This guide is a brief introduction to some of the most common types of citations using MLA style. The rules of citing materials using MLA style are developed by the Modern Language Association (MLA). For specific examples not included in this guide, please consult the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers, 8th edition, available at LB2369 .G53 2016, or consult the MLA Style Center’s Works Cited: A Quick Guide at: style.mla.org/works-cited-a-quick-guide/

### Core Elements for Works Cited List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core Element</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Descriptive Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Author.</strong></td>
<td>The author’s name, if available</td>
<td>Author’s Last Name, First Name, Corporation Name,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Title of Source.</strong></td>
<td>Title is usually displayed prominently. Can be an article or book title</td>
<td>“Title of Article or Chapter.\” \Title of Self-Contained Piece Like a Book.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Title of Container,</strong></td>
<td>This can be a book title, journal title, newspaper, website, or database</td>
<td>Book Title If Source Is an Article or Chapter, Title of Website or Database Name,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other Contributors,</strong></td>
<td>Others that are not authors but contributed: editors, illustrators, etc.</td>
<td>edited by First Name Last Name, adapted by First Name Last Name, illustrated by First Name Last Name,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Version,</strong></td>
<td>Usually the edition</td>
<td>8th ed.,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Number,</strong></td>
<td>Volume and number of a set</td>
<td>vol. 25, no. 4,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Publisher,</strong></td>
<td>The primary producer of the piece</td>
<td>Oxford U,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Publication date,</strong></td>
<td>Full date</td>
<td>2016, 18 Jan. 2017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The MLA 8th edition introduces a flexible system built upon core elements in a certain order. To create citations for your Works Cited list, use only important information that is available and necessary to find your source again.
EXAMPLES

Common Sources Found in the Cypress College Library

Book with 1 Author


Book with 2 Authors


Book with 3 or More Authors


Chapter, Essay, or Other Work that Appears in an Anthology


Article in a Specialized Encyclopedia or Dictionary


Note: If an author’s name is not given, begin your citation with the name of the article.

Film on DVD or in Theater


Note: If a writer, director or other contributor is particular to your research, you can include them, or use them as the author.

In-Text Citation

You must indicate to your readers not only what sources you used in writing your paper, but also where in the work you found the material. You give this information by inserting a parenthetical citation in your paper wherever you incorporate someone else’s words, facts, or ideas. Usually, all you need is the author’s last name and a page number.

The proliferation of VCRs in people’s homes meant that “by the mid-1980s features shot directly on video were the standard” (Thomas 52).
EBSCOHost—Scholarly Journal Article Accessed via Academic Search Premier


Note: Use a DOI (Digital Object Identifier) if available, or the permanent links provided in the citation tool.

ProQuest—Newspaper Article Accessed via Proquest: National Newspapers Expanded


Note: Where an article continues on to non-consecutive pages, just list the first page number with a “+” after it, e.g., “A10+”

Gale Virtual Reference Library—Article in a Specialized Encyclopedia


Note: Use the permanent links so your instructors can just click on the links. Exclude http:// from beginning of URL.

Opposing Viewpoints


CQ Researcher


CountryWatch


Film Accessed via Films on Demand

Other Common Sources

Webpage


Note: Include date accessed when no other dates are available.

Video Accessed via Youtube


Television Show on Netflix


Tweet

@POTUS. "One thing I’ve learned from my time abroad as President: Young people will shape our future long after their leaders leave the world stage." Twitter, 20 Nov. 2016, 7:17 a.m., twitter.com/POTUS/status/800357392588406785.

Podcast


Note: Include URL if accessed on a Podcast website.

Overall Look Checklist

- Center the title, Works Cited, an inch from the top of the page.
- Use double spacing throughout.
- Begin each entry at the left margin. If an entry runs more than one line, indent the subsequent lines one-half inch from the margin as hanging.
- For titles of works, capitalize the first word and all principal words.
- Alphabetize entries by the author’s last name or, if no author, by the first main word in the title.

Additional Help

Current Cypress College students have access to NoodleTools, a comprehensive tool for creating bibliographies in a variety of formats, including MLA. Select Cite a Source? from our homepage to access additional citation help.

Updated: 1/31/17