



Coastal Bend College Library
Quick Tips for MLA Citations
Adapted from the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers, 7th edition, 2009.*

This information is adapted from the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers, seventh edition* (2009). All Campus libraries have copies of the handbook. These examples provide the answers to the most common citation questions; refer to the print Handbook for detailed information. Page numbers refer to pages in the MLA Handbook.

Reference List

The list of works cited appears at the end of the paper on a new page. Title the reference list with *Works Cited* centered at the top of the page. Double-space between the title and the first entry. The listing should be in alphabetical order. The first line of each works cited should be flush with the left margin and indent any subsequent lines one-half inch. Double-space the entire list (131). The 7th edition now recommends using italics instead of underlining (78).

Shortening Publishers' Names – You only need to give enough information so that the reader can locate the book. Omit articles (A, An, The), business abbreviations (Co., Corp., Inc., Ltd.), and descriptive words (Books, House, Press, Publishers). When citing a university press, always add the abbreviation P (Ohio State UP) because the university itself may publish independently or its press (Ohio State U). See page 247 & 248 for more information on abbreviating publishers' names.

Printed Works

[basic book format]

Author's last name, first name. *Title of the book*. Place of Publication: Publisher, Year of Publication. Print.

[a book with two or more authors]- give their names in the same order as on the title page (154).

Booth, Wayne C., Gregory G. Colomb, and Joseph M. Williams. *The Craft of Research*. 2nd ed. Chicago: U

of Chicago P, 2003. Print.

[a book without an author only an editor, in a multivolume work]

Sadie, Stanley, ed. *The Life of Langston Hughes*. 2nd ed. 2 vols. New York: Oxford UP, 2002. Print.

[a book without an author or editor] – begin the entry with the title

American Heritage Guide to Contemporary Usage and Style. Boston: Houghton, 2005. Print.

[a translation]

Homer. *The Odyssey*. Trans. Robert Fagles. New York: Viking, 1996. Print.

[a work in an anthology or compilation]

Bordo, Susan. "The Moral Content of Nabokov's *Lolita*." *Aesthetic Subjects*. Ed. Pamela R. Mathews and

David McWhirter. Minneapolis: U of Minnesota P, 2003. 125-52. Print.

[a brochure, pamphlet or press release] no date of publication given

Modern Language Association. *Language Study in the Age of Globalization: The College-Level Experience*.

New York: MLA, n.d. Print.

Library Databases

General Information: Electronic sources have the same citation and publication information as print sources, except require the name of the database and the date of access. MLA no longer requires you to include URLs or library location in your citations.

For additional or more detailed information on citing web publications, see Chapter 5, section 6 of *The MLA Handbook, 7th edition*.

[book from a library database - ebrary]

Austen, Jane. *Pride and Prejudice*. Westminster, MD: Modern Library, 2000. *Ebrary*. Web. 16 Oct. 2010.

[journal article from JSTOR]

Howard, Judith A. and Carolyn Allen. "The Gendered Context of Reading." *Gender and Society* 4.4 (1990): 534-552. *JSTOR*. Web. 16 Oct. 2008.

[journal article from an EBSCOhost database]

Klein, Thomas. "The Ghostly Voice of Gossip in Faulkner's A ROSE FOR EMILY." *Explicator* 65.4 (2007): 229-232. *Academic Search Complete*. EBSCO. Web. 16 Oct. 2010.

[article from a book in Gale's Health Reference Center Academic]

"Lung Cancer; Prevention." *NWHRC Health Center - Lung Cancer*. National Women's Health Resource Center, 2006. NA. *Health Reference Center Academic*. Gale. Web. 16 Oct. 2010.

[biography from a book in Gale's Literature Resource Center]

"William Faulkner." *Contemporary Authors Online*. 2007. *Literature Resource Center*. Gale. Web. 16 Oct. 2010.

Internet Sources

Not all web pages give the same information for your citations. MLA requires the publication data as well as the date of access to be noted in the citation. Inclusion of URLs has now proved to have limited value. Include a URL as supplementary information only when the reader probably cannot locate the source without it or your instructor requires it. If a URL must be divided between lines, break it only after slashes (182).

[web site with adding URL]- if the exact date of last update is known, use dd mmm yyyy format, URL address given due to hard to find information, include URL in angled brackets.

Eaves, Morris, Robert Essick, and Joseph Viscomi, eds. *The William Black Archive*. Lib. Of Cong., 28 Sept. 2007. Web. 16 Oct. 2010. <<http://www.blackarchive.org/blake/>>.

[website without adding URL]- example given is an interview on the web

Antin, David. Interview by Charles Bernstein. *Dalkey Archive Press*. Dalkey Archive P., n.d. Web. 21 Aug. 2007.

[blog posting]- Include screen name as authors name if name is not given, if both are given place author's name in brackets. If website doesn't have a name, use the generic label Online Posting.

Salmar1515 [Sal Hernandez]. "Re: Best Strategy: fenced Pastures vs. Max Number of Rooms?" *BoardGameGeek*. BoardGameGeek, 29 Sept. 2008. Web. 16 Oct. 2010.

[ebook from the free web]

Austen, Jane. *Pride and Prejudice*. Chelsea House P., 1834. *Project Gutenberg*. Web. 16 Oct. 2010.

[online encyclopedia entry]

"Wren, Sir Christopher". *The Columbia Encyclopedia, Sixth edition*. New York: Columbia University Press. *Bartleby.com: Great Books Online*, 2007. Web. 8 Oct. 2010.

[internet article]

University of California - Los Angeles. "Searching the Internet Increases Brain Function." *ScienceDaily*. 15 October 2008. Web. 16 October 2010.

[article from online magazine]

Levy, Steven. "Great Minds, Great Ideas." *Newsweek*. 27 May 2002. Web. 8 Oct. 2008.