MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION (MLA) STYLE
FORMAT FOR CITING REFERENCES

When writing a research paper, you must indicate exactly where you found the information you present in your paper. Your sources are briefly cited throughout your paper as “parenthetical references” (these typically include an author’s last name and a page reference) and documented more fully at the end of your paper in a “Works Cited” list. This list includes all the sources used in the research and writing of your paper. The list should be in alphabetical order by the authors’ last names (or by title when no author is given.). **Double-space within and between sources.**

This brief guide is based on the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, 6th edition (2003). If the type of work you need to cite is not included in this guide, check the *MLA Handbook*, available in the Reference collection in the library. (Call number: LB 2369 G53 2003). Links to other guides that include parenthetical documentation and works cited examples are at the end of this guide.

**BOOKS**

**BOOK: ONE AUTHOR**

*Works Cited example:*


*Parenthetical reference example:*

Although crime rates fell in the 1990's, two-thirds of Americans believe they are rising (Glassner 23).

**BOOK: TWO TO THREE AUTHORS**

*Works cited:*


*Parenthetical reference:*

(Marquart, Olson, and Sorensen 271)
(Marquart et al. 271)—had there been more than three authors

**EDITED BOOK**

*Works cited:*


*Parenthetical reference:*

(Rabkin, Greenberg, and Olander 96)
BOOK IN A SERIES
Works cited:

Parenthetical reference: (Neruda 110)

ESSAY OR CHAPTER IN AN ANTHOLOGY OR COLLECTION
Works cited:

Parenthetical reference: (Moravcevich 55)

A PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED ARTICLE IN A JOURNAL OR BOOK REPRINTED IN A COLLECTION
Include Author(s), if given. “Title of Article.” Earlier publication information, if any. Title of Work. Editor, if given. Volume number. City of publication: Publisher, year. Starting and ending pages of entire article about that work or author.

Works cited:

Parenthetical reference: (Roberts 400)

Works cited:

Notes: Use N.p. if no place of publication is given.

Parenthetical reference: (Bell 177)

MULTIVOLUME WORKS
Works cited:

Note: If you have used only one volume of a multivolume work, you may add the total number of volumes at the end of the entry. If volumes of the work are still being published, add the number of volumes published so far and “to date: 272 vols. to date.

Parenthetical reference: (Parry 52)
Works Cited:

Parenthetical reference: (Redford 3:112-118)

Note: *If you have used two or more volumes of a multivolume work, cite the total number of volumes in the work in your Works Cited list and include the volume and page number(s) referenced in the parenthetical reference.*

ENCYCLOPEDIAS AND OTHER REFERENCE BOOKS

Works Cited:

Parenthetical reference: (Mohanty)

Notes: The volume and page number of the article are not needed if the encyclopedia is alphabetically arranged. The place of publication and the publisher’s name are not required when citing well-known reference works.

Works cited:

Parenthetical reference: ("Ginsberg")

GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS

Works cited:

Parenthetical reference: (United States Senate Subcommittee on Constitutional Amendments)
SCHOLARLY JOURNAL
Works cited:

Note: If a journal is continuously paginated throughout the year (the page numbers pick up where they left off in the previous issue) include the volume number but not the issue number. If each journal starts with page one, the volume and issue numbers are used, separated by a period and followed by the year in parentheses. (see following example)

Parenthetical reference: (Flannigan 146)

SCHOLARLY JOURNAL THAT PAGES EACH ISSUE SEPARATELY
Works cited:

Parenthetical reference: (Hallin 22)

WEEKLY MAGAZINE
Works cited:

Note: To cite a magazine published every week or two weeks, give the complete date and page numbers of the article. If the article does not have consecutive page numbers write only the first page number and a plus sign. Do not give volume and issue numbers even if listed on the magazine.

Parenthetical reference: (Bazell 13)

Works Cited:

Note: Start with the title if the article has no author.

Parenthetical reference: (“Stop, Thief!” 14)

NEWSPAPER
Works cited:

Parenthetical reference: (Manegold A3)
REVIEW
Works cited:
Towers, Robert. "Mystery Women." Rev. of Cat's Eye, by Margaret Atwood. New

Parenthetical reference: (Towers 50)

WORK OF ART (photograph of)
Works cited:
Gardner’s Art Through the Ages. 10th ed. By Helen Gardner. Fort Worth: Harcourt

Note: For a work of art you viewed online, end your citation with your date of access and the URL

Parenthetical reference: (Ingres)

INTERVIEW THAT YOU CONDUCTED
Works cited:
Lapovsky, Lucy. Personal interview. 22 July 2003.

Parenthetical reference: (Lapovsky)

Works cited:

Parenthetical reference: (Turner)

RADIO OR TELEVISION INTERVIEW
Works cited:
Blackmun, Henry. Interview with Ted Koppel and Nina Totenberg. Nightline. ABC.

Parenthetical reference: (Blackmun)

FILM OR VIDEO RECORDING
Works cited:
It's a Wonderful Life. Dir. Frank Capra. Perf. James Stewart, Donna Reed, Lionel

Parenthetical reference: (It’s a Wonderful Life)
**ELECTRONIC MEDIA**

*Works Cited*: Give as many of the following elements as apply and are available:
- Author. “Title of Article or Page within a website.” Name of Website or Database. Name of Organization Responsible for the Website. Publication date or update date. Access date <URL>.
- **Parenthetical Reference**: Where no page reference is available on a Web page, indicate the author’s last name, or the short title if no author is stated, without any page reference.

**ARTICLE IN AN ONLINE REFERENCE DATABASE**
Include publication information from the source; the name of the database, underlined; the name of the database provider; the name and location of the library where you retrieved the article; the date you retrieved the article. (You are not required to include the URL of the library database.)

*Works cited*:

*Parenthetical reference*: (Schneider et al.)

*Works cited*:

*Parenthetical reference*: (Pinney 133)

*Note*: When the pages of a web source are stable (as in PDF files), supply page numbers in your works cited and parenthetical references.

*Works Cited*:

*Note*: If a database only provides the starting page of an article, give the number followed by a hyphen, a space, and then a period.

*Parenthetical reference*: (Klein et al.)

*Works Cited*:

*Note*: If you are using the HTML version of an article, include the number of pages in the article following the date of publication, where possible. If your source lacks page numbers, omit page numbers from your parenthetical reference.

*Parenthetical reference*: (Clark)
PART OF AN ONLINE REFERENCE BOOK
Works cited:

Parenthetical reference: (Rowe)

ONLINE GOVERNMENT DOCUMENT
Works Cited:

Note: For a government document you viewed online, end your citation with your date of access and the URL

Parenthetical reference: (United States Department. of Transportation)

WEBSITES
Works Cited:

Parenthetical reference: (Cassidy)

Works Cited:

Parenthetical reference: (Anderson)

Works cited:

Parenthetical reference: (Edith)

Works cited:

Parenthetical reference: (Oates)
ARTICLE IN AN ONLINE JOURNAL
Works cited:

Parenthetical reference: (Binda)

ARTICLE IN AN ONLINE MAGAZINE
Works cited:

Parenthetical reference: (Shuger)

ARTICLE IN A ONLINE NEWSPAPER OR NEWswire
Works cited:

Parenthetical reference: (Valenti)

POSTING TO A DISCUSSION LIST
Works cited:

Parenthetical reference: (Holst)

OTHER EXAMPLES OF MLA FORMAT GUIDES:

Citation Style for Research Papers (from Long Island University):
http://www.liunet.edu/cwis/cwp/library/workshop/citation.htm

Using Modern Language Association (MLA) Format (from Purdue University Online Writing Lab):
http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/research/r_mla.html

How to Cite Resources (from Pace University Library and WALDO):
http://www.pace.edu/library/pages/instruct/citing.html

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