

MLA (Modern Language Association) Format – Print Sources

The purpose of citing sources is to give credit to the author and to enable a reader to find the material cited.

The library has created this guide to provide our students with examples for citing different types of sources. Students are encouraged to consult the official version of this citation style as published by the MLA.
Always check with your instructor regarding any citation question!

Examples are based on those provided in the **MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers, 7th edition**, available at the library (REF LB 2369 G53 2009). To help explain examples, quotes from the 7th edition are included, followed by the page numbers where the quotes appear.

Section I: Works Cited

A “Works Cited” page provides an alphabetical list of all sources you have used and cited in your text.

- Indent one-half inch or 5 spaces *after* the first line of each entry.
- Double space between lines and between entries.

BOOK (single author)

Hausdoerffer, John. *Catlin's Lament: Indians, Manifest Destiny, and the Ethics of Nature*. Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 2009. Print

BOOK (two authors)

Vanderbusche, Duane, and Duane Smith. *A Land Alone: Colorado's Western Slope*. Boulder: Pruett Publishing Co, 1981. Print.

BOOK (more than three authors) – Use the first author and "et al."

Tibbetts, John C., et al. *The Encyclopedia of Novels into Film*. New York: Facts on File, 1998. Print.

BOOK WITH EDITOR

Agosain, Marjorie, ed. *A Dream of Light & Shadow*. Albuquerque: U of New Mexico P, 1995. Print.

TWO OR MORE BOOKS BY THE SAME AUTHOR

McPhee, John A. *Coming into the Country*. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 1977. Print.

---. *The Pine Barrens*. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 1968. Print.

CHAPTER IN A BOOK (book editor with different authors for each chapter)

Pattee, Rodney F. "The Crossways of the Americas." *Concerning Latin American Culture*. Ed. Charles C. Griffin. New York: Columbia UP, 1940. 27-32. Print.

ENCYCLOPEDIA ENTRY - “When citing widely used reference books, especially those that frequently appear in new editions, do not give full publication information. For such works, list only the edition (if stated) and the year of publication, and the medium, of the publication consulted” (160).

"Japan." *Encyclopedia Britannica*. 11th ed. 1909. Print.

“When citing less familiar reference books, however, especially those that have appeared in only one edition, give full publication information” (161). Page numbers are not necessary if the encyclopedia entries are arranged alphabetically.

Pearson, Michael. “John McPhee.” *American Nature Writers*. Ed. John Elder. 2 vols. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1996. Print.

ARTICLE - SCHOLARLY JOURNAL - Provide the volume number after the journal name.

Staten, Henry. "The Decomposing Form of Joyce's Ulysses." *PMLA* 112.3 (1997): 380-92. Print.

ARTICLE - SCHOLARLY JOURNAL – Two authors.

Drake, Roger and Martin Saligman. "Self-Serving Biases in Causal Attributions as a Function of Altered Activation Asymmetry." *International Journal of Neuroscience* 45.3-4 (1989): 199-204. Print

ARTICLE - SCHOLARLY JOURNAL – Use *et al.* for more than 3 authors.

Marchetti, David W., et al. "Ages and significance of glacial and mass movement deposits on the west side of Boulder Mountain, Utah, USA." *PALAEO* 252.3-4 (2007): 503-513. Print.

ARTICLE - SCHOLARLY JOURNAL (page numbers start over with each issue) - Provide the volume number and issue.

Garl, T.C., et al. "Treatment Dilemmas and Complications." *The Physician and Sportsmedicine* 25.6 (1997): 41-45. Print.

ARTICLE - POPULAR WEEKLY OR MONTHLY MAGAZINE - Do not include volume or issue numbers.

Spalding, Francis. "Painting Out Carrington." *New Yorker* 18 Dec. 1995: 70-76. Print.

NEWSPAPER ARTICLE

Holland, Bernard. "Feminist Protests." *New York Times* 3 Mar. 1997, late ed., sec. C: 11+. Print.

LITERARY CRITICISM SERIES (example based on "Citing Contemporary Literary Criticism," *Contemporary Literary Criticism*. Vol. 175. Detroit: Gale, 2003. ix.) - To cite a previously published article in a collection, cite the original publication and add "reprinted in," the title of the publication, and the new publication facts.

Hart, Patricia. "A Review of 'El plan infinito'." *World Literature Today* 67.2 (Spring 1993): 335-36. Reprinted in *Contemporary Literary Criticism*. Ed. Deborah A. Stanley. Vol. 97. Detroit: Gale Research, 1997. 21-22. Print.

Section II: Citations in Text (Parenthetical Documentation)

"You must indicate to your readers not only what works you used in writing the paper but also exactly what you derived from each source and exactly where in the work you found the materials. The most practical way to supply this information is to insert a brief parenthetical acknowledgment in your paper wherever you incorporate another's words, facts, or ideas. Usually the author's last name and a page reference are enough to identify the source and the specific location from which you borrowed material" (214).

AUTHOR NAMED IN THE SENTENCE

Jenkinson states that "no region of North America contains more elemental beauty than southeastern Utah" (128).

AUTHOR NAMED IN REFERENCE AND NOT IN THE SENTENCE

The fourteenth century was "a distraught age where rules were breaking down" (Tuchman 154).

UNKNOWN AUTHOR - Use a brief version of the title in the sentence or in the citation.

According to one analysis, the placement of women in print advertisements is subliminally important ("Today's Marketplace" 51).

AUTHOR OF TWO OR MORE WORKS - If your "works cited" list includes more than one work by the same author, include a brief title each time you cite one of the works.

McPhee suggests that development eventually will destroy the pine barrens (The Pine Barrens 27).