



USING MLA IN HUMANITIES RESEARCH

8TH EDITION

What is MLA?

➤ Modern Language Association

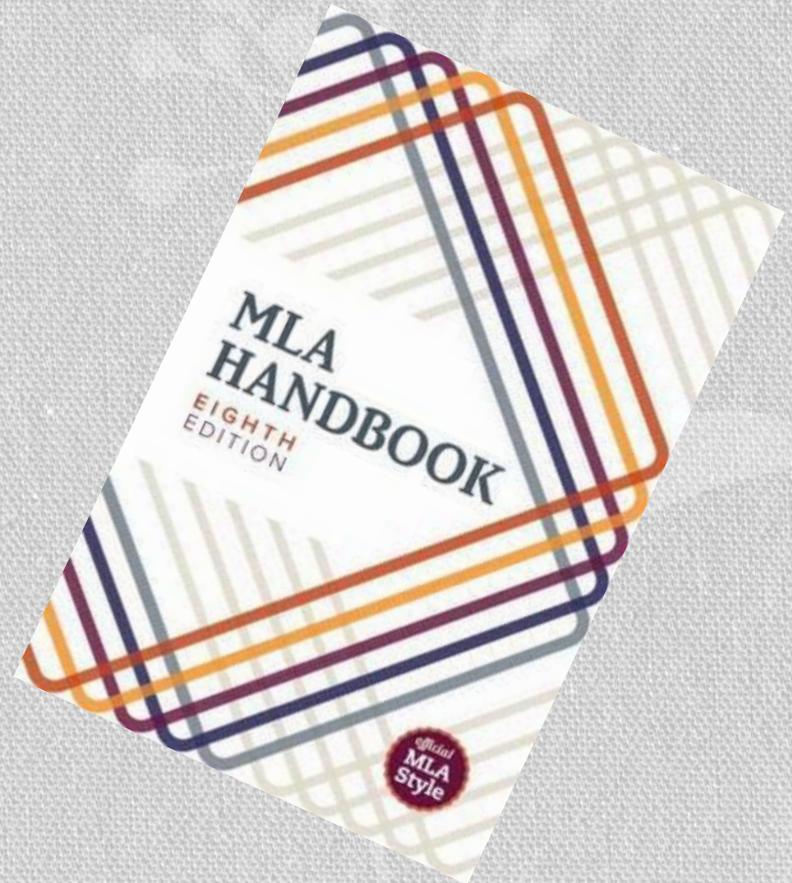
Used in:

- Language and Literature
- Communication
- Philosophy and Religion



MLA Deals With...

- Works Cited (A list of all sources used in the paper)
- Document Format
- In-text Citations



MLA Update (2016)

- **Book Citations no longer require city of publication or medium of publication.**

Example:

Jacobs, Alan. *The Pleasures of Reading in an Age of Distraction*.
~~London:~~ Oxford UP, 2011. ~~Print.~~

- **Label volume and journal number in Scholarly Journal citations.**
- **Use p. or pp. to precede page numbers referenced.**

Example:

Kincaid, Jamaica. "In History." *Callaloo*, vol. 24, no. 2, Spring 2001, pp. 620-26.

Where to Start?

- **Set the font to 12-point Times New Roman.**
- **Set the line spacing to double.**
- **Set the page margins to one inch all around.**



First Page

- **Align text left before typing:**
 - First and last name**
 - Professor's name**
 - The course title (No abbreviations)**
 - The assignment's due date (Date Month Year)**

Psst... Each of these should be on a separate line with double spacing in between!

Center your title on the next line

Remember: There is no additional spacing between the due date, the title, and the first paragraph, and the whole paper is double spaced!

Last Name 1

Your Name

Professor Miller

English 102

25 November 2016

Practice Exercise 1

- Identify what does not adhere to *MLA* guidelines.

Hint: there are 8 errors.



Sarah Johnson

Miss Wheelock

english III

30 September 2016

A Dangerous Trip

It was this summer that my family and I went to go see the Toledo Zoo. My sister's birthday was coming up, and this was going to be the best birthday gift she ever received. Little did she know, that it was actually going to be the most terrifying one. The day started off normal, so no one expected what was going to happen. It was the most interesting, yet the most terrifying trip I have ever been on.

Johnson 1

Sarah Johnson

Double space
entire essay

Last name page number

Professor Wheelock

English 102

Capitalize English

30 September 2016

A Dangerous Trip

Title should
not be
underlined

Essay
should
be in
Times
New
Roman
and 12
pt. font

Indent

It was this summer that my family and I went to go see the Toledo Zoo. My sister's birthday was coming up, and this was going to be the best birthday gift she ever received. Little did she know, that it was actually going to be the most terrifying one. The day started off normal, so no one expected what was going to happen. It was the most interesting, yet the most terrifying trip I have ever been on.

In-Text Citations

The Basics

- Gives credit to sources.
- Refers to the Works Cited page.
- May also be known as **parenthetical citations.**

Bushaw 1

Danielle Bushaw

Professor Kheder

English 102

22 August 2016

My Paper

This is a sample sentence that is followed by an in-text citation (Meyers 456).

In-Text Citations

Quoting Vs. Paraphrasing

- **Quoting:** takes quotes word-for-word
 - **Does** require quotation marks around information.
 - Can use ellipsis ... and [brackets]
 - Use [sic] next to words the author spelled wrong
- “My parents used to take me to the pet dupartmant [sic] and tell me it was the zoo” (Connolly 12).
- [sic] is Latin for “as it was written”

In-Text Citations

Quoting Vs. Paraphrasing

- *Paraphrasing*: uses quotes, but rephrases the information in your own words.
 - **Does NOT** require quotation marks around information

Connolly's parents had a great idea. They would take him to the pet store and say it was the zoo (Connolly 12).

**Use citations in BOTH quoting and
paraphrasing! If not, you are
plagiarizing!**



And that would not be wise.

In-text Citations

Standard Format

➤ Signal Phrases:

- Introduce the author at the beginning
- At the end, include only the page number

Like Mary Roberts once said, “The zoo is the best place to find your inner child” (12).

➤ No Signal Phrase:

- Include the author’s last name in the citation

“The zoo is the best place to find your inner child” (Roberts 12).

In-text Citations

No Author

- **No author? No problem.***
 - **Use the title of the piece.**
 - **Book titles should be italicized while essays and short works should be in quotations.**
 - **Use abbreviations for common words.**
 - **Use a shortened version of the title.**
 - **Only when the title is longer than a noun phrase.**

* Make sure that when you are using a source without an author that it is a reliable resource!



In-text Citations

No Author

Examples:

- “Zoos are an important part of every child’s education” (“Zoos are Important” 16).
- “Zoos can be beneficial to animals who are sick or have been harmed” (*Animal Rescues* 14).
- *Faulkner’s Southern Novels* would not be shortened.
- *Faulkner’s Novels of the South* would be shortened to *Faulkner’s Novels*.

In-text Citations

Web Sources

- Only use page numbers that are stable.
Ex: PDF files
- Do not include page numbers assigned by a printout from a website.
- If a page number is not provided, simply put the authors last name in the parenthetical citation. Do not use n.p.



In-text Citations

Multiple Authors

- For **2** authors (without a signal phrase):

(McAvoy and Turner 73)

- For **3 or more** authors:

Name all of the authors, or the first followed by et.al

(Worthington et al. 89)

Hey! Did you know that “et al” is a Latin phrase which means “and others”?

In-text Citations

Same Names

- For 2+ works by authors with the same last name include:
 - Author's first and last name in signal phrase

Jane McCoy states in her journal, “Animal Kingdom”, that “owls do not like to fly too high, unlike the bat” (9).

- Or author's first initial in the in-text citation

In the journal, “Animal Kingdom”, it is discovered that, “Owls do not like to fly too high, unlike the bat” (J. McCoy 9).

In-text Citations

Same Author

- If there are 2+ works by the same author:
 - Mention title of the work in signal phrase or use a shortened version of the title in the in-text citation

In the article, “**Night Feeders**”, it is stated that bats only eat living insects at night (**Torman 13**).

It has been noticed that bats only come out to eat at night (**Torman, “Night Feeders” 13**).

In-text Citations

Block Quotes

These direct quotes take up more than 4 lines

- **Add a lead-in sentence followed by a colon**
- **Begin the quote on a new line (indented 10 spaces from left margin)**
- **Do not use quotation marks**
- **Parenthetical citation comes after the closing punctuation mark**

In-Text Citations

Block Quotes

Do not use quotation marks for block quotes!

McCarry 3

Greek mythology stories do not dwell on animals too much, but when they do it can be quite an interesting story. One story, *The Three Golden Apples*, uses the infamous three headed dog. In one scene the dog shapeshifts into other animals until it is revealed that it is actually the monster, Geryon:

Then the stag disappeared, and in its stead there was a sea-bird, fluttering and screaming, while Hercules clutched it by the wing and claw! But the bird could not get away. | Immediately afterwards, there was an ugly three-headed dog, which growled and barked at Hercules, and snapped fiercely at the hands by which he held him! But Hercules would not let him go. In another minute, instead of the three-headed dog, what should appear but Greyon, the six-legged man-monster, kicking at Hercules with five of his legs, in order to get the remaining one at liberty! (Hawthorne 119)

Practice Exercise 2

- What are some issues with the following block quote?

Hint: there are 5 errors.



even if we never knew. The uncaring we see in this world is perplexing. Many authors have made statements about this, but all seem to be ignored. How can so many people be blind to one another? One author makes the connection with animals:

“It is almost unreal, the amount of people who do not care about the life of an animal. Just because they do not act, think, or live like us are they not living beings?” Williams.

even if we never knew. The uncaring we see in this world is perplexing. Many authors have made statements about this, but all seem to be ignored. How can so many people be blind to one another? One author makes the connection with animals:

“It is almost unreal, the amount of people who do not care about the life of an animal. Just because they do not act, think, or live like us are they not living beings?” (Williams 34).

NOT LONG ENOUGH

Reviewing Quotations

- Can a quote stand on its own as a complete sentence?
- What are signal phrases?
- Should you always use the same signal phrase?
- Should you use p. or pg. for page numbers in parenthetical citations?
- What are block quotes?
- Are quotes fun?



Works Cited

The Basics

- The title **Works Cited** goes at the top center of the page
 - It should not be *italicized*, underlined, **bolded** or in quotation marks.
 - If there is only once source, the title will be **Work Cited**.
- Citations are listed alphabetically by last name
- Double spaced
- Hanging Indent
 - If using a hanging indent is not possible, insert a few spaces between citations.

Example of Works Cited Page

Works Cited

Abzug, Bella. *Gender Gap: Bella Abzug's Guide to Political Power for American Women*.

Houghton Mifflin, 1984.

Coupe, Lawrence, ed. *The Green Studies Reader: From Romanticism to Ecocriticism*.

Routledge, 2000.

Donnie Darko. Dir. Richard Kelly. Perf. Jake Gyllenhaal. 20th Century Fox Home Entertainment,

2001.

Fitzgerald, F. Scott. "Babylon Revisited." *The Norton Anthology of American Literature*.

Between the Wars 1914- 1945. 6th ed, vol. D Eds. Nina Baym, et al. Norton, 2003. pp.

1658-72.

Flanagan, Roy. "Reflection on Milton and Ariosto." *Early Modern Literary Studies*, vol. 2,

no. 3, 1996.

Garfield, William. "The Reading Brain: Differences of Digital and Print." Literacy Foundation,

25 Apr. 2016, literacyfoundation.org.

Format for Citation

1 Author.

2 Title of source.

CONTAINER 1

3 Title of container,

4 Other contributors,

5 Version,

6 Number,

7 Publisher,

8 Publication date,

9 Location.

Works Cited Page

Books

Last name, First name. *Title of Book.*

Publisher, Year of Publication, page
numbers referenced.

Rolend, Jennifer. *How Bees Came to Bee.*

HarperCollins, 2010, pp. 102-191.

Works Cited Page

Books With Multiple Authors

- For books with 2-3 authors:
 - First author's name is given as **LAST, FIRST** .
 - Subsequent authors are written as **FIRST LAST**.
 - Use “**and**” between authors.

Campbell, Tina **and** Jack Wellington. *The Elephant's Trail*. Kensington, 1996, pp. 55-58.



Works Cited Page

Books With Multiple Authors

For books with 3+ authors, you have the option of simply listing the first author and following with the phrase **et al.**

Vetson, Kyle, et al. *Pandas and Their Cousins.*

Hachette Book Group, 2013, pp. 320-390.

Works Cited Page

Periodicals—Magazine Article

Last name, First name. “Title of Article.”

Title of Periodical Day Month Year: pp. pages.

Maci, George. “How to Live Cage Free.”

***Time* 17 Apr. 2010: pp. 90-93.**

Works Cited Page

Periodicals—Scholarly Journal Article

Last name, First name. “Title of Article.”

Title of Journal, Volume.

Number, Issue. Number, Year, pages.

Demetri, Evon. “Keep Oceans Clean.”

Ocean Science Vol. 8, no. 3, 1999, pp.13.

Works Cited Page

Web Document

Editor/ author/compiler Last name, First name.

“Document title.” Name of Site. Name of
institution/organization affiliated with the
site. Date of last update. URL.

Davis, Marc. “Zoo Trips.” ABC News. ABC News
Network. 18 Dec. 2015. www.abcnews/zoo/trips/.

Works Cited Page

Film

Title of Film. Director. Key performers.
Film studio or distributor, release
year.

The Lion King. Dir. Rob Minkoff. Perf.
Matthew Broderick, James Earl
Jones, and Jeremy Irons. Walt Disney
Pictures, 1994.



Works Cited Page

Personal Interview

**Interviewee's Last name, First name.
Personal Interview. Date of
Interview.**

**Bell, Kyle. Personal Interview. 16 Jan.
2016.**



Practice Exercise 3

- Which Works Cited Page is correct? Why?

Hint: there are 5 errors.



Fry 5

Works Cited

Diamond, Terry. Big Zoo

Adventures. 2/13/06.

Fry 5

Works Cited

Diamond, Terry. *Big Zoo*

Adventures. 13 February

2006.

Useful Resources

These have not been updated to the 8th Edition.

Ask your professor before relying on the following resources:

- **OWL Purdue Online Writing Lab**

owl.english.purdue.edu

- **Diana Hacker's Online Research & Documentation Handbook**

bcs.bedfordstmartins.com

- **The Writing Fellows website**

schoolcraft.edu/fellows

- **Citation assistance**

<http://www.easybib.com/>

<http://www.citationmachine.net/mla/cite-a-website>

<http://www.calvin.edu/library/knightcite/>



Let's practice building citations!

1. Please take out your MLA containers.
2. Enter the information for this **printed book**:

Eats, Shoots & Leaves by Lynne Truss.
It was published by Gotham Books in
2003. You referenced pages 12 to 45.

**Truss, Lynne. *Eats, Shoots & Leaves*.
Gotham Books, 2003, pp.12-45.**

Let's practice building citations!

3. Enter the information for this **scholarly journal**:

Giant Pandas by Frank L. Tulley. It was published in the journal called *Animals Across the World* in 2005, issue number 12.2. It has a total of 23 pages, but you only used pages 6-15.

Tulley, Frank L. "Giant Pandas." *Animals Across the World*, vol. 12, no.1, 2005, pp.6-15.

This presentation was brought to you by Schoolcraft College Writing Fellows. Our services are available to all students.

Please access Writing Fellows for further details.

<http://www.schoolcraft.edu/fellows/?p=cs>

Works Cited

Hacker, Diana, and Barbara Fister. "MLA in-text citations." *Research and Documentation Online*. Bedford/St. Martin's, 2009.

Hacker, Diana, and Barbara Fister. "Signal Phrases." *The Bedford Handbook*. Bedford/St. Martin's, 2009.

Jerz, Dennis G. "MLA Style: Step-By-Step Instructions." 8 Oct. 1999.

MLA Handbook. 8th ed. Modern Language Association of America, 2016.