

## Documentation In MLA Style

### Format

- ✓ Center the title Works Cited one inch from the top of the page.
- ✓ Double space between the title and the first entry in the list.
- ✓ Begin each entry flush with the left margin (1 inch), and, if it runs more than one line, indent the subsequent line or lines five spaces from the left margin.
- ✓ Single space the entire list, both between and within entries.
- ✓ Continue the list on as many pages as necessary.

### Arrangement

In general, alphabetize entries in the list of works cited by the author's last name, using the letter-by-letter system. If the author's name is unknown, alphabetize by the first word in the title other than a, "an" or "the." **DO NOT NUMBER** these entries.

### Examples of MLA Works Cited

#### A book by a single author:

Author's Lastname, Firstname. *Title of Book*. City of Publication: Publisher, Year of Publication.  
Medium of Publication.

*Example:*

Lobdell, Jared. *England and Always: Tolkien's World of the Rings*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1981. Print.

#### A book by two or three authors:

Author's Last Name, First Name and First Name Last Name. *Title of the Book*. Place of Publication: Publisher, date. Medium of Publication.

*Example:*

Berry, Jason and Tad Jones. *Up from the Cradle of Jazz*. Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1986. Print.

*\*Something to note: The first given name appears in last name, first name format; subsequent author names appear in first name last name format.*

#### A book by more than three authors:

Author's Last Name, First Name, et. al. *Title of the Book*. Place of Publication: Publisher, date. Medium of Publication.

*Example:*

Charyn, Jerome, et. al. *Presidents in the U.S.* New York: Putnam, 1996. Print.

*\*Something to note: If there are more than three authors, you may choose to list only the first author followed by the phrase et al. (Latin for "and others") in place of the subsequent authors' names, or you may list all the authors in the order in which their names appear on the title page. (Note that there is a period after "al" in "et al." Also note that there is never a period after the "et" in "et al.")*

**A book by an anonymous author:**

*Title of the Book.* Place of Publication: Publisher, Date of Publication. Medium of Publication.

*Example:*

*A Guide to Our Federal Lands.* Washington: National Geographic Society, 1984. Print.

**A book with an editor, but no author:**

Editor's Last name, First name, ed. *Title of the Book.* Place of Publication: Publisher, Date of Publication.  
Medium of Publication.

*Example:*

Lawrence, Jane W., ed. *Palestinians In the Middle East.* New York: McGraw-Hill, 1994. Print.

**An edition of a book**

Author's Last Name, First Name. *Title of the Book.* Ed. Editor's First Name, Last Name. Number of Edition.  
Place of Publication: Publisher, Date of Publication. Vol. # (if there is one). Medium of Publication.

*Examples:*

Chaucer, Geoffrey. *The Works of Geoffrey Chaucer.* Ed. F. N. Robinson. 2nd ed. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1957. Print.

Daiches, David. *A Critical History of English Literature.* 2nd ed. 2 vols. New York: Ronald, 1970. Vol. 2. Print.

**Part of a book**

Author's Last Name, First Name. "Chapter or Section of the Book." *Title of the Book.* Ed. Editor's First Name, Last Name. Place of Publication: Publisher, Date of Publication. Page # - page #. Medium of Publication.

*Example:*

Berry, Wanda Warren. "Affirmative Action is Just." In *Social Justice.* Eds. David L. Bender and Leone Bruno. St. Paul: Greenhaven Press, 1984. 16-25. Print.

**Reference Encyclopedia:**

Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of the Article." *Title of the Reference Book.* Ed. Editor's First Name Last Name. # vols. Date of publication. Medium of Publication.

*Examples:*

"American Revolution." *Encyclopedia Americana.* 1985. Print.

Brakely, Theresa C. "Mourning Songs." *Funk and Wagnalls Standard Dictionary of Folklore, Mythology, and Legend.* Ed. Maria Leach and Jerome Fried. 2 vols. 1950.

*\*Something to note: In the case of an encyclopedia or a dictionary article, one does not need to include the publishers' information! Also, if there is no author credited for the article, simply skip this part of the citation.*

### **Magazine / Periodical Article:**

Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of the Article." *Title of Magazine* Day Month Year: page # - page #.  
Medium of Publication.

#### *Example:*

Walsh, John. "US-Japan Study Aim is Education Reform." *Science* 16 Jan. 1987: 274-275. Print.

### **Newspaper Article:**

Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of the Article." *Title of Newspaper* Day Month Year: Section p. #.  
Medium of publication.

#### *Example:*

Fuerbringer, Jonathan. "Budgetary Rhythms." *New York Times* 20 Mar. 1987, late ed.: A8. Print.

### **A pamphlet**

Lastname, Firstname. *Title of Pamphlet*. Place of Publication: Publisher, date of publication. Medium of publication.

#### *Examples:*

*Career as an Aerospace-Aircraft Engineer*. Chicago: Institute for research, 1978. Print.

*\*Something to note: If there is no author, skip the author information and begin the entry with the title of the pamphlet. If there is no individual author, but a corporate author, put the corporation name at the beginning of the entry.*

### **A government publication**

Author or Govt. Agency. *Title of Publication*. Place of publication: Publisher, Date.

#### *Example:*

New York State. Committee on State Prisons. *Investigation of the New York State Prisons*. 1883. New York: Arno, 1974.

*\* Something to note: "Cite the author of the publication if the author is identified. Otherwise, start with the name of the national government, followed by the agency (including any subdivisions or agencies) that serves as the organizational author. For congressional documents, be sure to include the number of the Congress and the session when the hearing was held or resolution passed. US government documents are typically published by the Government Printing Office, which MLA abbreviates as GPO" (Purdue OWL).*

### **Sound Recordings**

Composer or artist. "Title of song." *Title of album*. Producer, Date. Medium of recording.

#### *Examples:*

Williams, John. *Schindler's List*. MCA Records, 1993. CD.

Nirvana. "Smells Like Teen Spirit." *Nevermind*. Geffen, 1991. Audiocassette.

Beethoven, Ludwig van. *The 9 Symphonies*. Perf. NBC Symphony Orchestra. Cond. Arturo Toscanini. RCA, 2003. CD.

### **Recorded Films** (videos or DVD's)

*Title of film.* Dir. Name of the director, Perf. Name(s) of performers, Distributor, Release year. Medium of Publication.

#### *Examples:*

*Raiders of the Lost Ark.* Dir. Steven Spielberg. Perf. Harrison Ford, Karen Allen, Paul Freemann. Paramount Pictures, 1981. DVD.

*Ed Wood.* Dir. Tim Burton. Perf. Johnny Depp, Martin Landau, Sarah Jessica Parker, Patricia Arquette. Touchstone, 1994. DVD.

*\*Something to note: List films by their title. Include the name of the director, the distributor, and the release year. If relevant, list performer names after the director's name. Use the abbreviation perf. to head the list. End the entry with the appropriate medium of publication (e.g. DVD, VHS, Laser disc). If a film is still in the theater, there is a different format- consult the MLA handbook!*

### **Paintings, Sculpture or Photograph**

Artist's Last Name, First Name. *Title of the work.* Date of composition. Name of the institution that houses the work, city of the institution.

#### *Example:*

Goya, Francisco. *The Family of Charles IV.* 1800. Museo del Prado, Madrid.

*\*Something to note, if the date of the art piece's composition is unknown, place the abbreviation "n.d." in place of the date. If the work is cited on the web only, then provide the name of the artist, the title of the work, the medium of the work, and then follow the citation format for a website.*

### **Digital Files** (PDFs, MP3s, JPEG)

"Determine the type of work to cite (e.g., article, image, sound recording) and cite appropriately. End the entry with the name of the digital format (e.g., PDF, JPEG file, *Microsoft Word* file, MP3). If the work does not follow traditional parameters for citation, give the author's name, the name of the work, the date of creation, and the medium of publication. Use *Digital file* when the medium cannot be determined" (Purdue OWL).

#### *Examples:*

Beethoven, Ludwig van. *Moonlight Sonata.* Crownstar, 2006. MP3.

Smith, George. "Pax Americana: Strife in a Time of Peace." 2005. *Microsoft Word* file.

Council of Writing Program Administrators, National Council of Teachers of English, and National Writing Project. *Framework for Success in Postsecondary Writing.* CWPA, NCTE, and NWP, 2011. PDF file.

Bentley, Phyllis. "Yorkshire and the Novelist." *The Kenyon Review* 30.4 (1968): 509-22. *JSTOR.* PDF file.

### **Personal Interviews**

Interviewee's Last Name, First Name. Type of Interview. Day Month Year of Interview.

#### *Examples:*

Pei, I.M. Personal Interview. 27 July 1983.

Poussaint, Alvin F. Telephone Interview. 10 Dec. 1980.

**World Wide Web Page:** (You may not be able to find all of these items)

Author's last name, First name. *Name of website.* Name of institution/ organization affiliated with the site, Date of resource creation. Medium of publication. Date you viewed the site. <URL>

*Example:*

*The Purdue OWL Family of Sites.* The Writing Lab and OWL at Purdue and Purdue U, 2008. Web. 23 Apr. 2008.  
Felluga, Dino. *Guide to Literary and Critical Theory.* Purdue U, 28 Nov. 2003. Web. 10 May 2006.

*\*Something to note: MLA no longer requires the use of URLs in MLA citations because Web addresses are not static (i.e., they change often. Only include if instructed by your teacher!*

*If publishing information is unavailable for entries that require publication information such as publisher (or sponsor) names and publishing dates, MLA requires the use of special abbreviations to indicate that this information is not available. Use n.p. to indicate that neither a publisher nor a sponsor name has been provided. Use n.d. when the Web page does not provide a publication date. It is necessary to list your date of access because web postings are often updated, and information available on one date may no longer be available at a later time.*

**An article that is part of an Internet database (ProQuest, JSTOR, LexisNexis, etc.)**

Author's last name, first name. "Title of Article." *Title of Magazine/Periodical* Day Month Year: page#-page#. *Title of database or service.* Medium of publication. Date viewed.

*Cite articles from online databases (e.g. LexisNexis, ProQuest, JSTOR, ScienceDirect) and other subscription services just as you would for the majority of your print sources. \*Since these articles usually come from periodicals, be sure to consult the appropriate sections of the MLA Works Cited. In addition to this information, provide the title of the database italicized, the medium of publication, and the date of access.*

*Examples:*

Morton, Andrew. "The Diana I Knew." *People Magazine* 15 Sept. 1997: 35-38. *ProQuest.*  
Web. 12 May 2012.

Junge, Wolfgang, and Nathan Nelson. "Nature's Rotary Electromotors." *Science* 29 Apr. 2005: 642-44.  
*Science Online.* Web. 5 Mar. 2009.

Langhamer, Claire. "Love and Courtship in Mid-Twentieth-Century England." *Historical Journal* 50.1  
(2007): 173-96. *ProQuest.* Web. 27 May 2009.  
*This is an example of a citation that doesn't list month and date of publication.*

*\*Something to note: MLA no longer requires the use of URLs in MLA citations because Web addresses are not static (i.e., they change often. Only include if instructed by your teacher!*

**An electronic text published on the Internet**

Author's last name, first name. *Title of Text.* Place of Publication: Publisher, date. Medium of Publication. Date you viewed source.

*Example:*

Felluga, Dino. *Guide to Literary and Critical Theory.* West Lafayette: Purdue U, 28 Nov. 2003. Web. 10 May 2006.

*\*Something to note: MLA no longer requires the use of URLs in MLA citations because Web addresses are not static (i.e., they change often. Only include if instructed by your teacher!*