
MLA stands for the Modern Language Association. The current version of MLA’s citation standard is the 9th edition.

MLA citations consist of two parts.

1. The **in-text citation**, which appears throughout the paper to explain where you found a particular idea or quotation. The basic format of an in-text citation is the source author’s name and page number in parentheses; for example (Lobdell 24). If you mention the author’s name in your sentence, you only need the page number in parentheses—this is called a **citation in prose**.

2. The **bibliographic citation** that appears on a separate “works cited” page at the end of your paper.

The works cited page should contain an entry for every source you used during your research. *Any source that appears as an in-text citation needs to also have a bibliographic citation on the works cited page, and vice versa.* The works cited page should be double spaced with a hanging indent. Entries should be in alphabetical order.

Entries will include the following information, in the following order, with the following punctuation (unless it is the last element in the citation, in which case it will always be followed by a period), although not every entry will have every element:

- Author.
- Title of source.
- *Title of container,*
- Other contributors,
- Version,
- Number,
- Publisher,
- Publication date,
- Location.

**What’s a Container?**

When a source is part of a larger work, we call the larger work the ‘container.’ For example:

- An article in a journal
- A page on a website
- A short story in an anthology

The following pages include examples of how to format bibliographic and in-text citations for different types of sources. The last page includes a sample works cited page.

Content by GCC Library & Peer Tutoring—Created 2010, Updated December 2021; some examples courtesy of the Valencia College Library.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BOOKS</th>
<th>SAMPLE BIBLIOGRAPHIC CITATION</th>
<th>SAMPLE IN-TEXT CITATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Book: Single Author**  
Ex. (Gladwell 123) |
| **Book: Two Authors**  
Ex. (Gorman and McLean 45) |
| **Book: Three or more Authors**  
Ex. (Laliberte, et al. 276) |
| **Book: Corporate author**  
Ex. (National Research 102) |
| **Book: No Author**  
Ex. (MLA Handbook 75) |
| **Book with Author and Editor**  
Author. Title. Edited by Editor’s Name, Publisher, Date. | Austen, Jane. *Emma*. Edited by Stephen M. Parish, Norton, 1972. | (Author’s name Page number)  
Ex. (Austen 333) |
| **Anthology or Collection**  
Editor(s), editor(s). Title. Edition (if given), Publisher, Date.  
Note: As with authors, 3 or more should be listed as “et al.” | Shell, Marc, editor. *American Babel: Literatures of the United States from Abnaki to Zuni*. Harvard UP, 2002. | (Editor’s name Page number)  
Ex. (Shell 46) |
| **Selection from an Anthology or Collection**  
Ex. (Swanson 14) |
| **Book in a Multi-Volume Series**  
Author (if given). Title of Book. Edited by, Editor’s name, vol. # (if given), Publisher, Date. | Lawrence, David Herbert. *The Letters of D.H. Lawrence*. Edited by James T. Boulton, vol. 8, Cambridge UP, 2000. | (Author’s name Page number)  
Ex. (Lawrence 554) |
| **Signed article in Reference Book**  
Ex. (Holman 670) |
| **Government Publication**  
Ex. (Florida 25) |
| **Government Publication: Congress**  
Ex. (United States 25) |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ARTICLES FROM LIBRARY DATABASES</th>
<th>SAMPLE BIBLIOGRAPHIC CITATION</th>
<th>SAMPLE IN-TEXT CITATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Magazine</strong></td>
<td>Author (if given). “Article Title.” Magazine, Date, pp. Page #(#s). Database, URL.</td>
<td>(Author’s name Page number)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Newspaper</strong></td>
<td>Author (if given). “Article Title.” Newspaper, Day Month Year, pp. Page #(#s). Database, URL.</td>
<td>(Author’s name Page number)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Journal article</strong></td>
<td>Author (if given). “Article Title.” Journal, vol. #, issue #, Date, pp. Page #(#s). Database, DOI or URL.</td>
<td>(Author’s name Page number)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ARTICLES IN PAPER FORMAT</th>
<th>SAMPLE BIBLIOGRAPHIC CITATION</th>
<th>SAMPLE IN-TEXT CITATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Magazine</strong></td>
<td>Author (if given). “Article Title.” Magazine Title, Date, Page #(#s).</td>
<td>(Author’s name Page number)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Journal with Issue Number</strong></td>
<td>Author (if given). “Article Title.” Journal Title, vol. Volume #, no. Issue #, Year, pp. Page #(#s).</td>
<td>(Author’s name Page number)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Newspaper</strong></td>
<td>Author (if given). “Article Title.” Newspaper Title, Day Month Year, pp. Page #(#s) including section number.</td>
<td>(Author’s name Page number)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Newspaper that has non-consecutive pagination</strong></td>
<td>Author (if given). “Article Title.” Newspaper Title, Day Month Year, Page #(#s).</td>
<td>(Author’s name Page number)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ARTICLES FROM THE INTERNET—NOT LIBRARY DATABASES</th>
<th>SAMPLE BIBLIOGRAPHIC CITATION</th>
<th>SAMPLE IN-TEXT CITATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Magazine</strong></td>
<td>Author (if given). “Article Title.” Magazine Title, Date, URL. Accessed Date.</td>
<td>(Author’s name and Page number [if available])</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Journal with Page #’s and Issue #</strong></td>
<td>Author (if given). “Article Title.” Journal Title, vol. Volume#, no. Issue# (if available), Year, pp. Page #(#s). URL or DOI.</td>
<td>(Author’s name and Page number [if available])</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sample Bibliographic Citation Example:</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
**Newspaper**

Author (if given). “Article Title.” *Newspaper Title*, Date, URL. Accessed Date.


Ex. (Rosenberg and Apuzzo)

**Blog Post**

Author(s). “Post title.” *Blog Title*, Date, URL. Accessed Date.


Ex. (Jones)

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**WEB SOURCES – NOT FROM LIBRARY DATABASES**

**SAMPLE BIBLIOGRAPHIC CITATION**

Entire website

Author/webmaster/editor (if given). *Website title*. Publisher (if given), Date (may be a range), URL. Accessed Date (optional).

Hurst, Carol Otis, and Rebecca Otis. *Carol Hurst’s Children’s Literature Site*. 1996-2016. Carolhurst.com. (Author’s name)

Ex. (Hurst and Otis)

**SAMPLE IN-TEXT CITATION**

Webpage on a larger website

Author (if given). “Page Title.” *Website Title*, Publisher or sponsor, Date, URL. Accessed Date (optional).


Ex. (“America First Energy”)

Tweet

Author name or screen name [@handle]. “Tweet text.” *Twitter*, Date, URL. Accessed Date (optional).


Ex. (@Stephen_Colbert)

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**OTHER RESOURCES**

**SAMPLE BIBLIOGRAPHIC CITATION**

Personal Interviews

Person interviewed. Type of Interview, Date of Interview.

Harrington, Liza. Telephone Interview, 5 May 2017. (Interviewee’s name)

Ex. (Harrington)

Film/Movie/TV Series

Director’s name, director. *Title*. Primary production company or distributor, Date.

Nichols, Mike, director. *Primary Colors*. Universal Pictures, 1998. (Director’s name)

Ex. (Nichols)

TV episode or movie viewed online

“Episode name.” *Series*, season number, episode number, Publisher, Date. *Video service*, URL.

“Birth Day.” *The Handmaid’s Tale*, season 1, episode 2, Hulu, 26 Apr. 2017. Hulu, hulu.com/watch/1069120#60,p0,d0. (“Episode name” [shortened, if necessary])

Ex. (“Birth Day”)

Youtube video

“Title.” *Hosting site*, uploaded by [name], upload date, URL.

“Tim drives an Aries.” Youtube. uploaded by losttextan, 17 Jan. 2006, youtube.com/watch?v=UdSsvC7qOhg. (“Video name” [shortened, if necessary])

Ex. (“Tim drives”)

Sound Recording

Artist. “Song Title” (if relevant). *Album Title*, Recording Manufacturer, Date, URL [if online].


Ex. (Cohen)
### SPECIAL CASES

- **Citing more than one work by the same author:** If you cite multiple works by the same author in your bibliography, include a shortened title in the in-text citation. Ex. (Tsu, “Happenings” 194); (Tsu, “Other friends” 220).

- **In-text citation for fiction, such as a novel:** List the author’s name and page number, then add a semi-colon and other identifying information such as book number or chapter number. Ex. (Tolkien 330; book 2, ch. 2). (Haverford 127; ch. 3, sec. 2).

- **In-text citation for prose play:** List the author’s name and page number, then add a semi-colon and add the act number. Ex. (Miller 220; Act 2).

- **In-text citation for information quoted within another source:** For example, a quote that appears in a book. Use the in-text format (qtd. in Authors name page number) and include the work it quoted in in the works cited page. Ex. John Doe wrote that Jane Doe was “the epitome of feminine beauty” (qtd. in Brown 175).

- **Repeated use of the same source:** If you cite different pages from the same source without citing another source in between, you can use the page number alone for subsequent citations. Ex:
  
  *Romeo and Juliet* presents an opposition between two worlds: “the world of the everyday,” associated with the adults in the play, and “the world of romance,” associated with the two lovers (Zender 138). Romeo and Juliet’s language of love nevertheless becomes “fully responsive to the tang of actuality” (141).

- **Citing multiple sources in the same in-text citation:** List the sources in alphabetical order by last name and separate the citations with a semi-colon. Ex: (Barron 125; Edelman 224).

- **No page numbers listed.** Many databases contain articles without page numbers. In this case, list only the author’s last name. Ex. (Everly and Muñoz).
MLA Works Cited Example


