Citing Sources Using **MLA (8th ed.)**

The Modern Language Association (MLA) style format is used primarily by those in literature, language studies, and other fields in the humanities. This handout gives examples of the format used for the Works Cited list that appears at the end of your paper. **Remember** to alphabetize your citations, use a hanging indent on the second and subsequent lines, double-space your citations, and title your list, **Works Cited**. For further assistance refer to *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers* in the Ready Reference section.

List authors as ordered in your source. Reverse the first author’s name for alphabetizing (Last name, then first name separated by a comma). If multiple authors, separate names with commas and connect the second to last and last author’s names with and. If more than two authors, list the first author then a comma and et al. **Sec. 2.7.1**

**Journal article**

Author(s). “Article Title.” *Journal Title*, vol. #, no. #, Publication Season & Year, pp. #-. *Database*, doi: DOI.


**Newspaper Article**

Author(s). “Article Title.” *Newspaper Title*, Publication Date, URL for Online OR pp. page numbers for print.


**Book**

Author(s). *Book Title: Subtitle*. Publisher, Publication Year.


**Book Chapter**

Author(s). “Chapter Title.” *Book Title*, edited by Editor(s), Publisher, Publication Year, pp. pages of chapter.


**Webpage**

Author(s). “Page Title.” *Website Title*, Publisher and Publication day month year, URL.


Have a source or situation not addressed here? Consult a reference librarian or the MLA style manual (8th ed.) located at the reference desk.

**Capitalize all principal words of the title. Basically everything but words like; a, an, and, as, against, between, but, etc.**

**Include the database name, if appropriate. For articles without a DOI, include a stable URL. Sec. 2.5.2**

**If an article in a journal or newspaper appears on nonconsecutive pages, include the first page number and a +. Sec. 2.5.1**

If the city is not included in the name of a local paper include it in brackets after the title. **Sec. 2.6.1**

Omit co, corp, inc and ltd. For academic presses University Press should be abbreviated. **Sec 1.6.3**

**When you can’t find a Publication Date, include the date you accessed the source. p. 53**
In-Text Citations in MLA (8th ed.)

The Modern Language Association (MLA) style format is used primarily by those in literature, language studies, and other fields in the humanities. This handout gives examples of citations that appear with borrowed information in the body of your research papers.

Citing Borrowed Information (p. 54):
Your in-text citations for paraphrased or directly quoted information should include the author and page number. Your in-text citation should go inside the period at the end of your sentence.

(Last Name Page Number).

Important information is often contained in your syllabus (Jones 42).

“Assigned readings can be found in Blackboard” (Jones 43).

Signal Phrases: 
The author’s name isn’t required to be in the parentheses. You can instead use a signal phrase- where you introduce the author in your own words before presenting the borrowed information. When you do this in MLA, the page number should still be in parenthesis and should be placed after the borrowed idea at a natural pause.

Jones explains, “assigned readings can be found in Blackboard” (42).

Multiple works by the same author:
Include a shortened title for the particular work from which you are quoting to distinguish it from the others. Put short titles of books in italics and short titles of articles in quotation marks.

Murray states that writing is "a process" that "varies with our thinking style" (Write to Learn 6). Additionally, Murray argues that the purpose of writing is to "carry ideas and information from the mind of one person into the mind of another" (A Writer Teaches Writing 3).

No page number? (p.56)
If you don’t have a page number, as you might not if you’re citing a web source, simply provide the author’s last name. If your source has marked paragraph numbers, use those instead and reference them with (par. #).

No Author? (p.54)
When your source doesn’t have an author, use the title of the source in your in-text citation. If the title is long, shorten it in a way that makes sense. Titles of short works (poems, articles, websites, etc.) should be in quotation marks. Titles of longer works (books, journal titles, etc.) should be italicized.

MLA 8th edition varies substantially from previous editions and allows for flexibility when citing less common sources. Consult the MLA handbook (8th ed) for the more flexible workflow or advice on citing other kinds of sources.

Have a source or situation not addressed here? Consult a reference librarian or the MLA style manual (8th ed.) located at the reference desk.