The Modern Language Association (MLA) provides guidance to scholars studying and writing about literature, culture, and languages, particularly English. If there is something that is not in this quick guide, please see a Librarian, the MLA Handbook or OWL Purdue.

WORKS CITED PAGE

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CORE ELEMENTS OVERVIEW

MLA’s bibliography page is called a Works Cited page. This page has a list of core elements that creates the citations, and you need to fulfill as many of the elements as possible. Some information will not be available for a source; if this is the case then leave that element out.

WORKS CITED NOTES

AUTHOR TYPES

ONE AUTHOR

- Give the author’s last name followed by their first name and any middle initial.
- Do not include degrees (PhD, M.D., etcetera)

**TEMPLATE:**

Author’s Last Name, First Name.

**SAMPLES:**

Mantel, Hilary.

Jennings, Noel K.

TWO AUTHORS

- The first author is listed last name, first name.
- The first author’s name is followed by the word and.
- The second author’s name is given first name last name.
- List names in the order that they are given in the source material.

**TEMPLATE:**

1st Author’s Last Name, First Name and 2nd Author’s First Name Last Name.

**SAMPLE:**

Bernstein, Carl, and Bob Woodward.
THREE OR MORE AUTHORS

- The first author is listed last name, first name.
- Other authors’ names are replaced by the Latin phrase et al. the abbreviation for et alia, meaning “and others.”

**TEMPLATE:**
Author’s Last Name, First Name, et al.

**SAMPLE:**
Bosmia, Anand, et al.
Boerman-Cornell, William, et al.

TWO OR MORE WORKS BY THE SAME AUTHOR

- When using more than one work by an author, organize entries alphabetically by the title of the work.
- Provide the author’s name for the first entry.
- After the first entry, use three hyphens in place of the author’s name. End the section with a period.

**SAMPLE:**

EDITOR, TRANSLATOR, DIRECTOR, ETC.

- If there is an editor, translator, or other contributor, rather than an author, put their names after the title of the work.
- Include the individual’s role followed by the word by and their first and last name.

**TEMPLATE:**
Author’s Last Name, First Name. *Title of Work*. Editor/Translate/Editor/Translate/Another Role by First Name Last Name, Publisher, Date.

**SAMPLES:**

ORGANIZATION OR GOVERNMENT AS AUTHOR

- When using a source authored by an organization or government agency, put them in the author’s spot in the front of the citation.
- If the organization or government agency is the publisher as well as the author, then start the entry with the title of work and list the organization or government in the publisher’s spot.

TEMPLATE:

Organization’s Name or Government Agency (if different from publisher). Title of Work. Publisher, Date.

SAMPLES:


NO/UNKNOWN AUTHOR

- When the author is unknown, begin the entry with the title of the work.

SAMPLES:

ENTRY TEMPLATES BY SOURCE TYPE

JOURNALS, MAGAZINES, NEWSPAPERS

JOURNAL ARTICLES – ONLINE & PRINT

JOURNAL ARTICLE FORMATTING NOTES:

Print and Online sources:
- Use title case capitalization for article and journal titles.
- Place quotes around article titles.
- Italicize journal titles.
- Volume is abbreviated vol.
- Issue number is abbreviated no.

Online sources:
- When available, include a DOI or digital object identifier. DOI format is https://doi.org/xxxx.
- Use a permalink if available; this is better to use than a URL (which may change).
- When providing URLs, do not use anything before www.
- Include a date of access if no publication date is available or if required by your instructor.

JOURNAL ARTICLE – FROM A DATABASE

TEMPLATE

Author’s Last Name, First Name. “Title of Article.” *Title of Journal*, volume number, issue number, Date of Publication, page range. *Database Name*, DOI or URL. Accessed Day Month Year (if required).

SAMPLES


ONLINE JOURNAL ARTICLE

TEMPLATE
Author’s Last Name, First Name. “Title of Article.” Title of Journal, volume number, issue number, Date of Publication, page range. DOI or URL. Accessed Day Month Year (if required).

SAMPLE

PRINT JOURNAL ARTICLE

TEMPLATE
Author’s Last Name, First Name. “Title of Article.” Title of Journal, volume number, issue number, Date of Publication, page range.

SAMPLE

MAGAZINE & NEWSPAPER ARTICLES – ONLINE & PRINT

MAGAZINE & NEWSPAPER ARTICLE FORMATTING NOTES:

- Publication date:
  - Include all available date information.
  - All months over four letters are abbreviated.
  - If there is no publication date, include a date of accessed at the end of entry.
- If a volume or issue numbers are available, include them after the title.
  - vol. for volume number; no. for issue number.
- If no author is given, then begin the entry with the article’s title.
- To designate page numbers, use p. (for one page) or pp. (for a page range).

Online sources:

- When available, include a DOI or digital object identifier. DOI format is https://doi.org/xxxxx.
- Use a permalink if available; this is better to use than a URL (which may change).
- When providing URLs, do not use anything before www.
- Include a date of access if no publication date is available or if required by your instructor.
MAGAZINE OR NEWSPAPER ARTICLE FROM A DATABASE

TEMPLATE
Author’s Last Name, First Name. “Title of Article.” *Magazine or Newspaper Title*, Date of Publication, page(s). *Database name*, DOI or URL. Accessed Day Month Year (if required).

SAMPLE

ONLINE MAGAZINE OR NEWSPAPER ARTICLE

TEMPLATE
Author’s Last Name, First Name. “Title of Article.” *Magazine or Newspaper Title*, Date of Publication, page(s), URL. Accessed Day Month Year (if required).

SAMPLE

PRINT MAGAZINE OR NEWSPAPER ARTICLE

TEMPLATE
Author’s Last Name, First Name. “Title of Article.” *Magazine or Newspaper Title*, volume number, issue number (when available), Date of Publication, page(s).

SAMPLE
## BOOKS – ELECTRONIC AND PRINT

### BOOK FORMATTING NOTES:

- Give the **publisher** as brief a form as possible. Omit business terms like Company (Co.), Corporation (Corp.), Incorporated (Inc.), and Limited (Ltd.). Retain publishing industry terms like Books and Press.
- For academic presses, replace the word university with U and press with P. Replace the term University Press with UP.
- For an **edition other than the first**, add the edition name or number after the title.
- If your source is a **multivolume work**, place the abbreviation Vol. or vol. and the volume number after the title of the work.

### PRINT BOOK

**TEMPLATE**

Author’s Last Name, First Name. *Title of Book*. Publisher, Year of Publication.

**SAMPLE**


### EBOOK FROM A DATABASE

**TEMPLATE**

Author’s Last Name, First Name. *Title of Book*. Publisher, Year of Publication. *Name of Database*, DOI or URL. Accessed Day Month Year (if required).

**SAMPLE**


### EBOOK NOT FROM A DATABASE

**TEMPLATE**

Author’s Last Name, First Name. *Title of Book*. E-book or type of e-book, Publisher, Year of Publication.

**SAMPLE**

WORK OR CHAPTER IN AN EDITED COLLECTION OR ANTHOLOGY

TEMPLATE

Work or Chapter Author’s Last Name, First Name. “Title of Work or Chapter.” *Title of Collection or Anthology*, edited by First and Last Name of Editor(s), Publisher, Year of Publication, page range of article or chapter.

SAMPLE


ENTRY IN A REFERENCE BOOK—DICTIONARY/ENCYCLOPEDIA

• If a reference entry is unsigned, start with the title of the entry.

PRINT REFERENCE BOOK

TEMPLATE

Entry Author’s Last Name, First Name (if available). “Title of Entry.” *Title of Reference Work*, edited by First and Last Name of Editor(s) (if applicable), Edition Number (if applicable), Publisher, Date of Publication, page(s).

SAMPLE


ONLINE REFERENCE WORK

• Online reference work entries include the same information as their print counterparts (when available) as well as a DOI (https://doi.org/xxx-xx) or URL and, if required, a date of access.

SAMPLE

WEBSITES

FORMATTING NOTES:

- When providing URLs, remove everything before www.
- Publication date:
  - It is common practice to include all available date information.
  - All months over four letters are abbreviated.
- Include a date of access for online material if no publication is date available.
- Author - If no author is given, begin the entry with the title of work.
- If the author of the work is an organization and that organization is also the publisher, start the entry with the title of the work and list the organization as the publisher.
- Publisher
  - Personal websites the author is the publisher – DO NOT REPEAT!
  - When the publisher is the same as the title of the website, omit the publisher.

WORK ON A WEBSITE

TEMPLATE

Author’s Last Name, First Name. “Title of the Work.” Title of Website. Publisher of Website (if different from website title), Date of Publication, URL. Accessed Day Month Year (if required).

SAMPLES


ENTIRE WEBSITE

TEMPLATE

Last Name, First Name, role or contribution to website (if other than author). Title of Website.

Publisher of Website (if different from website title), Date of Publication, URL. Accessed Day Month Year (if required).

SAMPLE

COURT CASE ON A WEBSITE

TEMPLATE

Government Entity. Name of Case. Day Month Year of Decision. Title of the Website, Publisher, URL. Accessed Day Month Year (if required).

SAMPLE


SOCIAL MEDIA & PERSONAL COMMUNICATION

FORMATTING NOTES

- When providing URLs, remove everything before and including any double forward slash //.

SOCIAL MEDIA: FACEBOOK, TWITTER, INSTAGRAM, ETC.

TEMPLATE

Author’s Last Name, First Name (if known) or Handle. “Full text of brief untitled post.” or “Title of post.” or Descriptive label. Name of Site, Day Month Year, Time, URL.

SAMPLES


UNPUBLISHED LETTER

TEMPLATE

Sender’s Last Name, First Name. Letter to the author. Day Month Year.

SAMPLE

UNPUBLISHED INTERVIEW

TEMPLATE

Interviewee’s Last Name, First Name. Interview. Conducted by Interviewer’s First and Last Name(s), Day Month Year that interview was conducted.

SAMPLE


E-MAIL OR TEXT MESSAGE

TEMPLATE

Sender’s Last Name, First Name. Text or Email to Recipient(s) name. Day Month Year sent.

SAMPLE


Rios, Victor. E-mail to the author. 22 Oct. 2018.

BLOG ENTRY

TEMPLATE

Author’s Last Name, First Name. “Title of Blog Entry.” Name of Blog, Day Month Year, Time, URL. Accessed Day Month Year (if required).

SAMPLE

FORMATTING NOTES

Contributors

- **Key contributors** are individuals relevant to your focus and can be named before the title of the work.
  - If a paper analyzes the writing in a film, the screenwriter is a key contributor.
  - If the focus is on the performance, the performer is a key contributor.
  - If you name a key contributor, include the contributor’s role after their name.
- **Other contributors** are listed after the title. The individual’s role is given before their name. If not given as a key contributor, it is customary to list the director here.

FILM/DVD/VIDEO RECORDING

**TEMPLATE**

*Key Contributor’s Last Name, First Name, role (optional element).* *Movie Title.* *Other contributor’s Role by First Name Last Name, Production Company or Distributor, Year of Release.*

**SAMPLES**


*Locke.* Performed by Thomas Hardy, directed by Steven Knight. Shoebox Films/IM Global, 2013.

SINGLE EPISODE FROM A SERIES

- If you viewed the episode on a streaming service, include the streaming service after the publication date and add the *Name of Streaming Service* and URL. If you did not watch the episode on the air date, only a year is required.

**TEMPLATE**

*Key Contributor’s Last Name, First Name, role (optional element).* “*Title of Episode.*” *Title of Show,* contributor’s role by First Name Last Name (optional), season number, episode number, *Network, Day Month Year of Airing.*

**SAMPLE**


### STREAMING VIDEO

- Videos viewed via Netflix, Hulu, and Amazon Prime include the name of the streaming service in the entry.

**TEMPLATE**

Key Contributor’s Last Name, First Name, role (optional element). *Title of Film or Program.*

Contributor’s Role by First and Last Name (optional element), Production Company or Distributor, Copyright date. *Streaming Service, URL.*

**SAMPLES**


### ONLINE VIDEO

- **Author:** When the creator of an online video is apparent, list the author before the title. If not, do not.
- If the author’s name is the same as the uploader, do not repeat the author’s name.
- **Styling the Title:** For long works, such as movies, or works that appear to be independent use italics.
  - For short works, such as music videos, or works that are part of a larger whole, use quotation marks.

**TEMPLATE**

Author’s Last Name, First Name (if available) “Title of Video.” or *Title of Video.* Name of Host Site, uploaded by screen name (if different from author), date uploaded, URL.

**SAMPLES**


PODCAST

TEMPLATE

Last Name, First Name, role. “Title of Episode.” Title of Program, season, episode (when available), Sponsor, Date of Release, URL (if accessed online) or Service. Accessed Day Month Year (if accessed online).

SAMPLES


ART OR ARTIFACT

ONLINE

TEMPLATE

Artist's Last Name, First Name. Title of Work. Year Created. Name of Site, URL. Accessed Day Month Year (if required by instructor).

SAMPLE


IN A BOOK

TEMPLATE

Artist's Last Name, First Name. Title of Work. Year Created. Title of Book, by Author's First and Last Name, Publisher, Year of Publication, page.

SAMPLE

ORIGINAL

TEMPLATE

Artist’s Last Name, First Name. Title of Work. Year Created. Site, City.

SAMPLE


LIVE PRESENTATION

TEMPLATE

Presenter or Performer’s Last Name, First Name. “Title of Presentation.” Sponsoring Institution, Date of Presentation or Performance, Location

SAMPLE


CLASS RESOURCES

LECTURE

• Cite material heard in a lecture as a presentation. See previous entry

COURSE MATERIAL UPLOADED TO GENERALS ONLINE

• If the source is untitled, provide a sentence case description. Example: “Week two slides.”

TEMPLATE

Author’s Last Name, First Name (if available).” Title of Course Material.” Blackboard or Other LMS, uploaded by Instructor’s First Name Last Name (optional), Upload Day Month Year, URL.

SAMPLES

Morgan, Tracy. “French Revolution.” Generals Online, uploaded by John McClean, 13 Nov 2021, herkimer.open.suny.edu/webapps/blackboard/content/HI112/Pow
While MLA does **NOT** provide guidelines for Blackboard, it gives the following format for discussion board comments.

**TEMPLATE**

Author’s Last Name, First Name. “Title of the Thread.” *Name of Forum*, Day Month Year of posting,  

*Website on which Forum is contained* (if applicable), URL.

**SAMPLE**

Flangie, Regina. “Smelly Cat.” *Week 5: Original Song*, 12 Feb. 2021 10:33 pm,  

*Blackboard*, herkimer.blackboard.com/webapps/discussionboard/do/forum?action