary’s custom text (e.g., seminar text)

eBOOKS

E-book from a library database

E-book (not from a library database)


ENCYCLOPEDIA OR REFERENCE ENTRIES

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Encyclopedia or reference entry – in print

Encyclopedia or reference entry – in an online database


NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

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Newspaper article in print

Newspaper article from a database

Newspaper article from a Web site

**JOURNAL ARTICLES**

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<th>Database</th>
<th>Medium</th>
<th>Date you accessed it</th>
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**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 ARTICLES**

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<th>Page #s</th>
<th>Database</th>
<th>Medium</th>
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</table>

**Magazine article in print**

**Magazine article that continues on nonconsecutive pages, in print**

**Magazine article from a database**

**Magazine article from the Web**
Web Page

Class Moodle Site

Electronic Video

YouTube Video


Blog

Audio Interview

Art or Image from the Web


E-mail Communication

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.]
OTHER SOURCES

Film or Video (e.g., DVD)

TV Programs

Performance of a Play

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 Web site at http://www.mla.org.

HowToUse\MLA Format. GKL: rev.1/2015