Quick Reference to MLA Citation Style (8th edition)

Format of the Paper

- Research papers should be double spaced throughout (including the quotations and list of works cited), and have one inch margins on all sides and an easily readable, standard size font (such as Times New Roman 12 point font)
- Indent each new paragraph a half inch by using the tab key.
- All pages should be numbered consecutively in the upper right hand corner, preceded by your last name.
- Unless your instructor requires a title page, begin the first page with:
  - Your name
  - Your instructor’s name
  - Course number
  - Date
- Double space and center the title

In-text citations

- In-text citations usually consist of the author’s last name and the page number of the citation. (Smith 47)
- If there is more than one entry with the same last name, include the first initial or full first name.
- If there is more than one work by an author, add the cited title, shortened or in full, after the author’s last name.
- Whatever word first appears in the entry on the Works Cited page should be used for the in-text citation.
- If there is no known author, use the title, shortening it if necessary: (“Jaunty”)
- For more information, consult the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers in the library or this web site: Using MLA Format https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/22/

Citation Generators

Citation generators create a citation in the style you specify based on information you provide about the source.


Citations

The eighth edition of MLA Style is focused on identifying basic core elements for each citation. Include as many of these elements as possible when documenting each source, followed by the punctuation given.

Core Elements

- Author.
- Title of source. [A book, chapter, essay, or page on a web site, etc.]
- Title of container, [A book, web site or anthology title]
- Other contributors, [An illustrator, translator or editor]
- Version, [Edition or specific version of a work]
- Number, [Volume or a journal volume and issue number]
- Publisher,
- Publication date, [Year or specific day in Day Month Year format]
- Location. [Page numbers, database title, URL, DOI]
- Access date. [The date you viewed an online resource]
# Quick Reference to MLA Citation Style (8th edition)

## BOOKS

Author’s last name, first name. *Book Title*. Publisher, Year.


## ONE ESSAY FROM REFERENCE BOOK OR ANTHOLOGY

Author’s last name, first name. “Essay Title.” *Book Title*, edited by Editor’s first and last name, Publisher, Year, Pages.


## DVDS

*Movie Title*. Directed by Director’s first and last name, Distributor, Release Date.


## MAGAZINE OR NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

Author’s last name, first name. “Article Title.” *Magazine Title*, Date, Pages.


## JOURNAL ARTICLES

Author’s last name, first name. “Article Title.” *Journal Title*, Volume, Issue, Year, Pages.


## ELECTRONIC BOOKS

Author’s last name, first name. “Title of the chapter or section.” *Book Title*. Translated or edited by First name Last name, vol. number, Publisher, Year. *Database or Web Site Title*, URL.

## PERIODICAL ARTICLES FROM LIBRARY DATABASES

**Author’s Lastname, Firstname. “Article Title.”** Magazine Title, Date, Pages. Database Title.

Accessed Date.

**Author’s Lastname, Firstname. “Article Title.”** Journal Title, vol. #, no. #, Date, Pages. Database Title, doi: #. Accessed Date.


## ONLINE PERIODICAL ARTICLES

**Magazine**

Author’s Lastname, Firstname. “Article Title.” Periodical Title, Publisher Name, Date, URL. Accessed date.

**Academic Journal**


## WEB SITES

Author's Lastname, Firstname. “Page Title.” Site Title. Name of Publisher or Sponsor of Site, Date of Publication or Last Update, URL. Accessed Date.

Formatting a Paper in MLA Style

To insert page numbers, click the Insert tab, then Page Number. Choose Top of Page and select the flush right page number. Type your last name, followed by a space.

Click Close Header and Footer.

To create a hanging indent in a Word Document on your Works Cited page, click the arrow for the Paragraph section under the Home tab. Under Indentation, click Special, then Hanging.

If you have any further questions about MLA Citation Style, consult your instructor, a tutor in the Writing Center, or ask the Reference Librarian for assistance.

Works Cited
