**Preparing a Bibliography Using MLA Guidelines**

**Updated to Reflect 8th Edition MLA Guidelines**

*Note: The eighth edition of the MLA (Modern Language Association) Guidelines, reflecting the ways in which digital publication has changed how researchers document sources, now recommends a universal set of guidelines that writers can apply to any source, in any field. Core elements are those basic pieces of information that should be common to all sources, from books to articles, from lectures to tweets. The MLA core elements are as follows:*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Author | Number |
| Title of source | Publisher |
| Title of container | Publication date |
| Other contributors | Location |
| Version |  |

*If you have included these elements and assembled them in a way that makes sense to your readers, then your works cited entries will be consistent and thorough.*

BOOKS

**BOOK by a SINGLE AUTHOR**

*The author’s name or a book with a single author's name appears in last name, first name format. The basic form for a book citation is:*

**Last Name, First Name. Title of Book. Publisher, Publication Date.**Jacobs, Alan. The Pleasures of Reading in an Age of Distraction. Oxford UP, 2011.

**BOOK by TWO OR MORE AUTHORS**   
  
Bowring, Richard and Peter Koricki. *The Cambridge Encyclopedia Of Japan*.    
  
        Cambridge University Press, 1996.   
  
*For more than three authors, only the first needs to be cited followed by et al.*

#### ****BOOK by a CORPORATE AUTHOR OR ORGANIZATION****

*List the names of corporate authors in the place where an author’s name typically appears at the beginning of the entry.*

American Allergy Association. Allergies in Children. Random House, 1998.  
**BOOK** **WITH NO AUTHOR or EDITOR**

Encyclopedia of Indiana. Somerset, 1993.

#### ****BOOK WITH AN EDITOR****

Kross, Jessica, ed. *American Eras, 1600-1754: The Colonial Era.* Gale, 1998.

***NOTE:*** *The Kross book, above, has an editor but no author. The Daly book, below, has both.*

Daly, Jay. *Presenting S. E. Hinton.* Edited by Patricial J. Campbell. Rev. ed.,

Twayne’s United States Authors’ Series. Twayne, 1989.

#### ****REVISITED OR SUBSEQUENT EDITION****

Crowley, Sharon, and Debra Hawhee. Ancient Rhetorics for Contemporary Students. 3rd ed.,

Pearson, 2004.

*The latest edition only is the one listed.*

#### A WORK IN AN ANTHOLOGY, REFERENCE, OR COLLECTION

*Works may include an essay in an edited collection or anthology, or a chapter of a book. The basic form is for this sort of citation is as follows:*

**Last name, First name. "Title of Essay." Title of Collection, edited by Editor's Name(s),   
 Publisher, Year, Page range of entry.**Whittier, John Greenleaf.  “In School Days.”  *The Oxford Book of Children’s Verse in  
  America*.  Donald Hall. Oxford University Press, 1985. 60-61.

#### ARTICLE IN A REFERENCE BOOK (e.g.. ENCYCLOPEDIAS, DICTIONARIES)

*For entries in encyclopedias, dictionaries, and other reference works, cite the piece as you would any other work in a collection but do not include the publisher information.*

"Ideology." The American Heritage Dictionary. 3rd ed., 1997.

#### **PERIODICALS**

#### ****ARTICLE IN A MAGAZINE****

*The basic format is as follows:*

**Author(s). "Title of Article." *Title of Periodical*, Day Month Year, pages.**  
Buchman, Dana. "A Special Education." Good Housekeeping, Mar. 2006, pp. 143-48.

#### ****ARTICLE IN A NEWSPAPER****

*Cite a newspaper article as you would a magazine article, but note the different pagination in a newspaper to include the section of the paper in which article occurs.*

Brubaker, Bill. "New Health Center Targets County's Uninsured Patients." Washington

Post, 24 May 2007, p. LZ01.

#### ****AN EDITORIAL & LETTER TO EDITOR****

#### *Cite as you would any article in a periodical, but include the designators "Editorial" or "Letter" to identify the type of work it is.*

"Of Mines and Men." Editorial. *Wall Street Journal,* eastern edition, 24 Oct. 2003,  
 p. A14.

Hamer, John. Letter. *American Journalism Review,* Dec. 2006/Jan. 2007, p. 7.

#### ****ANONYMOUS ARTICLES****

*Cite the article title first, and finish the citation as you would any other for that kind of periodical.*

"Business: Global Warming's Boom Town; Tourism in Greenland." *The Economist*, 26 May  
 2007, p. 82.

#### ****AN ARTICLE IN A SCHOLARLY JOURNAL****

*Cite the author and title of article as you normally would. Then, put the title of the journal in italics. Include the volume number (“vol.”) and issue number (“no.”) when possible, separated by commas. Finally, add the year and page numbers.*

Bagchi, Alaknanda. "Conflicting Nationalisms: The Voice of the Subaltern in Mahasweta

Devi's Bashai Tudu." Tulsa Studies in Women's Literature, vol. 15, no. 1, 1996,

pp. 41-50.

Duvall, John N. "The (Super)Marketplace of Images: Television as Unmediated Mediation in

DeLillo's White Noise." Arizona Quarterly, vol.50, no. 3, 1994, pp. 127-53.

ELECTRONIC SOURCES (WEB PUBLICATIONS)

#### *Note: URLs and more in MLA* *Include a URL or web address to help readers locate your sources. MLA also encourages the use of citing containers such as Youtube, JSTOR, Spotify, or Netflix in order to easily access and verify sources. However, MLA only requires the www. address, so eliminate all https:// when citing URLs.*

*Many scholarly journal articles found in databases include a DOI (digital object identifier. If a DOI is available, cite the DOI number instead of the URL.*

*Online newspapers and magazines sometimes include a “permalink,” which is a shortened, stable version of a URL. Look for a “share” or “cite this” button to see if a source includes a permalink. If you can find a permalink, use that instead of a URL.*

*If page numbers are not available, use par. or pars. to denote paragraph numbers. Use these in place of the p. or pp. abbreviation.*

*MLA also uses the phrase, “Accessed on” to denote which date you accessed the web page.*

#### ****CITING AN ENTIRE WEBSITE****

#### *Editor, author, or compiler name (if available).*Name of Site*. Version number, Name of institution/organization affiliated with the site (sponsor or publisher), date of resource creation (if available), URL, DOI or permalink. Date of access.*

#### Felluga, Dino. *Guide to Literary and Critical Theory.* Purdue U, 28 Nov. 2003,

#### [www.cla.purdue.edu/english/theory/](http://www.cla.purdue.edu/english/theory/). Accessed 10 May 2006.

#### ****A PAGE ON A WEBSITE****

#### *For an individual page on a Web site, list the author or alias if known, followed by the information covered above for entire Web sites. If the publisher is the same as the website name, only list it once.*

#### Lundman, Susan. “How to Make Vegetarian Chili.” *eHow,* [www.ehow.com/how\_10727\_](http://www.ehow.com/how_10727_)

#### make\_vegtarian-chili.html. Accessed 6 July 2015.

#### ****AN ARTICLE IN A WEB MAGAZINE****

#### Bernstein, Mark. "10 Tips on Writing the Living Web." A List Apart: For People Who

#### Make Websites, 16 Aug. 2002, alistapart.com/article/writeliving. Accessed

#### 4 May 2009.

#### ****AN ARTICLE IN AN ONLINE SCHOLARLY JOURNAL****

#### *Note: The following example is an article that also appears in print; hence page numbers are indicated.*

#### Wheelis, Mark. "Investigating Disease Outbreaks Under a Protocol to the Biological and

#### Toxin Weapons Convention." Emerging Infectious Diseases, vol. 6, no. 6, 2000,

#### pp. 595-600, wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/article/6/6/00-0607\_article. Accessed 8 Feb. 2009.

#### ****AN ARTICLE FROM AN ONLINE DATABASE****

#### *Cite articles from online databases (e.g. ABC-CLIO, ProQuest, JSTOR) and other subscription services as containers. Thus, provide the title of the database italicized before the DOI or URL. If a DOI is not provided, use the URL instead. Provide the date of access if you wish.*

Langhamer, Claire. “Love and Courtship in Mid-Twentieth-Century England.” Historical

Journal,vol. 50, no. 1, 2007, pp. 173-96. ProQuest, doi:10.1017/S0018246X06005966.

Accessed 27 May 2009.

#### ****AN IMAGE (INCLUDING A PAINTING, SCULPTURE, OR PHOTOGRAPH)****

*Provide the artist's name, the work of art italicized, the date of creation, the institution and city where the work is housed. Follow this initial entry with the name of the Website in italics, and the date of access.*

Klee, Paul. Twittering Machine. 1922. Museum of Modern Art, New York. The Artchive,

[www.artchive.com/artchive/K/klee/twittering\_machine.jpg.html. Accessed May 2006](http://www.artchive.com/artchive/K/klee/twittering_machine.jpg.html.%20Accessed%20May%202006).

#### ****A *YOUTUBE* VIDEO****

McGonigal, Jane. “Gaming and Productivity.” YouTube, uploaded by Big Think, 3 July

2012, [www.youtube.com/watch?v=mkdzy9bWW3E](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mkdzy9bWW3E).

OTHER COMMON SOURCES

#### ****INTERVIEWS****

#### ***Personal Interviews are those you conduct yourself. The subject of the interview is listed, followed by the descriptor, Personal Interview, followed by the date.***

#### Smith, Jane. Personal interview. 19 May 2014.

#### *For published or broadcast interviews, list the name of the interviewee and “Interviewed with . . . followed by the container in italics and the rest of the relevant information.*

#### Gaitskill, Mary. Interview with Charles Bock. Mississippi Review, vol. 27, no. 3, 1999,

#### pp.129-50.

#### ****A PAINTING, SCULPTURE OR PHOTOGRAPH****

*Provide the artist's name, the title of the artwork in italics, the date of composition, and the medium of the piece. Finally, provide the name of the institution that houses the artwork followed by the location of the institution.*

#### ****FILMS OR MOVIES****

*List films by their title. Include the name of the director, the film studio or distributor, and the release year. If relevant, list performer names after the director's name.*

*The Usual Suspects*. Directed by Bryan Singer,performances by Kevin Spacey, Gabriel  
 Byrne, Chazz Palminteri, Stephen Baldwin, and Benecio del Toro, Polygram, 1995.

**PODCASTS**“Best of Not My Job Musicians.” Wait Wait…Don’t Tell Me! from NPR, 4 June  
 2016, http://www.npr.org/podcasts/344098539/wait-wait-don-t-tell-me.