Academic research requires that you cite the sources you consult, to acknowledge the input and to give the reader directions to the material. It is your responsibility to confirm with your instructor which citation style to use for a particular assignment. MLA is used primarily in the humanities. The examples below are not official. To create a good Works Cited list or Bibliography and for correct citation, you must consult the print handbook.

There are two parts to correct MLA citation in a paper. The Parenthetical Reference takes a reader from an idea or quotation in the text of the paper to its source in the Works Cited page(s). Each Works Cited entry has the necessary source information to allow retrieval of the specific document. A parenthetical reference must be listed on the Works Cited pages and all Works Cited entries must be cited in the text. Works Cited, Bibliography or Literature Cited are all acceptable terms or titles for the page listing items cited in the text. Works Consulted or Selected Bibliography are broader and would include additional useful resources not cited in the text.

MLA Style Elements (numbers refer to specific parts of the MLA Handbook).

Parenthetical Documentation (6.1) is usually the author surname and page number(s) within parentheses, no comma.

- If the author is given in the paragraph, with clear identification to the point requiring citation, cite only the missing information in parenthesis.
- If you are referring to the entire work include it in the text rather than use a parenthetical reference (6.4.1)
- More than one work may be cited within one parenthetical reference. Use a semicolon to separate each reference (6.4.9)
- Citing from an original source is always recommended, but if an indirect or secondhand source is the only one available, use the abbreviation qtd in (for “quoted in”) within a parenthetical reference to the indirect source. Only the indirect source should be included in the Works Cited listing (6.4.7)

Examples:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Entire work</th>
<th>Febvre and Martin’s <em>The Coming of the Book</em> examines the impact of ….</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of authors</td>
<td>(Callanan and Jipson)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Clarke, Johnson, and Evans 228)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Jackson et al. 104)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Leiker (54) notes that …</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jackson et al. (104) reported…</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two or more works by the same author [add first word(s) of title to distinguish entries, alphabetize within author by title word] 6.4.6</td>
<td>(Leiker, <em>Race</em> 220)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Leiker, <em>Racial</em> 133)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No author 6.4.4</td>
<td>(“Baseball,” par. 2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indirect Source 6.4.7</td>
<td>(qtd in Febvre and Martin 118)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sample of the top of the first page of a Works Cited list: p. 131

ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY: 5.3 (p. 130) In addition to the appropriate citation, add a brief description of the material, highlighting the importance of the work (why you are using it). Consult your professor for specific assignment requirements.

5.3.3 (p. 133) Annotated Works Cited may use different citation ordering other than alphabetical: date, subject, resource, primary/secondary, etc.

Example:

Eisenstein, Elizabeth L. *The Printing Revolution in Early Modern Europe*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge UP. 1993. Print. This single volume edition is an abridgment of the original 2 volume classic. It surveys the radical changes in communications in the fifteenth century and documents the unexpected social, intellectual and political effects of printing on the Renaissance, the Reformation and the rise of modern science.
**Works Cited** entries contain Author (listed last name, first name). *Title* (italicized). Publication data. Medium of publication (e.g., Print, Web (5.6); for other media such as DVD, CD, Television etc., see 5.7; for works available in more than one media, see 5.8).

5.3.2 **Use ½ inch or 5 space hanging indent for each entry, every line is DOUBLE SPACED.**

3.6.1 For items published in English, capitalize most words in article, book and periodical titles. **For other Western European languages see 3.8.**

5.3.4, 5.5.4 **Authors/editors:** One to three authors, list all with complete names and any initials as given on the title page. More than 3 authors, list the first and add et al. (figure 20 or you can choose to list all).

5.5.2 **Publication information:**

7.1-4 Abbreviations can be unusual. Check the *Handbook:* US state abbreviations are used; ed. and vol., supp. are used; & (ampersand) is not used unless part of a title. Months are abbreviated in Works Cited (except May, June, July); complete in text.

7.5 **Publisher information**

- Shorten publishers names so that they are distinguishable, but not necessarily complete (John Wiley = Wiley; Harcourt, Brace and World = Harcourt). For university (U) presses, always add the P (U of California P)

- Use only the first place of publication if several are listed. Add state, province or country for unfamiliar cities

5.7.7 **Personal interview:** Name of interviewee. Type (e.g., Personal, Telephone, Print, Radio, E-mail interview). Date. (see p. 202)

**PERIODICAL ARTICLES:** Author(s). “Title of Article.” *Title of Periodical* vol. (Date): pages. Medium (Print or Web).

5.4.2 **Quotation marks** around the article title, **Italicize** the periodical (e.g., magazine or journal) title.

**Journal articles:** 5.4.2+ For journals that start every issue with page 1 rather than continuous paginations, add a period (no space) and the issue number after the volume (e.g., Journal 11.2)

**Print** 5.4.1


Online 5.6.4


**Popular magazine articles:** 5.7.6 same as scholarly except for date: use the complete date and no volume number.

Print 5.4.6


**Reviews:** 5.4.7 Reviewer. Rev. of *Title of the Book Being Reviewed,* by Author. Publication data. **Italicize** the title of the reviewed item and the periodical title.

Print


**Newspaper articles: with and without author 5.4.5**

Print (author)


(no author)


Online from database version


Online from Publisher version 5.6.2


**BOOK: and other non-periodicals (report, etc.):** 5.5.1 Author/editor. *Title of work.* City: Publisher, year.

Paper


Online


**Article or chapter in a book:** 5.5.6 Author. “Title of chapter.” *Title of book.* Ed. Editor name. Location: Publisher, year. Pages. Medium (Print or Web).

Paper


**Article in an encyclopedia:** 5.5.7 Author. “Topic.” *Title.* ed. Location: publisher, year. [vol. X, pp. x-xx (if not alphabetical in order)], Medium (Print or Web).

Paper


**WEB DOCUMENTS:** 5.6. Author. “Title of work” (if part of a larger work). *Title of website.* Publisher/Sponsor. Date of publication. Medium (Web). Date of access.

Government Website 5.6.2 & 5.5.20