MLA Style
Works Cited and In-Text Citations

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.”

**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”).


**Edited book**


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


**Translated book**


**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*:

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

**Newspaper article**

From a website:

Same article from the ProQuest database:
**Magazine article**

From a paper issue:

Same article from the magazine’s website:

**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:  

With authors but no publisher:  

With editors and a publisher:  

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


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


**Online video**
On creator’s own channel; creator goes by a username or stage name:

Uploaded by a person or organization other than the creator:  
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).