Most Common MLA Works Cited Entries with In-text & Parenthetical Citations

When using MLA format, please consult the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers* (7th edition), to which all the page numbers below refer.

**Paper Format (p. 116)**

- All work done in MLA format should be double-spaced, with 1 inch margins on all sides.
- Unless requested by the instructor, title pages are not necessary.
- Only leave 1 space after punctuation, including commas, period, etc., unless the instructor prefers 2 spaces.
- The heading should begin 1 inch from the top margin, be left justified, and double spaced. The title should include each of the items listed in sequential order on separate lines: student’s name, instructor’s name, course number, and the date.
- After the heading, double-space and center the title.

**Works Cited Page (p. 129)**

The Works Cited page is an alphabetized list of all the sources mentioned or used in the paper.

- The Works Cited page occurs at the end of the document and should begin on a new page while continuing with the previous pagination sequence.
- The page number should be included in the header ½ inch from the top margin.
- The title Works Cited should be 1 inch from the top margin and centered; the entire document should be double spaced.
- Each entry should be flushed to the left margin with each subsequent line indented; this is known as a hanging indent.
- Entries should begin with the author’s name inverted (last name, first name). When a source has no author, alphabetize by title, ignoring a, an, or the.
- When citing multiple works done by the same author, only cite the author’s name in the first entry. Afterwards, in place of the name, type three hyphens followed by a period and the title. For example,


- Italicize titles of books, plays, long poems, pamphlets, periodicals, radio and television programs, films, Web sites, and online databases. For the complete list, please see p. 88.
- Titles of works published within larger works require quotation marks. Such titles include the names of articles, essays, short stories, short poems, chapters of books, individual episodes of television and radio programs, and short musical compositions. (See p. 89).
- Use the following abbreviations for information you cannot supply (See p. 179 for more options).
  - N.p.: No place of publication given (Inserted before colon)
  - N.d.: No date of publication given
  - N. pag.: No pagination given

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1. **Book by One Author (p. 148)**

*Format for Works Cited entry:* Author’s Last Name, First Name. *Title of Book.* Place of Publication: Publisher, Year. Medium of publication.


*In-text citation:* John Beeler writes…(21).

*Parenthetical citation:* Knights were very powerful…(Beeler 21).

*For translations, include Trans. and the translator’s name after the article/book (p. 165).*


2. **Book by Two or Three Authors (p. 154)**

*Format for Works Cited entry:* First Author’s Last Name, First Name, Second Author’s First Name Last Name, and Third Author’s First Name Last Name. *Title of Book.* Place of Publication: Publisher, Year. Medium of publication.


*In-text citation:* Bain, Caves, and Margolis claim…(83).

*Parenthetical citation:* The water industry…(Bain, Caves, and Margolis 83).

*When a work has four or more authors, either provide the first author’s name followed by et al. or list all the authors’ names.*

3. **Book without an Author or Editor (p. 162)**

*Format for Works Cited entry:* *Title of Book.* Place of Publication: Publisher, Year. Medium of publication.


*In-text citation:* According to *Atlas of the World*, Libya…(701).

*Parenthetical citation:* Libya has a population of…(*Atlas* 701).

4. **Sacred Texts (p. 164)**

*Format for Works Cited entry:* *Title of Edition.* Ed. Editor’s First Name Last Name (if any). Place of Publication: Publisher, Year. Medium of publication.


*In-text citation:* In the Old Testament of the *Holy Bible*, Abraham promises…(Gen. 12.1-4)


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5. Foreword, Introduction, Preface, or Afterword (p. 161)

Format for Works Cited entry: Author of Selection’s Last Name, First Name. Selection Type. Title of Book. By Author of Book’s First Name Last Name. Place of Publication: Publisher, Year. Page numbers of entire selection. Medium of publication.


In-text citation: Jan Morris researched Margaret Mead’s life...(xx).

Parenthetical citation: Mead writes…(Morris xxii).

6. Work in an Anthology (p. 157)

Format for Works Cited entry: Author’s Last Name, First Name. “Title of Article or Chapter.” Title of Book. Ed. Editor’s First Name Last Name. Place of Publication: Publisher, Year. Page numbers of the entire article or chapter. Medium of publication.


In-text citation: Glenda Riley argues…(21).

Parenthetical citation: The American West…(Riley 21).

7. Multivolume Work—One Volume (p. 168)

Format for Works Cited entry: Editor’s Last Name, First Name, ed. “Volume Title.” Title of Book. Vol. no. Place of Publication: Publisher, Year. Medium of publication.


In-text citation: Cochran notes…(613).

Parenthetical citation: Public finance involves…(Cochran 613).

*When using 2 or more volumes, provide the total number of volumes after the title of book (“4 vols.”)

8. Reprinted Article in a Collection (p. 159)


In-text citation: Holladay suggests that Ann Petry…(360).

Parenthetical citation: Country Place contains such themes as…(Holladay 357).
9. Government Publication (p. 174)


In-text citation: The United Nations reported...(16).


10. Daily Newspaper Article (p. 141)

Format for Works Cited entry: Author’s Last Name, First Name. “Title of Article.” Name of Newspaper [City of publication if not mentioned in name of newspaper] Day Month (Abbreviated) Year: Page numbers of the entire article. Medium of publication.


In-text citation: Murphy explains the tribes...(A2).

Parenthetical citation: Yesterday’s decision...(Murphy A2).

11. Article in a Scholarly Journal (p. 137)

Format for Works Cited entry: Author’s Last Name, First Name. “Title of Article.” Name of Journal Volume #.Issue # (Year): Page numbers of the entire article. Medium of publication.


In-text citation: Michael Wood points out the connection between...(59).

Parenthetical citation: Fiction often...(Wood 59).

12. Weekly Magazine Article (p. 142)

Format for Works Cited entry: Author’s Last Name, First Name. “Title of Article.” Name of Magazine Day Month (Abbreviated) Year: Page numbers of the entire article. Medium of publication.


In-text citation: Ratnesar asserts Americans...(30).

Parenthetical citation: Homelessness in America...(Ratnesar 30).
13. Monthly Magazine Article (p. 143)

Format for Works Cited entry: Author’s Last Name, First Name. “Title of Article.” Name of Magazine Month (Abbreviated) Year: Page numbers of the entire article. Medium of publication.


In-text citation: Kaplan observes…(23).

Parenthetical citation: History appears to…(Kaplan 23).

14. Online Journal Article which Also Appears in Print Form (p. 190)

Format for Works Cited entry: Author’s Last Name, First Name. “Title of Article.” Name of Journal Volume #.Issue # (Year): number of pages or paragraphs (if available). Medium of publication. Day Month (Abbreviated) Year accessed.


In-text citation: Gabrielle Dane concludes…(par. 10).

Parenthetical citation: Ophelia went mad because…(Dane).

15. Journal Article from an Online Database (p. 192)


In-text citation: Kirk Johnson believes mountain lions…(27).

Parenthetical citation: Mountain lions are known for…(Johnson 27).

16. Short Work from a Website (p. 184)

Format for Works Cited entry: Author’s Last Name, First Name. “Title of Article.” Name of Website. Publisher or Sponsor of site, Date of publication (if provided). Medium of publication. Day Month (Abbreviated) Year accessed.


In-text citation: According to Dr. Vandana Shiva, bioethics…

Parenthetical citation: Bioethics is a third-world issue because… (Shiva).
17. Film (p. 197)

Format for Works Cited entry: Title. Dir. Director’s First Name Last Name. Perf. Leading actors’ First Name Last Name, First Name Last Name, and First Name Last Name. Distributor, Year. Medium of publication.


In-text citation: Hallström’s Chocolat…

Parenthetical citation: Johnny Depp plays a charming Gypsie…(Chocolat).

18. Personal Interview, E-mail Interview, or Telephone Interview (p. 202)

Format for Works Cited entry: Name of person interviewed. Personal or E-mail or Telephone interview. Day Month (Abbreviated) Year.


In-text citation: In our interview, Shaikh described…

Parenthetical citation: The World Cup is the most intriguing sports event except for…(Shaikh).

19. Book by a Corporate Author (p. 156)

Format for Works Cited entry: Corporate Author (omit initial articles A, An, The). Title of Book. Place of Publication: Publisher, Year. Medium of publication.


In-text citation: The National Research Council finds…(21).

Parenthetical citation: The world’s population is expected to increase…(Natl. Research Council 21).


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