Citing References: MLA Style (8th ed.)


MLA requires a list of Works Cited at the end of a paper and In-Text Citations in the body of a paper which refer back to entries on the Works Cited list. Cite only sources to which your paper refers, not every work consulted during your research.

In-Text Citations

Place the in-text citation before the final punctuation mark of the sentence, phrase, or clause. In the in-text citation, page numbers go in parentheses. Author name(s) may go in the text itself or in the same parentheses.

One author

. . . to Naomi Baron, reading is “just half of literacy. The other half is writing” (194). Reading is “just half of literacy. The other half is writing” (Baron 194).

Two authors’ names

. . . (Dorris and Erdrich 23).

Three or more authors’ names

. . . (Burdick et al. 42).

Title

(Use when work is anonymous or when author is same as publisher)

*Reading at Risk: A Survey of Literary Reading in America* notes . . . (3). Despite an apparent decline in reading during the same . . . (*Reading* 3).

Corporate author (abbreviate commonly abbreviated terms)

. . . (United States, Dept. of Labor 147).

Multivolume works

(See also Multivolume works under Works Cited below)

citing from one of several volumes used] . . . (Wellek 5: xxii).
citing from one volume only] . . . (Rampersad 156).

Nonadjacent pages in reference

. . . (Zender 138, 141).

Indirect sources (use only when original source is unavailable)

. . . Burke was an extraordinary man” (qtd. in Boswell 2: 450).

Multiple works in reference

. . . (Baron 194; Jacobs 55).
Works Cited

Center the title, Works Cited, at the top of a page at the end of the paper. Do not indent
the first line of each citation, but indent all subsequent lines ½ inch (hanging indent).
Double space.

Include only works that you borrow from in this list. Entries should be arranged
alphabetically by the first element, which is usually the author's last name or, if the work
is anonymous, by its title. Each entry should include the following core elements, when
known, which should be taken from the source's title page or the first page of a
periodical article or webpage:

- author name(s).
- title of source.
- title of container,
- other contributors,
- version,
- number,
- publisher,
- publication date,
- location.

You may find that you need to combine several examples to fit what you are citing.

Always double space the Works Cited.

Multiple publications by the same author


BOOKS

No known author

Beowulf. Translated by Alan Sullivan and Timothy Murphy, edited by Sarah Anderson,

One author; ebook


hdl.handle.net/2027/heb.07588.0001.001.
Two authors  

Three or more authors  

Corporate author  

Section of an edited book at a scholarly project or website  
*HathiTrust Digital Library*, babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=coo.31924079574368;view=1up;seq=266.

Edited works  

Translated work  

Multivolume works  

One work in a series  
Latin American Literature and Culture 7.

Second or subsequent edition  
**Government document**

p. 25 & 105


**PERIODICAL ARTICLES**

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**Journal article, print** p. 40


**Article reprinted in a book available as part of database** p. 53


Harris, Charles “Teenie.” *Woman in Paisley Shirt behind Counter in Record Store.*

*Teenie Harris Archive*, 2015, Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh, teenie.cmoa.org/interactive/index.html#date08.


