

# MLA STYLE GUIDE

## WORKS CITED

### COMMONLY CITED MATERIALS

Based on the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers* – 7<sup>th</sup> Edition

MLA format is typically used for English, history, humanities, philosophy, and arts courses.

#### General Citation Rules:

- **Format** – double space typed and hanging indentation (first line of each citation flush with left margin, following lines indented five spaces)
- **Citation Order** - list citations in alphabetical order by author’s last name OR, if no author name is given, the title is the first element of the citation; alphabetize on first important word of title
- **Author names** - invert the first author’s name - last name first, full first and middle name (or middle initial, if given)
  - for second and third authors, give the first name first, followed by the middle name or initial (if given) and the last name
  - use the word “and” between the last and second to last listed author names.
  - for works with four or more authors, use “et al.” after the first author; do not list the other authors
- **No author** – use the title as the first element of the citation
- **Title Capitalization rules** – capitalize all important words in article, book, and journal titles
- **Title formats** –
  - **Article titles** – place quotation marks at the beginning and end of the title
  - **Book and Journal Titles** – italicize
  - **Database Names** – italicize
- **Publisher Names** – use the following abbreviations in publisher names: P for press, U for university; do not place a period after these abbreviations
- **Publication Dates** – with the exception of the months of May, June, and July, all months except September are abbreviated to the first three letters of the month (September is Sept.), followed by a period.
- **No publication date** - use n.d. in place of the date
- **Punctuation** – strictly follow punctuation between citation elements

Citation elements in each of the following examples are labeled to help you identify citation structure.

Citation guidelines for information sources not listed in this guide can be found in the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, 7<sup>th</sup> edition available at the Library Reference Desk.

Be aware that your professor may have unique citation style requirements. Check with your course instructor to verify his/her required citation format.

Need more help? – Ask a librarian in person or through instant messaging at the library Web site.

#### MAGAZINE AND JOURNAL ARTICLES FROM A LIBRARY DATABASE

Pinn, Anthony B. “Bling and Blessings: Thoughts on the Intersections of Rap Music and Religious  
AUTHOR ARTICLE TITLE

Meaning.” *Cross Currents* 57.2 (2007): 289-295. *Academic Search Premier*.

JOURNAL TITLE VOLUME| DATE PAGE NUMBERS DATABASE NAME  
ISSUE

Web. 15 May 2007.

MEDIUM DATE RETRIEVED



**PRINT MAGAZINE AND JOURNAL ARTICLES**

**Magazine article**

**Note:** Do not give volume and issue numbers, even if they are listed.

Csikszentmihalyi, Mihaly. "The Creative Personality." *Psychology Today* July-Aug. 1996: 36-40. Print.  
AUTHOR ARTICLE TITLE JOURNAL TITLE MONTH/YEAR DATE MEDIUM  
 ARTICLE PAGE NUMBERS

**Journal article**

Brueggeman, Brenda Jo, and Debra A. Modellmog. "Coming-Out Pedagogy: Risking Identity in Language and Literature Classrooms." *Pedagogy*, 2.3 (2002): 311-35. Print.  
AUTHORS ARTICLE TITLE JOURNAL TITLE / \ DATE PAGE MEDIUM  
 VOLUME ISSUE NUMBERS

**BOOKS**

**One author**

Greenhouse, Steven. *The Big Squeeze: Tough Time for the American Worker*. New York: Alfred K. Knopf, 2008. Print.  
AUTHOR BOOK TITLE PLACE OF PUBLICATION PUBLISHER DATE FORMAT

**Two or more authors (up to three)**

Broer, Lawrence R., and Gloria Holland. *Hemingway and Women: Female Critics and the Female Voice*. Tuscaloosa: U. of Alabama P, 2002. Print.  
AUTHORS BOOK TITLE PLACE OF PUBLICATION PUBLISHER DATE MEDIUM

**Edited book**

**Note:** Notice abbreviation of "Press" to P in the publisher name.

Swarts, Katherine, ed. *The Aging Population*. Detroit: Greenhaven P, 2009. Print.  
EDITORS NAME BOOK TITLE PLACE OF PUBLICATION PUBLISHER DATE MEDIUM

**Chapter in an edited book**

Netherton, Dale. "Addiction is a Choice, Not a Disease." *Addiction*. Ed. Christina Fisanick. Detroit: Greenhaven P, 2009. 27-42. Print.  
CHAPTER AUTHOR CHAPTER TITLE BOOK TITLE BOOK EDITOR PLACE OF PUBLICATION | DATE CHAPTER MEDIUM PUBLISHER PAGES

**ELECTRONIC BOOKS**

**Entire electronic book**

Ali, Syed Mohammed. *The Position of Women in Islam: A Progressive View*. Albany: SUNY P, 2004.  
AUTHOR      DATE    E-BOOK TITLE    PLACE OF PUBLICATION PUBLISHER DATE  
*State University of New York Digital Repository*. Web. 20 May 2009.  
DATABASE RETRIEVED FROM    MEDIUM DATE RETRIEVED

**Electronic book chapter**

Cassell, Justine. "Nudge, Nudge, Wink, Wink: Elements of Face-to-Face Conversation for  
CHAPTER AUTHOR    CHAPTER TITLE  
 Embodied Conversational Agents." *Embodied Conversational Agents*. Eds. Justine Cassell, et al.  
E-BOOK TITLE    E-BOOK EDITORS  
 Cambridge: MIT P, 2000. 1-27. *NetLibrary*. Web. 20 May 2009.  
PLACE OF PUBLICATION                  DATE CHAPTER      DATABASE      MEDIUM      DATE RETRIEVED  
PUBLISHER                  PAGES                  RETRIEVED  
FROM

**MOTION PICTURE**

**Note:** Begin with the film title. However, if you are citing a particular individual’s contribution, begin the citation with that person’s name. You may include the names of one or more contributors, including the director (Dir.), producers (Prod.) or performers/actors (Perf.).

*Gods and Monsters*. Dir. Bill Condon. 1998. Lions Gate, 2003. DVD  
FILM TITLE CONTRIBUTOR FUNCTION DATE      DVD      DATE      MEDIUM  
AND NAME                  OF ORIGINAL      DISTRIBUTOR  
RELEASE