Citing References: MLA Style (8th ed.)

This guide provides selected examples of Modern Language Association (MLA) style for citing sources, excerpted from the *MLA Handbook*, 8th ed., Modern Language Association of America, 2016.

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   p. 54
. . . 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   p. 116
. . . (Dorris and Erdrich 23).

Three or more authors' names   p. 116
. . . (Burdick et al. 42).

Title   pp. 55-56
(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)   p. 117
. . . (United States, Dept. of Labor 147).

Multivolume works   pp. 119-120
(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   p. 124
. . . (Zender 138, 141).

Indirect sources (use only when original source is unavailable)   p. 124
. . . Burke was an extraordinary man" (qtd. in Boswell 2: 450).

Multiple works in reference   p. 126
. . . (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   p. 113

Borroff, Marie. *Language and the Poet: Verbal Artistry in Frost, Stevens, and Moore*. U

of Chicago P, 1979.

---, editor. *Wallace Stevens: A Collection of Critical Essays*. Prentice-Hall, 1963.

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No known author   p. 24
Beowulf. Translated by Alan Sullivan and Timothy Murphy, edited by Sarah Anderson,

Pearson, 2004.

One author; ebook   p. 34
Gikandi, Simon. *Ngugi wa Thiong'o*. Cambridge UP, 2000. *ACLS Humanities E-book*,

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Two authors   p. 21
Dorris, Michael, and Louise Erdrich. *The Crown of Columbus*. HarperCollins Publishers,

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Three or more authors   p. 22
Burdick, Anne, et al. *Digital_Humanities*. MIT P, 2012.

Corporate author   p. 117
United States, Department of Labor. *Child Care: A Workforce Issue*. Government

    Printing Office, 1988.

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Poe, Edgar Allan. "The Masque of the Red Death." *The Complete Works of Edgar Allan*

    Poe, edited by James A. Harrison, vol. 4, Thomas Y. Crowell, 1902, pp. 250-58.

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Nunberg, Geoffrey, editor. *The Future of the Book*. U of California P, 1996.

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Chartier, Roger. *The Order of Books: Readers, Authors, and Libraries in Europe*

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Rampersad, Arnold. *The Life of Langston Hughes*. 2nd ed., vol. 2, Oxford UP, 2002.

Wellek, René. *A History of Modern Criticism, 1750-1950*. Yale UP, 1955-92. 8 vols.

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Newcomb, Horace, editor. *Television: The Critical View*. 7th ed., Oxford UP, 2007.

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Journal article, online or in database, doi (preferred over URL)   p. 48
Chan, Evans. "Postmodernism and Hong Kong Cinema." *Postmodern Culture*, vol. 10,

no. 3, May 2000. *Project Muse*, doi:10.1353/pmc.2000.0021.

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available or, if not, other available URL
Goldman, Anne. "Questions of Transport: Reading Primo Levi Reading Dante." *The*

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Baron, Naomi S. "Redefining Reading: The Impact of Digital Communication Media."

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Article reprinted in a book available as part of database   p. 53
Holladay, Hillary. "Narrative Space in Ann Petry's Country Place." *Twentieth-Century*

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Xavier Review, vol. 16, no. 1, 1996, pp. 21-35.

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

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Blog entry p. 48

Hollmichel, Stefanie. "The Reading Brain: Differences between Digital and Print." *So*

Many Books, 25 Apr. 2013, somanybooksblog.com/2013/04/25/the-reading-

brain-differences-between-digital-and-print/.

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"Under the Gun." *Pretty Little Liars*, season 4, episode 6, ABC Family, 16 July 2013.

Hulu, www.hulu.com/watch/511318.

Television, film, or other performance on DVD or Blu-ray p. 49

"Hush." *Buffy the Vampire Slayer: The Complete Fourth Season*, created by Joss

Whedon, performance by Sarah Michelle Gellar, episode 10, WB Television

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Brieger, Brian. "Lecture 3: Recruitment and Involvement of Trainees." Management 320

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For additional assistance, contact a reference librarian in person at the UW-Whitewater Andersen Library Reference Desk, by phone at (262) 472-1032, by email or chat at library.uww.edu/get-help/ask-a-librarian

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