

MLA Citation Style QuickGuide

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Last update: February 9, 2015

This guide is based on the 7th edition (2009) of the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*. For further explanation and for more examples, please consult the *Handbook*, shelved in the Reference section of the Augustana Library at **REF LB 2369 G53 2009**.

To use the MLA style, create specific in-text (parenthetical) citations throughout your work (use column 1b below) **and** a works cited list at the end of your work, arranged in alphabetical order, that provides full details about your cited sources (use column 1a below).

- **Works cited list** entries (column 1a below) usually contain, in the following order:
 - Author/creator information (see the examples below for scenarios with multiple authors, etc.)
 - Title information (see the examples below for title variations)
 - Publication information (e.g., place of publication, publisher name, and publication date for books; volume and issue numbers for journal articles)
 - A medium indicator clarifying in what format you used the source (e.g. Web, Print, CD)
- **In-text citations** (column 1b below) are usually structured like this: (Author's last name page(s) cited).
 - If your source has **no page numbers** (e.g. a sound recording or a webpage), then no page numbers can be given in your in-text citation. In your writing, you can try to give the reader general directions to the passage you cite. For example: "In his concluding paragraph, Gladwell expresses uncertainty that this debate will ever be resolved."

URLs (e.g., <<http://www.library.ualberta.ca>>) **should not be included in your works cited list** unless "the reader probably cannot locate the source without it or [...] your instructor requires it" (*MLA Handbook* 182).

Your works cited list should always be **double-spaced, alphabetized, and indented** like the examples below. See section 5.3.2 in the *MLA Handbook* for an example of a formatted works cited list. For more information about in-text (parenthetical) citations, see sections 6.1 – 6.4 in the *Handbook*.

Source	1a. Works Cited	1b. In-Text Citation
Book 1 author (See sec. 5.5.2, MLA Handbook)	Alfar, Cristina L. <i>Fantasies of Female Evil: The Dynamics of Gender and Power in Shakespearean Tragedy</i> . Newark: U of Delaware P, 2003. Print.	(Alfar 57)
Book Specified edition 2 or 3 authors (See sec. 5.5.4 & sec. 5.5.13, MLA Handbook)	Carmichael, Don, Tom Pocklington, and Greg Pyrcz. <i>Democracy, Rights, and Well-Being in Canada</i> . 2nd ed. Toronto: Harcourt, 2000. Print.	(Carmichael, Pocklington, and Pyrez 237)
Book More than 3 authors (See sec. 5.5.4, MLA Handbook)	Quirk, Randolph, Sidney Greenbaum, Geoffrey Leech, and Jan Svartvik. <i>A Comprehensive Grammar of the English Language</i> . London: Longman, 1985. Print.	(Quirk et al. 165)
E-Book With Print Publication Data (See sec. 5.6.2.c, MLA Handbook)	Dickens, Charles. <i>Great Expectations</i> . Boston: Estes and Lauriat, 1881. <i>Google Books</i> . Web. 20 Mar. 2012.	(Dickens 425)
E-Book Digital File (See sec 5.7.18, MLA Handbook)	Slawenski, Kenneth. <i>J.D. Salinger: A Life</i> . New York: Random, 2011. EPUB file.	(Slawenski) (page numbers not available)

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Source	1a. Works Cited	1b. In-Text Citation
Edited book (See sec. 5.5.4, MLA Handbook)	Froggatt, Katherine, Sue Davies, and Julienne Meyer, eds. <i>Understanding Care Homes: A Research and Development Perspective</i> . London: Kingsley, 2009. Print.	(Froggatt, Davies, and Meyer 55-57)
Chapter, article, or essay in Edited Book or Anthology (See sec. 5.5.6, MLA Handbook)	Charters, Ann. "Beat Poetry and the San Francisco Poetry Renaissance." <i>The Columbia History of American Poetry</i> . Ed. Jay Parini and Brett C. Millier. New York: Columbia UP, 1993. 581-604. Print.	(Charters 589)
Poem or short story in Edited Book or Anthology (See sec. 5.5.6, MLA Handbook)	Vaughan, Henry. "I Walked the Other Day (To Spend My Hour)." 1655. <i>The Norton Anthology of English Literature</i> . Ed. M.H. Abrams. 6th ed. Vol. 1. New York: Norton, 1993. 1409-10. Print.	Initial citation: (Vaughan lines 15-20) Subsequent citations: (Vaughan 17)
Journal article Print only (See sec. 5.4.2, MLA Handbook)	Bloom, Gordon A., and Michael D. Smith. "Hockey Violence: A Test of Cultural Spillover Theory." <i>Sociology of Sport Journal</i> 13.1 (1996): 65-77. Print.	(Bloom and Smith 68)
Journal article From an online database, PDF or HTML format (See sec. 5.6.4, MLA Handbook)	Bloom, Gordon A., and Michael D. Smith. "Hockey Violence: A Test of Cultural Spillover Theory." <i>Sociology of Sport Journal</i> 13.1 (1996): 65-77. <i>Sociological Abstracts</i> . Web. 2 Nov. 2012. Mackenzie, Dana. "Shape Shifters Tread Daunting Path Toward Reality." <i>Science</i> 301.5634 (2003): 754-56. <i>Academic Search Complete</i> . Web. 19 Aug. 2009.	(Bloom and Smith 68) (Mackenzie) (here, the original article has page numbers, but it was used online, where no page distinctions were available)
Journal article From a journal published only on the Web, with no page numbers (See sec. 5.6.3, MLA Handbook)	Landauer, Michelle. "Images of Virtue: Reading, Reformation and the Visualization of Culture in Rousseau's <i>La nouvelle Héloïse</i> ." <i>Romanticism on the Net</i> 46 (2007): n. pag. Web. 19 Aug. 2009.	(Landauer) (online, with no page numbers)
Magazine article Print (See sec. 5.4.6, MLA Handbook)	Branswell, Brenda, and Peter Kopvillem. "Storm Warnings: Language Divides Even the Separatists." <i>Macleans</i> 25 Nov. 1996: 78-79. Print.	(Branswell and Kopvillem 78)
Magazine article From the Web (See sec. 5.6.2.b, MLA Handbook)	Epstein, Joseph. "How I Learned to Love the Draft." <i>The Atlantic</i> . Atlantic Monthly Group, 28 Dec. 2014. Web. 4 Feb. 2015.	(Epstein) (online, with no page numbers)
Newspaper article Print (See sec. 5.4.5, MLA Handbook)	Picard, Andre. "Top Court Upholds Province's Tobacco Display Law." <i>Globe and Mail</i> 20 Jan. 2005: A11. Print.	(Picard A11)
Newspaper article HTML format, retrieved from a library database (See sec. 5.4.5 and sec. 4.6.5, MLA Handbook)	Cowan, Pamela. "Store Owner Displays Message to Government." <i>Leader Post</i> [Regina]. 25 Jan. 2005, final ed.: B4-. <i>Canadian Newsstand</i> . Web. 19 Aug. 2009.	(Cowan) (online, with no page numbers)

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Source	1a. Works Cited	1b. In-Text Citation
Reference book Widely used, with no author given (See sec. 5.5.7, MLA Handbook)	"Feudalism." <i>Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary</i> . 11 th ed. 2003. Print.	("Feudalism") (page numbers not necessary)
Reference book Less familiar, with author name given (See sec. 5.5.7, MLA Handbook)	Miller, Mark. "Young, Neil (Percival)." <i>Encyclopedia of Music in Canada</i> . Ed. Helmut Kallman et al. 2nd ed. Toronto: U of Toronto P, 1992. Print.	(Miller) (page numbers not necessary)
Reference book Online (See sec. 5.5.7 and sec. 5.6.2.c, MLA Handbook)	Annas, Julia. "Plato." <i>The Oxford Companion to Classical Civilization</i> . Ed. Simon Hornblower and Antony Spawforth. Oxford: Oxford UP, 2003. <i>Oxford Reference Online Premium</i> . Web. 19 Aug. 2009.	(Annas) (online, with no page numbers)
Canadian Statute (See sec. 5.7.14, MLA Handbook, and sec. 2.1, Canadian Guide to Uniform Legal Citation)	Criminal Code, RSC 1985, c C-46. Web. 20 June 2013.	(Criminal Code, s 745) (section numbers are used instead of page numbers)
Videocassette (See sec. 5.7.3, MLA Handbook)	<i>Canada Strikes Oil: Leduc, Alberta 1947</i> . Dir. David Newman. Prod. Joe MacDonald. National Film Board of Canada, 1991. Videocassette.	(<i>Canada Strikes</i>) (page numbers not available)
DVD (See sec. 5.7.3, MLA Handbook)	<i>Like Water for Chocolate</i> [<i>Como agua para chocolate</i>]. Screenplay by Laura Esquivel. Dir. Alphonso Arau. Perf. Lumi Cavazos, Marco Lombardi, and Regina Torme. Miramax, 1993. Film.	(<i>Like Water for Chocolate</i>) (page numbers not available)
Sound Recording Entire CD (See sec. 5.7.2, MLA Handbook)	Stravinsky, Igor. <i>The Essential Stravinsky</i> . Perf. Orchestre de la Suisse Romande. Cond. Neeme Järvi. Chandos, 2002. CD.	(Stravinsky) (page numbers not available)
Sound Recording Specific Song or Track Not on CD (See sec. 5.7.2, MLA Handbook)	The Beatles. "A Day in the Life." <i>Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band</i> . Comp. John Lennon and Paul McCartney. Parlophone, 1967. LP. Frugoni, Orazio. "Sonata no.8 in C minor, op.13 ('Pathétique')." Comp. Ludwig van Beethoven. <i>4 Piano Sonatas: Pathétique, Appassionata, Waldstein, Moonlight (Claire de lune)</i> . Vox, 1959. LP.	(Beatles) (Frugoni) (page numbers not available)
Score (See sec. 5.7.5, MLA Handbook)	Mozart, Wolfgang Amadeus. <i>The Magic Flute (Die Zauberflöte): In Full Score</i> . 1791. New York: Dover, 1985. Print.	(Mozart) (page numbers not available)
Performance (play, concert) (See sec. 5.7.4, MLA Handbook)	<i>Shakespeare's Will</i> . By Vern Thiessen. Dir. Geoffrey Brumlik. Perf. Jan Alexandra Smith. Citadel Theatre, Edmonton. 2 Feb. 2005. Performance.	(<i>Shakespeare's Will</i>) (page numbers not available)

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Source	1a. Works Cited	1b. In-Text Citation
<p>Presentation, speech, lecture, or reading (See sec 5.7.11, MLA Handbook)</p>	<p>Turner, Chris. "Sustainable Living and Sustainable Eating in the World We Need." From Field to Fork to Findings: a Multidisciplinary Conference. U of Alberta Augustana Campus. Camrose. 29 Jan. 2009. Keynote speech.</p>	<p>(Turner) (page numbers not available)</p>
<p>Entire website N.p. is the abbreviation for "no publisher." If the site clearly has a publisher or sponsor, such as a university, then include this information. (See sec. 5.6.1, MLA Handbook)</p>	<p>Mennonite Central Committee. <i>Mennonite Central Committee</i>. MCC, 2009. Web. 16 Aug. 2009.</p> <p><i>The Victorian Web: Literature, History, & Culture in the Age of Victoria</i>. Ed. George P. Landow. N.p., July 2009. Web. 16 Aug. 2009.</p>	<p>(Mennonite Central Committee) (<i>The Victorian Web</i>) (page numbers not available)</p>
<p>Single page on website Not all elements will necessarily always be available, but date of access (the last date in the reference) should always be documented. (See sec. 5.6.1., MLA Handbook)</p>	<p>"Existentialism." <i>Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy</i>. Stanford U, 11 Oct. 2010. Web. 6 Feb. 2015.</p> <p>Rose, Emily. "Female Immigrants Face Gender Barriers in Careers." <i>Canadian Immigrant</i>. Metroland Media Group, n.d. Web. 6 Feb. 2015.</p>	<p>("Existentialism") (Rose) (page numbers not available)</p>
<p>Online video (See sec. 5.6.1., MLA Handbook)</p>	<p>Norton Sociology. "How Does Gender Affect the Workplace?" <i>YouTube</i>. YouTube, 20 Oct. 2014. Web. 4 Feb. 2015.</p>	<p>(Norton Sociology) (page numbers not available)</p>

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Sample List of Works Cited

Works Cited

- Alfar, Cristina L. *Fantasies of Female Evil: The Dynamics of Gender and Power in Shakespearean Tragedy*. Newark: U of Delaware P, 2003. Print
- Bloom, Gordon A., and Michael D. Smith. "Hockey Violence: A Test of Cultural Spillover Theory." *Sociology of Sport Journal* 13.1 (1996): 65-77. *Sociological Abstracts*. Web. 2 Nov. 2012.
- Carmichael, Don, Tom Pocklington, and Greg Pyrcz. *Democracy, Rights, and Well-Being in Canada*. 2nd ed. Toronto: Harcourt, 2000. Print.
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- Dickens, Charles. *Great Expectations*. Boston: Estes and Lauriat, 1881. *Google Books*. Web. 20 Mar. 2012.
- "Existentialism." *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*. Stanford U, 11 Oct. 2010. Web. 6 Feb. 2015.
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- Like Water for Chocolate* [*Como agua para chocolate*]. Screenplay by Laura Esquivel. Dir. Alphonso Arau. Perf. Lumi Cavazos, Marco Lombardi, and Regina Torme. Miramax, 1993. Film.
- Norton Sociology. "How Does Gender Affect the Workplace?" *YouTube*. YouTube, 20 Oct. 2014. Web. 4 Feb. 2015.
- Quirk, Randolph, Sidney Greenbaum, Geoffrey Leech, and Jan Svartvik. *A Comprehensive Grammar of the English Language*. London: Longman, 1985. Print.
- Slawenski, Kenneth. *J.D. Salinger: A Life*. New York: Random, 2011. N. pag. EPUB file.
- Vaughan, Henry. "I Walked the Other Day (To Spend My Hour)." 1655. *The Norton Anthology of English Literature*. Ed. M.H. Abrams. 6th ed. Vol. 1. New York: Norton, 1993. 1409-10. Print.
- The Victorian Web: Literature, History, & Culture in the Age of Victoria*. Ed. George P. Landow. N.p., July 2009. Web. 16 Aug. 2009.

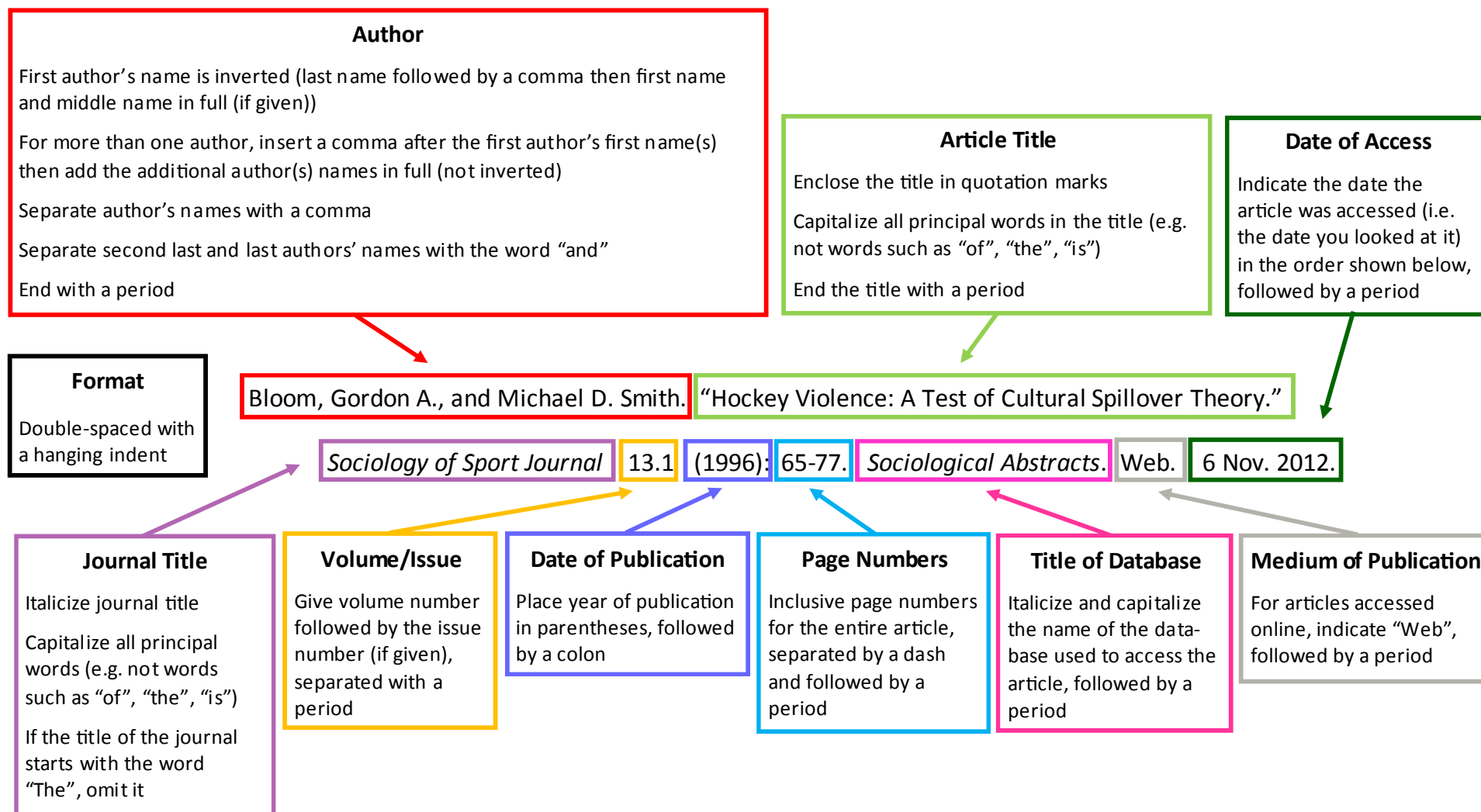
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Deciphering Citations

The following was created to help make sense of the elements within a citation. This example is based on a journal article found online using one of the library's databases.



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