

MLA Style: A Brief Guide

This handout will show you basic examples for citing books, journals, magazines, newspapers, and websites in MLA format. For more information, please review the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers.

Citing Sources within the Paper

You must cite your research sources both in the body of your paper *and* in the References section. To include the citation in the text, put a parenthesis after the sentence that has information from your source. You should include the author's last name, and the page number(s) that you are citing in the parenthesis. If your source is from the Internet and has no page numbers, just list the author. If your source has no author, use the title. Below are two ways to cite sources in the body of your paper:

Others argue that digital video recording... (Browning 55-60).

Browning explains that digital video recording... (55-60).

Reference List Examples

Remember that the **first line of each citation in the reference is not indented**, but all other lines should be. Alphabetize the list by author's last name **or the title if there is no author**. If there are more than 3 authors for a reference, just list the first one, followed by et al. Capitalize every important word in book and journal titles. Underline the title of books; put quotations around magazine or journal titles. Double space all lines. Put a period after each section.

General Layout for a Citing a Book:

Author. *Book Title*. Place of Publication: Name of Publisher, year. Medium of publication.

Book by Two Authors:

Biggs, Walter C., Jr. & James F. Parnell. *State Parks of North Carolina*. North Carolina: J.F. Blair, 1989. Print.

*Note: If more than 3 authors, you can list the 1st author, followed by et al. [ex)Brown, Luis, et al.]

Electronic Book (E-Book):

Aaberg, Everett. *Muscle Mechanics*. St. Louis: Human Kinetics, 1998. Netlibrary. 21 Dec. 2007. Web.

Entry in an Encyclopedia

"Privacy in Health Care." *Encyclopedia of Bioethics*. 4th ed. 1995. Print.

General Layout for Citing a Journal Article in NC LIVE:

Author(s). "Title of Article." *Title of Journal* Volume.Issue (Year): pages. *Title of the database*. Medium of publication. Date accessed.

Journal Article in NC LIVE with multiple authors:

Bowman, Karen F., Gary T. Demling, and Louis J. Wagner. "Coping Among Older-Adult, Long-Term Cancer Survivors." *Psycho-Oncology* 15.2 (2006): 143-159. *PsycInfo*. Web. 19 June 2006.

General Layout for Citing a Magazine Article in NC LIVE:

Author(s). "Title of Article." *Title of Periodical* Day Month Year: pages. *Title of the Database*. Medium of publication. Date accessed.

Magazine Article in NC LIVE:

Randle-El, Randy. "Hiking the Appalachian Trail." *Cabin Fever*. 12 Feb. 2004: 39-45. *Academic Search Premier*. Web. 19 June 2006.

General Layout for Citing a Webpage

Author. "Title of Webpage." *Title of Entire Website*. Publisher or Sponsor. Date of publication (if no date, use n.d.). Medium of publication. Date accessed. <URL>.

Web Document with no author and no date of publication:

"Fuel Cell Hydrogen Powered Motorcycle." web Bike World. World International. n.d. Web. 26 May 2006. <<http://www.webbikeworld.com/Motorcycle-news/fuel-cell-motorcycle>>.

Web Document with author and date of publication:

Lopez, Mario. "Gelato Spazzacamino." What's Cooking in America. Kitchens of the World. 17 May 2006. Web. 20 June 2006. <<http://whatscookingamerica.net/ScotchIceCream.htm>>.