



MLA Style

Works Cited and In-Text Citations

Based on *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, 9th edition (2021).

More guidance in the “MLA Works Cited Quick Guide”:

style.mla.org/works-cited/works-cited-a-quick-guide

Ask a librarian or your instructor when you are unsure how to cite something:

libs.uga.edu/askaquestion.

Works Cited List guidelines

MLA provides a set of guidelines that apply to any source:

- Core elements to include (when known) in each work cited entry are author, title of source, title of “container,” other contributors, version/edition, number, publisher, date, and location.
- Containers are the larger whole where you found the source such as the website containing a poem, the journal and database containing an article, or the streaming service hosting a film.
- Italicize titles that are self-contained (books, films, journal titles, websites, databases). Use quotation marks around titles that are contained in larger works (article, book chapter, poem in anthology, episode from TV series).
- Use periods after the author, title, and at the end of every container string. Use commas between the elements of the container and between the author’s last and first names.
- A DOI (digital object identifier) is preferred over a URL when available. DOIs begin with the number 10 and provide a unique series of numbers that provides a stable link to a publication. For example: doi.org/10.1086/709441. Add ‘https’ in front of the DOI so your readers can link to it: <https://doi.org/10.1086/709441>
- If no DOI exists, then use a permalink (stable URL). The URL from a browser window is the least preferable option. Omit http/https unless in front of a DOI. URLs that are longer than three lines or longer than the rest of the entry may be truncated to include only the host, for example search.ebscohost.com or go.galegroup.com.

Works Cited examples

Book or e-book, single author

Place of publication is not required; omit business words like “Company” or “Incorporated,” and abbreviate “University” as “U” and “Press” as “P.”

Newcomb, Horace. *Television: The Critical View*. 6th ed., Oxford UP, 2007.

Griffith, Clark. *The Long Shadow: Emily Dickinson’s Tragic Poetry*. E-book ed., Princeton UP, 2015, search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&AuthType=ip,shib&db=nlebk&AN=1078632&site=eds-live&custid=uga1.

Book or e-book, more than one author

List authors' names in the order they are listed on the book. For three or more authors, use the first named author followed by et al. (Latin for "and others").

Scott, Susan and Christopher J. Duncan. *The Biology of Plagues: Evidence from Historical Populations*. E-book ed., Cambridge UP, 2001, ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/ugalib/detail.action?docID=201439.

Smith, Mick, et al. *Emotion, Place, and Culture*. Ashgate, 2009.

Edited book

Zhang, Yingjing, editor. *A Companion to Modern Chinese Literature*. E-book ed., John Wiley & Sons, 2016.

Poem or short story in an anthology/essay in an edited collection

Rossetti, Christina. "Goblin Market." *Victorian Literature: An Anthology*, edited by Victor Shea and William Whitla, John Wiley & Sons, 2015.

Translated book

Proust, Marcel. *Swann's Way*. Translated by C.K. Scott Moncrieff, Modern Library, 1928.

Journal article

Include name of database. References to print journals will not have a database, so they end with the page numbers.

Article from the journal *Comparative Critical Studies* in the database *Humanities International Complete*:

Lahiani, Raja. "Unlocking the Secret of 'Locksley Hall.'" *Comparative Critical Studies*, vol. 17, no. 1, Feb. 2020, pp. 25-46. *Humanities International Complete*, <https://doi.org/10.3366/ccs.2020.0342>.

Article from the journal *Science Fiction Studies* in the *JSTOR* database:

Robertson, Benjamin. "'Some Matching Strangeness': Biology, Politics, and the Embrace of History in Octavia Butler's *Kindred*." *Science Fiction Studies*, vol. 37, no. 3, 2010, pp. 362-81. *JSTOR*, www.jstor.org/stable/2574643.

Newspaper article

From a website:

Frenkel, Sheera. "White House Dispute Exposes Facebook Blind Spot on Misinformation." *The New York Times*, 19 July 2021, www.nytimes.com/2021/07/19/technology/facebook-misinformation-blind-spot.html.

Same article from the ProQuest database:

Frenkel, Sheera. "White House Dispute Exposes Facebook Blind Spot on Misinformation." *The New York Times*, 19 July 2021. *ProQuest*, www.proquest.com/newspapers/white-house-dispute-exposes-facebook-blind-spot/docview/2553117854/se-2?accountid=14537.

Magazine article

From a paper issue:

Adichie, Chimamanda Ngozi. "Why Can't a Smart Woman Love Fashion?" *Elle*, vol. 29, no. 7, Mar. 2014, pp. 202-08.

Same article from the magazine's website:

Adichie, Chimamanda Ngozi. "Why Can't a Smart Woman Love Fashion?" *Elle*, 20 Feb. 2014, www.elle.com/fashion/personal-style/a12670/personal-essay-on-style-by-chimamanda-ngozi-adichie.

Website

When possible, follow the guidelines for the type of publication such as a newspaper or a journal article. For websites that do not fit under other publication types, include author, editor, and publisher when known. If there is no publication date add the date you accessed it at the end of the entry.

Written and published by an organization, no individual author or publication date:
"Food Waste FAQs." U.S. Department of Agriculture, <https://www.usda.gov/foodwaste/faqs>. Accessed 12 Aug. 2021.

With authors but no publisher:

Downs, Gregory P. and Scott Nesbit. *Mapping Occupation: Force, Freedom, and the Army*. March 2015, mappingoccupation.org.

With editors and a publisher:

Piers Plowman Electronic Archive. Edited by Robert Adams, et al., Society for Early English and Norse Electronic Texts, 7 June 2018, piers.chass.ncsu.edu.

Film

Always include the director's name. When your paper focuses on another contributor such as an actor or designer, add those names.

The Wizard of Oz. Directed by Victor Fleming, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, 1939. *Kanopy*, www.kanopy.com.

The Wizard of Oz. Directed by Victor Fleming, cinematography by Harold Rosson, performance by Judy Garland, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, 1939. DVD.

TV show

Include original network and air date followed by platform/site you watched it on or the word DVD.

"Desperate Times." *Killing Eve*, season 2, episode 4, BBC America, 2019. *Hulu*, www.hulu.com.

Online video

On creator's own channel; creator goes by a username or stage name:

Domics. "Asian Food." *YouTube*, 23 Jan. 2015, www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rk011so6MUc.

Uploaded by a person or organization other than the creator:

"Athens, Georgia Town Film (1947)." *YouTube*, uploaded by UGA Brown Media Archives, 23 July 2020, www.youtube.com/watch?v=oO_uosivO_k.

Social media post

When the author/organization's name is different from the handle (username), add the handle in brackets. Posts without a title use a brief description in place of the title. Do not enclose in quotation marks, e.g., Photo of Andalusia front porch.

UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency [@Refugees]. "Climate change is driving displacement."
Twitter, 6 Aug. 2021, twitter.com/Refugees/status/1423724814322311168.

In-text citation guidelines

Use short parenthetical citations in your paper to point the reader to the complete information in your Works Cited list. Since the Works Cited list is ordered alphabetically, the element that comes first in your Works Cited list is also the element used in the in-text citation.

- The in-text citation includes the author's last name and the page number referenced: (Griffith 125).
- Don't repeat the author or title if you use it in your sentence: Clarke Griffith aims "to reclaim Miss Dickinson for the tragic tradition to which she properly belongs" (7).
- If your Works Cited list includes more than one work by an author, add a shortened title: (Griffith, *Long Shadow* 141).
- For multi-author works, use the authors' last names as formatted in the Works Cited list: (Scott and Duncan 53) or (Smith et al. 82).
- Works without an author should include a shortened version of the beginning of the title: ("Food Waste").
- If the source doesn't have page numbers or part numbers, omit them: (Downs and Nesbit).
- Include the time stamp or range for audio and video with hours, minutes, and seconds: ("Eyes" 00:21:02-45).