

MLA Style Guide (9th edition)

Used for: Art, Humanities, Languages, Linguistics, Literature, Music, Philosophy, Religion and Theatre

General Guidelines to MLA Citations

In-text Citations

The purpose of the in-text citation is to make it easy for a reader to find the original source in your Works Cited list. At the same time, you do not want to include so much information in the in-text citation that it makes the formatting awkward.

- In most cases, the in-text citation will indicate the author.
- If you are referring to something on a specific page or pages, include those numbers.
- For works without authors, use the title; if the title is long, use a shortened version of it.
- If you mention the author in the lead-up to your quote, do not include it in the parenthetical citation; only include the page numbers (if applicable).

Works Cited

- Alphabetize the list.
- Use a DOI in your citation if you can. Use a URL for the DOI, beginning with <https://doi.org/>.
- For electronic sources without a DOI, use a URL, but delete the <http://> or <https://> from the URL. URLs do not need to be hyperlinked to the source.
- All entries should end with a period.

Common Abbreviations

- Abbreviate longer month names with their 3-letter abbreviations.
- Put dates in the format of “day month year,” such as “11 Nov. 2009.”
- If an article occurs on consecutive pages, indicate the page range. If an article does not occur on consecutive pages, indicate the number of the first page followed by a plus sign. For example, if an article begins on page 1 and is continued on page 13, include “1+” as page information.
- For publisher information, use an abbreviated or shortened version; do not include Press, Books, Co., Inc., etc. For example, University of New Mexico Press should be U of New Mexico P.

Type of Source	In-text Citation	Works Cited List
Books, Print		
Book, One Author	(Edmondson 56)	Edmondson, Amy C. <i>The Fearless Organization</i> . Wiley, 2019.
Book, Two Authors	(Charles and Rah 25)	Charles, Mark, and Soong-Chan Rah. <i>Unsettling Truths: The Ongoing, Dehumanizing Legacy of the Doctrine of Discovery</i> . InterVarsity, 2019.
Book, Three or More Authors	(Blum et al. 290)	Blum, Avrim, et al. <i>Foundations of Data Science</i> . Cambridge UP, 2020.
Notes: For a work with three or more authors, list the first author followed by “et al.”		
Book, Corporate Author	(National Association for Sport and Physical Education 7)	National Association for Sport and Physical Education. <i>Physical Education for Lifelong Fitness: The Physical Best Teacher's Guide</i> . 2nd ed., Human Kinetics, 2005.
Notes: When a corporate author is lengthy, it can be awkward in a parenthetical notation. You can instead introduce the author in the body of the paper; for example, “The National Association for Sport and Physical Education stresses the importance of regular cardiovascular activity. (15)”		
Book, No Author	(<i>Planet Earth</i> 18)	<i>Planet Earth: Macmillan World Atlas</i> . Macmillan, 1997.
Book, Editor(s)	(Aebischer & Prince 107-108)	Aebischer, Pascale, and Kathryn Prince, editors. <i>Performing Early Modern Drama Today</i> . Cambridge UP, 2012.
Work in an Anthology	(Hoogstra 135)	Hoogstra, Shirley V. "The Bridge Builder." <i>Uncommon Ground: Living Faithfully in a World of Difference</i> , edited by Timothy Keller and John Inazu, Nelson, 2020, pp. 131-43.

Bible	(Zondervan NIV Study Bible, Psalm 145:4)	Zondervan NIV Study Bible. Edited by Kenneth L. Barker, New International Version, Zondervan, 2002.
Bible Commentary, Book	(Butler 167-8)	Butler, Trent C. <i>Joshua</i> . Vol. 7, Word, 1983.
Bible Commentary, Book Section	(Perkins 452-6)	Perkins, Pheme. "The Letter to the Ephesians." <i>The New Interpreter's Bible</i> , vol. 11, Abingdon, 2000, pp. 349-466.
Dictionary or Encyclopedia, Editor, Signed Entries	(Green)	Green, Christopher. "Cubism." <i>The Dictionary of Art</i> , edited by Jane Turner, vol. 8, Grove, 1996, pp. 239-46.
Dictionary or Encyclopedia, Author	(Kumaraswamy 93)	Kumaraswamy, P.R. "Arafat, Yasser." <i>Historical Dictionary of the Arab-Israeli Conflict</i> , Rowman and Littlefield, 2015, pp. 91-94.
Books, Electronic		
Book, Electronic	(Limbert 63)	Limbert, Mandana E. <i>In the Time of Oil: Piety, Memory, and Social Life in an Omani Town</i> . Stanford UP, 2010. ProQuest Ebook Central, ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/northwesterniowa-ebooks/detail.action?docID=543997.
Notes: A URL is recommended, but not required. If you feel the source may change or if it does not have a publication date, include information about when the book was last accessed at the end of the citation: Accessed July 26, 2021.		

Dictionary or Encyclopedia, Electronic	(Baker-Blocker)	Baker-Blocker, Anita. "Ethanol." <i>Encyclopedia of Environmental Issues</i> , edited by Richard Renneboog, 3rd ed., Salem, 2019, ezproxy.nwciowa.edu/login?url=https://online.salempress.com/articleDetails.do?articleName=ENVIs2e_0269.
Journal Articles, Print		
Journal Article, One Author	(Baqai 200)	Baqai, Haroon Rasheed. "Perceived Servant-Leadership Affects Job Satisfaction in Higher Education: A Literature Review." <i>The International Journal of Servant-Leadership</i> , vol. 14, no. 1, 2020, pp. 187-216.
Journal Article, Two Authors	(Kelly and Greten 281)	Kelley, Robin K., and Tim F. Greten. "Hepatocellular Carcinoma -- Origins and Outcomes." <i>New England Journal of Medicine</i> , vol. 385, no. 3, July 2021, pp. 280-83.
Journal Article, Three or More Authors	(Boring et al. 105)	Boring, Emily, et al. "Rethinking Abiogenesis: Part II, Life as a Simplification of the Nonliving Universe." <i>Perspectives on Science and Christian Faith</i> , vol. 73, no. 2, June 2021, pp. 100-13.

Journal Articles, Electronic		
Journal Article, Electronic, from a Web Site	(Gonzalez-Trujillo and Priego)	Gonzalez-Trujillo, Ricardo, and Ernesto Priego. "Searching for a Common Ancestry: Linguistic and Biological Analogies in Comic Art." <i>The Comics Grid: Journal of Comics Scholarship</i> , vol. 11, 2021, https://doi.org/10.16995/cg.4351 .
Journal Article, Electronic, from a Database	(Basom 416)	Basom, Ben. "Frontier History and Domestic Fiction: <i>Angle of Repose</i> and 1970s Marriage Politics." <i>Papers on Language & Literature</i> , vol. 46, no. 4, fall 2010, pp. 414-40. <i>ProQuest Central</i> , ezproxy.nwciowa.edu/login?url=https://www.proquest.com/scholarly-journals/frontier-history-domestic-fiction-angle-repose/docview/818498534/se-2?accountid=28306 .
Magazine & Newspaper Articles, Print		
Magazine Article	(McKnight 52)	Reed, Adolph, Jr. "Go Down, Moseses." <i>The New Republic</i> , Mar. 2021, pp. 10-11.
Newspaper Article, Author	(Eller 1)	Schneider, Mike. "Census: US is Diversifying; White Population Shrinks." <i>The Sioux City Journal</i> , 13 Aug. 2021, pp. A1+.
Notes: If the article occurs on consecutive pages, indicate the page range. If the article does not occur on consecutive pages, indicate the number of the first page followed by a plus sign.		
Newspaper Article, No Author	("Election Turnout")	"Election Turnout at Record Low." <i>Chicago Tribune</i> , 23 Mar. 2014, p. 9A.
Notes: Use a shortened version of the article title in the in-text citation.		

Magazine & Newspaper Articles, Electronic		
Magazine Article, Electronic, from a Database	(Coppins 63)	Coppins, McKay. "The Most American Religion." <i>The Atlantic Monthly</i> , vol. 327, no. 1, Jan.-Feb. 2021, pp. 60+. <i>ProQuest Central</i> , ezproxy.nwciowa.edu/login?url=https://www.proquest.com/magazines/most-american-religion/docview/2494952725/se-2?accountid=28306.
Notes: If an online article is not paginated, you do not need to include page numbers in the in-text citation. Articles in PDF format often include page numbers; in that case, include the page numbers.		
Newspaper Article, Electronic, from a Database	(Teitell A1)	Teitell, Beth. "Climate Disasters Mount; So, Too, Our Anxiety: Global Disasters are Mounting, and Anxiety is, Too." <i>Boston Globe</i> , 2 Aug. 2021, Metro sec., p. A1. <i>ProQuest U.S. Newsstream</i> , ezproxy.nwciowa.edu/login?url=https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/climate-disasters-mount-so-too-our-anxiety/docview/2557157471/se-2?accountid=28306.
Other Sources		
Film/Videorecording	(<i>American Teacher</i>)	<i>American Teacher</i> . Directed by Vanessa Roth, First Run Features, 2011.
Film/Videorecording, Electronic, from a Database	(<i>Paperback Writer</i>)	<i>Paper Tigers</i> . Directed by James Redford, KPJR Films, 2015. Academic Video Online, ezproxy.nwciowa.edu/login?url=https://video.alexanderstreet.com/watch/paper-tigers?account_id=28306&usage_group_id=84737.

Musical Score	(Bach)	Bach, Johann Sebastian. <i>Sheep May Safely Graze</i> . Boosey & Hawkes, 1944.
Personal Interview	(Norris)	Norris, Kathleen. Interview. 12 Feb. 2006.
Sound Recording	("I Wished on the Moon")	"I Wished on the Moon." Performance by Billie Holiday. <i>The Quintessential Billie Holiday</i> , Columbia, 1987.
Web Page	("Martin Luther")	"Martin Luther." <i>Biography.com</i> , A&E Television Networks, 2014, www.biography.com/people/martin-luther-9389283 . Accessed July 12, 2021.