Article from a Library Database

Corporate or Government Report Online

Page on a Website with a Known Author

Note: For this source, the date of online publication (May 15, 2014) is provided, so it appears after the italicized name of the Website (which MLA calls the “container”) and before the URL.

Page on a Website with No Known Author

Note: For this source, no date of publication is given, so the citation uses the date of access (i.e., when you looked at it) instead, provided after the URL.

Online Video Clip

To format your own Works Cited page, determine what type of source you have and then start matching the information available to the models above.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES
Chances are, you’re not the first writer who has wondered how to cite a particular type of reference. You can usually find the format in question through a simple Web search (e.g., “MLA Works Cited format for ebooks”). Some especially helpful sites include:

- The Berkeley College Center for Academic Success on your campus
- The Berkeley College Libguide at berkeleycollege.libguides.com/writing
- The MLA Style Center at https://style.mla.org
- The Purdue University Online Writing Lab (OWL) at https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/

As a Berkeley College student, you’re also entitled to use RefWorks, a web-based research management software package that can help organize your sources and automatically format your citations for you. For more about RefWorks, including instructions on how to set up your account, visit http://berkeleycollege.libguides.com/refworks.

For questions about formatting the look of your MLA style paper, we recommend the Purdue OWL’s annotated MLA Sample Paper at https://owl.english.purdue.edu/media/pdf/20090701095636_747.pdf.
WHERE DO I START?

MLA style can feel at first like a foreign language, but it’s really just one of many established ways (like APA or Chicago styles) to signal your research and formally give credit where it’s due. Understanding and applying MLA citations doesn’t require any special content knowledge, just a bit of patience and the willingness to seek answers in the right places.

If your assignment requires you to use MLA citations, there are two key things you should know before you begin:

1. *Everything* that you borrow from a source needs a citation, whether you’ve quoted it directly, paraphrased, or summarized.

2. MLA style, like APA, requires you to cite all source information *twice*—once in-text (parenthetically) and again on a Works Cited page (MLA’s answer to APA’s References).

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

This guide will overview how to create MLA in-text citations and some common types of MLA Works Cited entries, but it’s not comprehensive. Sometimes your research carries you to unusual places, so if you’re using a type of source not included here you’ll simply need to look it up using one of the Additional Resources on the back of the brochure.

IN-TEXT CITATIONS

Unlike APA style, which favors year of publication, MLA style emphasizes the location (i.e., page numbers) of the cited material. Most MLA in-text citations appear in parentheses at the end of a sentence and include just the author’s last name and the page:

- One observer explains that “the tone of words can be hurtful” (Tannen 90).

This format is applicable when you do not already identify the author in the body of the sentence. Note that the citation goes outside of the quotation and does not include any commas, “page,” “pg.,” etc. End punctuation (the period) follows the parentheses.

If you are paraphrasing rather than quoting directly, the expectations remain the same:

- People often misunderstand online communication (Tannen 90).

Where no page number is available (such as in an online source), simply leave it out.

If authorship is not attributed, include a shortened version of the title (usually the first one or two words) in the parentheses, so long as the words clearly distinguish the source from others you have used elsewhere:

- Even after the end of the Cold War, “International espionage was prevalent in the 1990s in many parts of the world” (“Decade”).

WORKS CITED

Works Cited appear on a separate page with each entry alphabetized and using a hanging indent (not sure how to create a hanging indent? Google it!). What follows are the reference formats for some of the most common types of sources. For other source types, see the Additional Resources, or contact the CAS. Note that the rules of capitalization and italicization in MLA differ from APA, so be extra careful about the small details:

- **Book in Print**

- **Book Online**

- **Magazine or News Article Online**