

MLA Citation Style

There are two major reasons to cite your sources when doing an assignment for class:

1. To give credit for words or ideas belonging to another author. Failure to do this is called **plagiarism** and can result in a failing grade and other negative consequences.
2. So that your instructor can verify your work. Your instructor should be able to take your citation and easily find the source you used. **It is important that your citations be accurate.**

The **MLA Format** is one way of properly citing your sources. The MLA format consists of two parts:

1. A list of **Works Cited** (a bibliography), arranged in alphabetical order
2. In-text citations within the body of your paper or report

For a complete guide to MLA, consult the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, 7th ed., available in the library. You can also consult one of the recommended help guides on the Internet listed in this handout.

The following guide has examples for the most common types of sources you will use. If you have questions, ask for help at the Information Desk or at AskAway.

Books:

Basic Format for Books: Author Last Name, First Name. *Title of work in italics*. Edition.

Place of Publication: Publisher, Date of Publication. Medium of Publication.

Book, Single Author	Coulter, Herbert D. <i>Anatomy of Hatha Yoga: A Manual for Students, Teachers and Practitioners</i> . Honesdale, PA: Body and Breath, 2001. Print.
Book by Two or Three People	Leon, Warren, and Caroline Smith. <i>Is Our Food Safe?: A Consumers Guide to Protecting Your Health</i> . New York: Three Rivers Press, 2002. Print.
Book by More than Three People:	Mezey, Mathey D., et al. <i>Ethical Patient Care: A Casebook for Geriatric Health Care Teams</i> . Baltimore: John Hopkins University Press, 2002. Print.

Edited Book	Roskos, Kathleen A., and James F. Christie, eds. <i>Play and Literacy in Early Childhood: Research from Multiple Perspectives</i> . Mahwah, NJ: L. Erlbaum, 2000. Print.
Book by a Corporate Author or Organization	American Medical Association. <i>The American Medical Association Handbook of First Aid and Emergency Care</i> . New York: Random House, 1990. Print.
A Government Publication	BC Centre for Disease Control. <i>STD/AIDS Control: Annual Report 2000</i> . Vancouver: BC Centre for Disease Control, 2000. Print.
Chapter or Article from an Edited Book	Martens, Katherine. "The Joy Of Belly Dancing." <i>Dropped Threads : What We Aren't Told</i> . Ed. Carol Shields and Marjorie Anderson. Toronto: Vintage Canada, 2001. 299-307. Print.
Edition of a Book	Ackley, Betty J., and Gail B. Ladwig. <i>Nursing Diagnosis Handbook</i> . 6 th ed. St. Louis, MO: Mosby, 2004. Print.

Encyclopedias & General Reference Works:

Encyclopedia Article, Signed	Anastaplo, George. "Censorship." <i>Encyclopedia Britannica: Macropedia</i> . 2002 ed. Print.
Encyclopedia Article, Unsigned	"Homeotic gene." <i>Dictionary of Biology</i> . 11 th ed. 2004. Print.
Article from an Online Encyclopedia	Stanley, George F.G. "Louis Riel." <i>Canadian Encyclopedia Online</i> . Historica Foundation of Canada, 2007. Web. 13 Nov. 2007. (Note: In the above example, the date "13 Nov. 2007" refers to the date you looked at the encyclopedia article online.)

Videos:

<i>Hypertension</i> . Dir. Glenn Harman. Blanchard & Loeb Publishers, 2006. DVD.
<i>It's a Wonderful Life</i> . Dir. Frank Capra. Perf. James Stewart, Donna Reed, Lionel Barrymore, and Thomas Mitchell. Republic, 1946. Film.
(Note: You may include other well-known performers in the citation but it is optional.)

Articles from Magazines, Journals & Newspapers:

The citations for magazines, journals, and newspapers are all slightly different, depending on what way you retrieved the article. There are 3 ways of obtaining an article:

- (1) From the Paper (print) copy of the periodical;
- (2) From an Online Database through the Library; or
- (3) From the Website of the magazine, journal or newspaper.

Article in a Magazine	
From a Print Copy	Doyle Driedger, Sharon. "The Pluck of the Irish." <i>Maclean's</i> 17 March 2003: 36-41. Print.
From an Online Database	Kirschling, Gregory, and Sean Smith. "The Great Divider." <i>Entertainment Weekly</i> 21 Sep. 2007: 40-42. MAS Ultra: School Edition. Web. 31 Oct. 2009. (Note: The date "31 Oct. 2009" is the date you looked at the magazine article in the database.)
From a Website	Kinsley, Michael. "Today We Obey: Invoking International Law When it Suits Us." <i>Slate</i> 27 Mar. 2003: n.pag. Web. 11 Apr. 2003. (Note: Many online journals do not include page numbers. Use n. pag. Instead)

Article in a Scholarly Journal	
From a Print Copy	Lupul, Manoly R. "The Establishment of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies at the University of Alberta: A Personal Memoir." <i>Canadian Ethnic Studies</i> 26.2 (1994): 88-111. Print.
From an Online Database	Sermer, Mathew. "Does Screening for Gestational Diabetes Mellitus Make a Difference?" <i>CMAJ: Canadian Medical Association Journal</i> 168.4 (2003): 429 (3pp.) Academic Search Premier. Web. 13 Nov. 2009.
From a Website	Evnine, Simon J. "The Universality of Logic: On the Connection between Rationality and Logical Ability." <i>Mind</i> 110.43 (2001): n. pag. Web. 5 August 2009.

Article in a Newspaper	
From a Print Copy	<p>Palmer, Vaughn. "Accountants Hit the Jackpot in Re-review of Dodgy Lottery Wins." <i>Vancouver Sun</i> 9 Nov. 2007: A3. Print.</p> <p>If the city of publication is not part of the newspaper's name, add it in square brackets and do not underline. Do not add the city of publication for nationally published newspapers (Globe & Mail, National Post), but specify the edition if one is given. Add the edition (national ed., late ed.) if needed.</p> <p>Berminham, John. "Killer Bug Baffles Experts." <i>Province</i> [Vancouver] 23 Mar. 2003: A16. Print.</p> <p>Freeze, Colin. "Secret Evidence Allowed in Deportation Cases." <i>Globe and Mail</i> 12 Nov. 2007, Vancouver ed.: A5. Print.</p>
From an Online Database	<p>Wright, R. C. "Campbell's Damage Control Skirts Reality." <i>Vancouver Sun</i> 22 Jan. 2003, final ed.: A15. Canadian Newsstand. Web. 11 Apr. 2009.</p>
From a Website	<p>Lee, Jeff. "B.C. Staggers Under New Windstorms." <i>National Post</i> 13 Nov. 2007. Web. 16 Nov. 2007.</p>

Websites:

An Entire Website	<p><i>Canadian Confederation</i>. Libraries and Archives Canada. 9 Jan. 2006. Web. 13 Nov. 2009.</p> <p>(Note: The "Publisher of the website" can be the hardest piece of information to find. Look at the bottom of the page for a copyright symbol ©, or in the "About Us" section of the website. If there is no publisher listed, use "N.p.")</p>
A Single Page or Article Within a Website	<p>"Amor De Cosmos." <i>Canadian Confederation</i>. Libraries and Archives Canada. 2 May 2002. Web. 13 Nov. 2009.</p> <p>(Note: In the above example, the date "13 Nov. 2009" refers to the date you looked at the website online.)</p>
An Image or Photograph from a Website	<p>Cite images found online just like a website. Make sure you are crediting the original creator of an image, not just a person who has copied the image without permission.</p> <p>Neko, Nala. <i>Polar Bear Playing</i>. 15 Jul. 2007. <i>Flickr</i>. Web. 13 Nov. 2007.</p>

In-Text Citations (In the body of your paper)

Provide the author's **last name** and the **page number** in parentheses immediately following a quotation or a paraphrase from a source. For sources without page numbers (like a quotation from a website), provide only the author's last name.

E.g.: The sculpture entitled *Family*, given to the college in 1991 and permanently exhibited in the college's Woodland Street lobby, was carved from an enormous cherry tree that grew in the sculptor's back yard (Rosen 5).

Single Author	(Coulter 137)
Two or Three Authors	(Leon and Smith 231-33)
More than Three Authors	(Mezey et al. 45)
Corporate Author	(American Medical Association 23)
No Author – Use Title	("Homeotic genes" 346)
Citing Indirect Sources	<p>An indirect source is when one author is quoted in the text of another author. For indirect quotations, use "qtd. in" to say where you found the quotation.</p> <p>E.g.: Cruikshank argues that traditional knowledge passed on through stories maintain cultural identity, in which "memory continuously adapts received traditions to present circumstances" (qtd. in Graveline 64).</p>

Help Guides to MLA citation style on the Web:

MLA Formatting and Style Guide (Purdue University Online Writing Lab)

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>

MLA Citation Style (Concordia University)

<http://library.concordia.ca/help/howto/mla.php>

Citing Sources (Duke University)

<http://library.duke.edu/research/citing/>