

# MLA Citation Format

- MLA (Modern Language Association) is *required by the Gann Academy English and Biblical Literature Departments*.
- *MLA does not recommend the use of footnotes or endnotes; MLA prefers in-text (“parenthetical”) citations.*
- *All lines after the first line of each entry in a reference list should be indented.*
- *Reference lists should be alphabetized by the last name of the first author of each work.*
- *Capitalize all major words in journal titles.*
- *Italicize titles of longer works such as books and journals.*

## In-Text Citation

In MLA documentation style, you acknowledge your sources with brief parenthetical citations in your text that *clearly correspond* to an alphabetical list of works that appear at the end of the paper. You must identify the location of the borrowed information as specifically as possible: page numbers; stanza numbers; numbers of the act, scene, or line; paragraph numbers for electronic publications.

Medieval Europe was a place both of “raids, pillages, slavery, and extortion” and of “traveling merchants, monetary exchange, towns if not cities, and active markets in grain” (Townsend 10).

The parenthetical reference “(Townsend 10)” indicates that the quotations come from page 10 of a work by Townsend. Note that there is no *.p* for page number, nor is there a comma in between the author’s name and the page number.

Townsend argues that Medieval Europe was a place both of “raids, pillages, slavery, and extortion” and of “traveling merchants, monetary exchange, towns if not cities, and active markets in grain” (10).

If integrating the author’s name into the text, you need not repeat the name of the author in the citation; just the page number will suffice.

- If the works cited list contains only one work by the author cited, you need only give the author’s last name to identify the work: (Patterson 183-85)
- If the list contains more than one author with the same last name, you must include the first initial, or if the initial is also shared, the full first name: (A. Patterson 183-85) or (Albert Patterson 183-185)
- If two or three names begin the entry, give the last name of each person listed: (Rabkin, Greenberg, and Olander vii)
- If the work has more than three authors, follow the form in the bibliographic entry: either give the author’s first name followed by *et al.*, or give all the last names: (Lauter et al. 2601-09)

## **In-Text Citation of a Work Listed by Title**

If the work in your Works Cited list has no author, use the full title (if brief) or a shortened version for your in-text citation:

The mandarins were “distinguished by the color of the button on the hats” (“Mandarin”).

“Mandarin” refers to this citation on the Works Cited page:

“Mandarin.” *Encyclopedia Americana*. 1994 ed. Print.

If you are citing two or more anonymous works that have the same title, find a publication fact that distinguishes the works in their Works Cited entries (publication date or journal name, for example).

In winter the snowy owl feeds primarily on small rodents (“Snowy Owl,” *Hinterland*), but in spring it also feeds on the eggs of much larger waterfowl, such as geese and swans (“Snowy Owl,” Arctic).

“Snowy Owl” refers to the following two citations on the Works Cited page:

“Snowy Owl.” *Arctic Studies Center*. National Museum of Natural History, 2004. Web. 8 Aug. 2007.

“Snowy Owl.” *Hinterland Who’s Who*. Canadian Wildlife Service, 2006. Web. 8 Aug. 2007.

## **In-Text Citation of Two or More Works by the Same Author**

In a parenthetical reference to two or more works by the same author, put a comma after the author’s last name and add the title of the work (if brief) or a shortened version and the relevant page reference:

Shakespeare’s *King Lear* has been called a “comedy of the grotesque” (Frye, *Anatomy* 237).

One’s death is not a unique experience, for “every moment we have lived through we have also died out of into another order” (Frye, *Double Vision* 95).

### Works Cited

Frye, Northrop. *Anatomy of Criticism: Four Essays*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1957. Print.

---. *The Double Vision: Language and Meaning in Religion*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1991. Print.

# Formatting a Works Cited List

- The Works Cited list appears at the end of the paper.
- Begin the list on a new page and number each page, continuing the page numbers of the text (the page number appears in the upper right-hand corner.)
- Center the title, *Works Cited*, and double space between the title and the first entry.
- Begin each entry flush with the left margin; if an entry is more than one line, indent all subsequent lines (this is called ***hanging indentation***).
- Double-space the entire list, both between and within entries.
- All entries in a works cited list should be arranged in alphabetical order by the first element in the entry, most likely the author's last name.

**\*\*\*New in the seventh edition of MLA: The medium (Print, Web) is included at the end of the citation.**

## **A Book with One Author**

Last Name, First Name. *Title of the Book*. City of Publication: Name of Publisher, Year of Publication. Print.

Franke, Damon. *Modernist Heresies: British Literary History, 1883-1924*. Columbus: Ohio State University Press, 2008. Print.

Kugel, James L. *The Bible As It Was*. Cambridge: The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 1997. Print.

## **A Book with Two or More Authors/Editors/Translators**

Give their names in the same order as on the title page – not necessarily in alphabetical order. Reverse only the name of the first author, add a comma, and give the other names in normal form. If the people listed on the title page are editors, translators, or compilers, place a comma after the final name and add the appropriate abbreviation (*eds.*, *trans.*, or *comps.* for “editors,” “translators,” or “compilers”).

Booth, Wayne C., Gregory G. Colomb, and Joseph M. Williams. *The Craft of Research*. 2nd ed. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2003. Print.

Broere, Lawrence R., and Gloria Holland, eds. *Hemingway and Women: Female Critics and the Female Voice*. Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 2002. Print.

Hutcheon, Linda, and Michael Hutcheon, comps. *Bodily Harm: Living Opera*. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2000. Print.

**If there are more than three authors**, you may name only the first and add *et al.* (“and others”), or you may give all names in full in the order in which they appear on the title page.

Plag, Ingo, et al. *Introduction to English Linguistics*. Berlin: Mouton, 2007. Print.

or

Plag, Ingo, Maria Braun, Sabine Lappe, and Mariele Schramm. *Introduction to English Linguistics*. Berlin: Mouton, 2007. Print.

## **A Translation**

State the author's name first if you refer primarily to the work itself; give the translator's name, preceded by *Trans.* ("Translated by"), after the title. If the book has an editor as well as a translator, give the names, with appropriate abbreviations, in the order in which they appear on the title page.

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

*Beowulf*. Trans. Edward Talbot Donaldson. Ed. Nicholas Howe. New York: Norton, 2001. Print.

Hildegard of Bingen. *Selected Writings*. Trans. Mark Atherton. New York: Penguin, 2001. Print.

Mankell, Henning. *Firewall*. Trans. Ebba Segerberg. New York: Vintage, 2003. Print.

If your citations are mostly to the translator's comments or choice of wording, begin the entry with the translator's name, followed by a comma and the abbreviation *trans.* ("translator"), and give the author's name, preceded by the word *By*, after the title.

Seidensticker, Edward G., trans. *The Tale of Genji*. By Murasaki Shikibu. New York: Knopf, 1976. Print.

## **A Book by a Corporate Author**

A corporate author may be a commission, an association, a committee, or any other group whose individual members are not identified on the title page. Omit any initial article (*A, An, The*) in the name of the corporate author, and do not abbreviate its name. Cite the book by its corporate author, even if the corporate author is the publisher.

National Research Council. *Beyond Six Billion: Forecasting the World's Population*. Washington: National Academy, 2000. Print.

Urban Land Institute. *Cities Post-9/11*. Washington: Urban Land Institute, 2002. Print.

## **An Anthology or Compilation**

Begin your entry with the name of the editor or compiler, followed by a comma and the abbreviation *ed.* or *comp.* If the person named performed more than one function – serving, for example, as editor and translator – give both roles in the order in which they appear on the title page.

Davis, Anita Price, comp. *North Carolina During the Great Depression: A Documentary Portrait of a Decade.* Jefferson: McFarland, 2003. Print.

Kepner, Susan Fulop, ed. and trans. *The Lioness in Bloom: Modern Thai Fiction About Women.* Berkeley: University of California Press, 1996. Print.

Shell, Marc, ed. *American Babel: Literatures of the United States from Abnaki to Zuni.* Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2002. Print.

## **A Work in an Anthology**

If you are citing an essay, a short story, a poem, or another work that appears within an anthology or some other book collection, add the following information to the basic book entry:

Author, title, and (if relevant) translator of the *part* of the book being cited; Editor, translator, or compiler of the book being cited; page numbers of the cited piece.

Allende, Isabel. "Toad's Mouth." Trans. Margaret Sayers Peden. *A Hammock Beneath the Mangoes: Stories from Latin America.* Ed. Thomas Colchie. New York: Plume, 1992. 82-88. Print.

Bardo, Susan. "The Moral Content of Nabokov's *Lolita*." *Aesthetic Subjects.* Ed. Pamela R. Matthews and David McWhirter. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2003. 125-52. Print.

Fagih, Ahmed Ibrajim al-. *The Singing of the Stars.* Trans. Leila el Khalidi and Christopher Tingley. *Short Arabic Plays: An Anthology.* Ed. Salma Khadra Jayyusi. New York: Interlink, 2003. 140-57. Print.

Hanzlik, Josef. "Vengeance." Trans. Ewald Osers. *Interference: The Story of Czechoslovakia In the Words of its Writers.* Comp. and ed. Peter Spafford. Cheltenham: New Clarion, 1992. 54. Print.

Often the works in anthologies have been published before. If you wish to inform your reader of the date when a previously published piece appeared, you may follow the title of the piece with the year of original publication and a period. You do not need to record the medium of previous publication.

Douglass, Frederick. *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave, Written by*

*Himself*. 1845. *Classic American Autobiographies*. Ed. William L. Andrews and Henry Louis Gates, Jr. New York: Library of America, 2000. 267-368. Print.

Franklin, Benjamin. "Emigration to America." 1782. *The Faber Book of America*. Ed. Christopher Ricks and William L. Vance. Boston: Faber, 1992, 24-26. Print.

## **An Article in a Reference Book**

Cite as you would for an anthology. If the article is signed, give the author's name first; if unsigned, give the title first.

"Azimuthal Equidistant Projection." *Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary*. 11th ed. 2003. Print.

Cohen, Burton I. "Jewish Camping." *Encyclopaedia Judaica*. 2nd ed. Vol. 11. Detroit: Macmillan Reference USA, 2007. Print.

"Ginsburg, Ruth Bader." *Who's Who in America*. 62nd ed. 2008. Print.

Allen, Anita L. "Privacy in Health Care." *Encyclopedia of Bioethics*. Ed. Stephen G. Post. 3rd Ed. Vol. 4. New York: Macmillan-Thomson, 2004. Print.

## **An Introduction, a Preface, a Foreword, or an Afterword**

Begin with the name of the author and then give the name of the part being cited, capitalized but neither italicized nor enclosed in quotation marks (*Introduction, Preface, Foreword, Afterword*). Cite the author of the complete work after its title, giving the full name, in normal order, preceded by the word *By* for an author or *Ed* for an editor. Include the page numbers.

Coetzee, J. M. Introduction. *The Confusions of Young Torless*. By Robert Musil. Trans. Shaun Whiteside. New York: Penguin, 2001. v-xiii. Print.

Hamill, Pete. Foreword. *The Brooklyn Reader: Thirty Writers Celebrate America's Favorite Borough*. Ed. Andrea Wyatt Sexton and Alice Leccese Powers. New York: Harmony, 1993. xi-xiv. Print.

Sears, Barry. Afterword. *The Jungle*. By Upton Sinclair. New York: Signet, 2001. 343-47. Print.

## **A Book Published Before 1900**

When citing a book published before 1900, you may omit the name of the publisher and use a comma, instead of a colon, after the place of publication.

Brome, Richard. *The Dramatic Works of Richard Brome*. 3 vols. London, 1873. Print.

## **An Article in a Scholarly Journal**

Last Name, First Name. "Title of Article." *Journal Title* Volume Number.Issue Number (Year): Pages. Medium.

Piper, Andrew. "Rethinking the Print Object: Goethe and the Book of Everything." *Journal of Art* 121.1 (2006): 124-38. Print.

Barthelme, Frederick. "Architecture." *Kansas Quarterly* 13.3-4 (1981): 77-80. Print.

## **An Article in a Magazine**

To cite a magazine published every week or every two weeks, include the complete date. Do not give the volume and issue numbers even if listed.

Last Name, First Name. "Title of Article." *Magazine Title* Day Month Year: Pages. Medium.

McEvoy, Dermot. "Little Books, Big Success." *Publishers Weekly* 30 Oct. 2006: 26-28. Print.

Weintraub, Arlene, and Laura Cohen. "A Thousand-Year Plan for Nuclear Waste." *Business Week* 6 May 2002: 94-96. Print.

To cite a magazine published every month or every two months, give the month or months and year. Do not give the volume and issue numbers even if listed.

Kates, Robert W. "Population and Consumption: What We Know, What We Need to Know." *Environment* Apr. 2000: 10-19. Print.

## **An Article in a Newspaper**

- To cite an English-language newspaper, give the name as it appears on the masthead but omit any introductory article (*New York Times*, not *The New York Times*). Retain articles before the names of non-English-language papers (*Le Monde*).
- If the city of publication is not included in the name of a locally published newspaper, add the city in square brackets, not italicized, after the name: *Star-Ledger* [Newark].
- Include complete date – day, month, and year.
- Abbreviate the names of all months except May, June, and July.
- Do not give the volume and issue numbers even if listed.
- If an edition is named on the masthead, add a comma after the date and specify the edition (*natl. ed.*, *late ed.*), because different editions of the same issue of a newspaper may contain different material.
- Newspaper articles are often not printed on consecutive pages; for such articles, write only the first page number and a plus sign. The in-text citation would tell the reader exactly which page the material is referenced from.

Jeromack, Paul. "This Once, a David of the Art World Does Goliath a Favor." *New York Times*

13 July 2002, late ed.: B7+. Print.

Alaton, Salem. "So, Did They Live Happily Ever After?" *Globe and Mail* [Toronto] 27 Dec. 1997:D1+. Print.

## **A Work Cited Only on the Web**

Last Name, First Name of the author, compiler, director, editor, narrator, performer, or translator of the work. Title of the work (italicized if the work is independent; not italicized and put in quotation marks if part of a longer work). *Title of the Overall Website (if distinct from the title of the work)*. Publisher or sponsor of the site; if not available, use N.p., Date of publication (day, month, and year, as available); if nothing is available, use n.d. Web. Date of access (day, month, year).

- Each item is followed by a period except the publisher/sponsor, which is followed by a comma
- Untitled works may be identified by a genre label (Home page, Introduction, Online posting, Interview, Chart), neither italicized nor enclosed in quotation marks, in the place where the title goes.
- You should include a URL as supplementary information only when the reader probably cannot locate the source without it or when your instructor requires it.
  - If you include a URL, give it immediately following the date of access, a period, and a space. Enclose the URL in angle brackets, and conclude it with a period.

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

Committee on Scholarly Editions. "Guidelines for Editors of Scholarly Editions." *Modern Language Association*. MLA, 25 Sept. 2007. Web. 15 May 2008.

Eaves, Morris, Robert Essick, and Joseph Viscomi, eds. *The William Blake Archive*. Library of Congress, 28 Sept. 2007. Web. 20 Nov. 2007. <<http://www.blakearchives.org/blake/>>

"Hourly News Summary." *National Public Radio*. National Public Radio, 20 July 2007. Web. 20 July 2007.

Lessig, Lawrence. "Free Debates: More Republicans Call on RNC." *Lessig 2.0*. N.p., 4 May 2007. Web. 15 May 2008.

"Maplewood, New Jersey." Map. *Google Maps*. Google, 15 May 2008. Web. 15 May 2008.

"Utah Mines Rescue." *Cnn.com*. Cable News Network, 21 Aug. 2007. Web. 2 Aug. 2007.

"Verb Tenses." Chart. *The OWL at Purdue*. Purdue University Online Writing Lab, 2001. Web. 15 May 2008.

## **A Work on the Web Cited with Print Publication Data**

Begin the entry with the relevant facts about the print publication as described above. Instead of concluding with *Print* as the medium of publication, record the following information in sequence:

- *Title of the database or Web site* (italicized)
- Medium of publication consulted (Web)
- Date of access (day, month, and year)

Bierce, Ambrose. "Academy." *The Devil's Dictionary. The Collected Works of Ambrose Bierce*. Vol. 7. New York: Neale, 1911. N. pag. *The Ambrose Bierce Project*. Web. 15 May 2008.

Child, L. Maria, ed. *The Freedmen's Book*. Boston, 1866. *Google Book Search*. Web. 15 May 2008.

Whitman, Walt. *Leaves of Grass*, 1855. *The Walt Whitman Archive*. Web. 12 Mar. 2007.

## **A Scholarly Journal on the Web**

Begin the entry with the relevant facts about the print publication as described above. Instead of concluding with *Print* as the medium of publication, record the following information in sequence:

- Medium of publication consulted (Web)
- Date of access (day, month, and year)

Use *n. pag.* in place of inclusive page numbers if there are no page numbers.

Landauer, Michelle. "Images of Virtue: Reading, Reformation, and the Visualization of Culture in Rousseau's *La nouvelle Heloise*." *Romanticism on the Net* 46 (2007): n. pag. Web. 9 Nov. 2006.

Shehan, Constance L., and Amanda B. Moras. "Deconstructing Laundry: Gendered Technologies and the Reluctant Redesign of Household Labor." *Michigan Family Review* 11 (2006): n. pag. Web. 8 Nov. 2007.

## **A Periodical Publication from an Online Database**

Begin the entry with the relevant facts about the print publication as described above. Instead of concluding with *Print* as the medium of publication, record the following information in sequence:

- *Title of the database* (italicized)
- Medium of publication consulted (Web)
- Date of access (day, month, and year)

Chan, Evans. "Postmodernism and Hong Kong Cinema." *Postmodern Culture* 10.3 (2000): n. pag. *Project Muse*. Web. 5 June 2010.

France, Anatole. "Pour la Paix, pour la Liberte." *New Age* 5 Sept. 1907: 297-98. *Academic Search Premier*. Web. 12 March 2007.

Tolson, Nancy. "Making Books Available: The Role of Early Libraries." *African American Review* 32.1 (1998): 9-16. *JSTOR*. Web. 10 July 2010.

## **A Television or Radio Broadcast**

"Title of the episode or segment." *Title of the Program or Series*. Name of the Network (if any). Call letters, city of the local station (if any), Broadcast date. Medium of reception (Radio, Television). Supplementary information.

In general, performers, directors, narrators, etc. for the particular edition follow the title of the episode, while that information pertinent to a series follows the title of the series.

"Death and Society." Narr. Joanne Silberner *Weekend Edition Sunday*. National Public Radio. WUMM, Milwaukee, 25 Jan. 1998. Radio.

"Frederick Douglass." *Civil War Journal*. Dir. Craig Haffner. Arts and Entertainment Network, 6 Apr. 1993. Television.

## **A Film or Video Recording**

*Title*. Director. Performers. Distributor, Year of release. Medium.

*It's a Wonderful Life*. Dir. Frank Capra. Perf. James Stewart, Donna Reed, Lionel Barrymore, and Thomas Mitchell. RKO, 1946. Film.

*Like Water for Chocolate [Como agua para chocolate]*. Screenplay by Laura Esquivel. Dir. Alfonso Arau. Miramax, 1993. DVD.

## **A Work of Visual Art**

Artist's Last Name, First Name. *Title of Work*. Date of composition. Medium of composition. Institution that houses the work (museum) or, for a work in a private collection, give the name of the collection (Collection of ...), City.

Bearden, Romare. *The Train*. 1974. Photogravure and aquatint. Museum of Modern Art, New York.

Heckman, Albert. *Windblown Trees*. N.d. Lithograph on paper. Private collection.

Perutz, Dolly Hellman. *Bird Flying Machine*. 1973. Bronze. Central Park, New York.

Seurat, Georges. *Man Leaning on a Fence*. 1880-81? Graphite on paper. Collection of Andre Bromberg, New York.

If you are citing a reproduction, state not only the institution or private owner and the city (if available), but also the complete publication information for the source in which the reproduction appears, including page, slide, figure, or plate number. Indicate the medium of reproduction.

Eakins, Thomas. *Spinning*. 1881. Private collection. *Thomas Eakins*. Ed. Darrel Sewell. Philadelphia: Philadelphia Museum of Art in association with Yale University Press, 2001. Plate 91. Print.

## **A Map or Chart**

Treat a map or chart like an article or book, but add the appropriate descriptive label (Map, Chart).

*Japanese Fundamentals*. Chart. Hauppauge: Barron, 1992. Print.

*Michigan*. Map. Chicago: Rand, 2000. Print.

“Western Boundaries of Brazil, 1600, 1780, and the Present.” Map. *Brazilian Narrative Traditions in a Comparative Context*. By Earl E. Fitz. New York: MLA, 2005. Print.