MLA STYLE GUIDE
WORKS CITED
COMMONLY CITED MATERIALS
Based on the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers – 7th 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, 7th 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**


**NEWSPAPER ARTICLES**

*Note:* Use a + after the page number, if a newspaper article jumps to a nonconsecutive page.

**Print newspaper article**


**Newspaper article from a library database**


**Newspaper article from a newspaper Web site**


**WEB SITES**

**Non-periodical Web site article with no author**


**Non-periodical Web article that also appears in print (pdf documents)**


**Video Posting**

PRINT MAGAZINE AND JOURNAL ARTICLES

**Magazine article**

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


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AUTHOR</th>
<th>ARTICLE TITLE</th>
<th>JOURNAL TITLE</th>
<th>MONTH/YEAR DATE</th>
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**Journal article**


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<th>PAGE</th>
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BOOKS

**One author**


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<tr>
<th>AUTHOR</th>
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**Two or more authors (up to three)**


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<thead>
<tr>
<th>AUTHOR</th>
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<th>PLACE OF PUBLICATION</th>
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**Edited book**

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


<table>
<thead>
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<th>EDITORS NAME</th>
<th>BOOK TITLE</th>
<th>PLACE OF PUBLICATION</th>
<th>PUBLISHER</th>
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**Chapter in an edited book**


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<th>BOOK TITLE</th>
<th>BOOK EDITOR</th>
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**ELECTRONIC BOOKS**

**Entire electronic book**


**Electronic book chapter**


**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.).