Overview:
What is the MLA? Why do I need this?

In-Text Citations:
Explains how to cite sources within the text of your paper.

Author Variations
1 or more authors, no known author, corporate author
Dealing with Quotations
Sources with no page numbers

Works Cited:
Explains how to list all your cited sources on the last page(s) of your paper.

General formatting rules for the Works Cited list
Print Books
1 or more authors, no known author, corporate author, editors
Smaller Work within a print Book
Includes chapters, essays, articles, poems, short story, etc.
Print: Journals, Magazines, Newspapers
Digital: Journals, Magazines, Newspapers & ebooks
Includes all items accessed through QVCC Library databases
Emails & Personal Interviews
Internet
Includes Youtube videos
Video, Film, Television & Radio Sources
Includes DVD, BluRay, streaming video
Images

Sample Works Cited List
Citing Sources – MLA Format

Overview

MLA Modern Language Association:

- preferred in English courses and other humanities courses, e.g. languages, literature and art;
- emphasizes the authorship of a cited source;
- in-text citation instead of footnotes;
- works cited list instead of bibliography (only sources actually used in the writing of the paper are cited, not other sources consulted).

Why cite sources? When you write a college essay or research paper, you must demonstrate that the facts, information and opinions you express are valid, credible, and worthy of your reader’s attention. You do this, in part, by identifying the sources of your information and of any ideas that are not originally yours. You must cite direct quotes, as well as anything you write that you have paraphrased or summarized from another source. Citing your sources enables a reader to find your research sources and helps you to avoid plagiarism.

What is plagiarism? It is theft. If you present someone else’s words or ideas as your own, then you are stealing from that person. At QVCC, instructors may assign a penalty for student work that contains plagiarism and may report that student for disciplinary action (QVCC Student Handbook 8).

Where do I put the citation? You will cite each source in two places: (1) in the body of the paper you’ll add a brief in-text citation after any information that needs to be cited, generally putting the author’s name and the source page number inside parentheses at the end of a sentence. (2) You will give full citation information on the last page(s) of your paper, in the Works Cited list.

Guides and Help: This guide will help get you started. Ask your instructor for any additional citation requirements. Need more help? Visit the library, call the library at 860-932-4007 or email library@qvcc.commnet.edu You can access online help and interactive citation tools here: http://www.qvcc.commnet.edu/library/citing.asp

# Citing Sources in the Body of Your Paper

## Author Variations

For in-text citations, place a parenthetical reference close to the idea being documented—at a pause in your sentence, or at the end of the sentence—before the closing period (unless it is a block quote, see the example on page 4). The reference will include both the author’s last name and the page number, if available. No punctuation is used between the author’s name and the page number if both are placed inside the parentheses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AUTHOR TYPES</th>
<th>MLA GUIDE</th>
<th>EXAMPLES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 author</td>
<td>If you have one author, either name the author in your sentence—- or— include the author in the parentheses, followed by the page number(s).</td>
<td>Jane Tompkins calls the Western the &quot;only true American entertainment form&quot; (67). -OR- The Western is the only American entertainment form that belongs to us (Tompkins 67).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 or 3 authors</td>
<td>If the work has two or three authors, name them all in your sentence—- or— include them all in the parentheses.</td>
<td>Rico and Mano point out a number of books that are appropriate for quality multicultural education (83-90). -OR- The authors recommend a number of books that are appropriate for quality multicultural education (Rico and Mano 83-90).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 or more authors</td>
<td>If the work has four or more authors use the first author's name and &quot;et al.&quot; (Latin for &quot;and others&quot;).</td>
<td>Medhurst et al. describe the relationship between Brezhnev and Nixon as &quot;heated&quot; (137). -OR- The authors describe the relationship between Brezhnev and Nixon as &quot;heated&quot; (Medhurst et al. 137).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Authors with the SAME name</td>
<td>If two or more authors you will be citing have the same last name, distinguish by adding their first initials. If two or more authors have the same last name and first initial, distinguish with the first name.</td>
<td>His language was “provocative and hilarious” (D. Sedaris 35). He expressed himself with both humor and a little edginess (David Sedaris 35).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporate Author</td>
<td>If a corporation or institution is the author, use the full name, followed by the page reference. If it is a very long name, however, try to include the name in the text and use only the page number in the parentheses, so reading is not interrupted by an extended parenthetical reference. When you use the name of a corporate author in the parentheses, shorten well-known terms that are commonly abbreviated.</td>
<td>According to a study sponsored by the National Research Council, the population of China around 1900 was increasing by more than fifteen million annually (15). -OR- The population of China around 1900 was increasing by more than fifteen million annually (Natl. Research Council 15). Pre-retirement planning also has a measurable effect on stress levels (NIMH 22).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citing multiple works by 1 author</td>
<td>If citing more than one work by the same author, add the cited title, shortened or in full, after the author’s name. Use “quotation marks” if the source is an article in a larger work and italicize the title if it is a work that stands alone.</td>
<td>The experience was something he never forgot (Sedaris, <em>Holidays</em> 67). -AND- He explained that if knew anything, it was that she would make him very sorry (Sedaris, “My Family” 12).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NO author</td>
<td>If there is no author, use the title of the source in your sentence or in parentheses. Use only the first few words if the title is long; use the full title if the title is short. Use “quotation marks” if the source is an article in a larger work and italicize the title if it is a work that stands alone.</td>
<td>Croatians disliked being part of the former Republic of Yugoslavia (“Croatia in Crisis” 26). -OR- “Croatia in Crisis” maintains that Croatians disliked being part of the former Republic of Yugoslavia (26). -OR- …as stated by the Governor’s commission (Report 12).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Citing Sources in the Body of Your Paper

### Dealing with Quotations

Always cite direct quotations. Use direct quotations sparingly, only when necessary to enhance meaning. Primarily, your paper should be in your own voice, with most cited information paraphrased or summarized. Direct quotes, when used, should be smoothly integrated into what you are writing.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MLA GUIDE</th>
<th>EXAMPLES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Short quotation</td>
<td>Short quotations (four or fewer typed lines in your paper) should be integrated into your own writing and surrounded by quotation marks. Either name the author in your sentence or include the author in the parentheses, followed by the page number(s).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>At the popular Sports Club, Lessing’s heroine finds the “ubiquitous glass mugs of golden beer” (135).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>At the popular Sports Club, the heroine finds the “ubiquitous glass mugs of golden beer” (Lessing 135).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long quotations</td>
<td>Long quotations (more than four typed lines in your paper) should be integrated into your writing, but you should not use quotation marks. Instead, indent all of the quotation as a block. Indent 1 inch from the left margin and type double-spaced. A colon usually introduces a block quote, but the context may require a different punctuation mark or none at all. The parenthetical reference should be placed at the end of the quotation, after the closing punctuation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>At the conclusion of the book, Ralph and the other boys realize the horror of their actions:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The tears began to flow and sobs shook him. He gave himself up to them now for the first time on the island; great, shuddering spasms of grief that seemed to wrench his whole body. His voice rose under the black smoke before the burning wreckage of the island; and infected by that emotion, the other boys began to shake and sob too. (Golding 186)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quoting from a quote</td>
<td>If you are quoting or paraphrasing something that is itself a quotation, put the abbreviation &quot;qtd. in&quot; (quoted in) before the secondary source you cite in your parenthetical reference.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Samuel Johnson admitted that Edmund Burke was an &quot;extraordinary man&quot; (qtd. in Boswell 450).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Citing Sources with NO Page Numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MLA GUIDE</th>
<th>EXAMPLES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No page numbers</td>
<td>Internet sources, films and videos, recordings and podcasts, a television broadcast, a performance, picture books, websites and other sources may have no pages to cite in your parenthetical reference. For these sources, cite the last name only of the author, filmmaker, performer or director, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Western is the only American entertainment form that belongs to us (Tompkins).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The filmmakers, on the other hand, clearly presented Mozart’s death as murder (Forman).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Works Cited List

General Formatting Rules

What is a Works Cited list? This is the list of all sources you cited in the text of your paper. If your instructor requires a more comprehensive list that also includes works consulted but not actually cited, title the list Bibliography.

Where is it? The Works Cited list should appear at the end of your paper, starting on a new page, and continuing the page numbering in sequence.

General Formatting Rules:

- The title of the list is: Works Cited (centered at the top, not bolded or underlined).
- Double space between the title and the first citation and then double space within and between citation entries. Do not add extra spaces between entries.
- Each citation should be left-justified and have a hanging indent of 0.5 inch.
- Entries should be in alphabetical order by the last name of the author (or by the last name of the first author if a work has more than one). If there is no author for an entry, alphabetize that entry by title, ignoring leading articles (A, An, The). For example, the entry for a website entitled The Poetry Translator would include the full title but would be alphabetized in the Ps for “poetry.”
- The first (or only) author’s name should appear in this order: Last Name, First Name. Additional authors for the same entry should appear in this order: First Name Last Name.
- Leave ONE space after all punctuation within your entries, including colons, periods, and other concluding punctuation marks.
- Use “quotation marks” to indicate the title of a source that is a smaller work within a larger work (such as a chapter in a book, an article in a magazine, or a single webpage on a website).
- Use italics to indicate the title of a source that stands alone (such as a book) or that is the larger work (such as an encyclopedia) in which you found the smaller work (an article, for example).
- Capitalize all significant words in a title, even if they are not capitalized in a database printout or by a citation generator. For example: if the printout or output reads: A tale of two cities, your citation should read: A Tale of Two Cities.

See the sample Works Cited list at the end of this guide, on pages 15 and 16.
### Print Books

**Last name, First name of author. The Book Title. Place of publication: Publisher's name, publication year. Print.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author Type</th>
<th>Examples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1 author             | MLA: Follow the general format, shown above.  
| 2 or 3 authors       | MLA: Only reverse the first author’s name. List the authors in the same order as on the title page.  
| 4 or more authors    | MLA: List all the authors OR only list the first author followed by “et al.” (meaning “and others”).  
OR  
| Corporate Author     | MLA: Omit any initial article (A, An, The) in the name of the corporate author  
| Citing multiple works by 1 author | MLA: If you are citing 2 or more works by the same author, alphabetize the entries by author and then by title, ignoring any leading articles *(A, An, The)*. Include the author’s name in the first entry only. In subsequent entries, type three hyphens in place of the author’s name, followed by a period and then the rest of the citation entry. In this examples, both books were written by Malcolm Gladwell:  
| NO author            | MLA: If there is no author or editor, begin the entry with the title. Alphabetize ignoring leading articles *(A, An, The)*. The first example, below, would be alphabetized with the Hs; the second would be in the Ts:  
| NO author but a named EDITOR | MLA: For a book compiled by an editor(s), with no signed articles or chapters, begin with the editor’s name(s) followed by a comma and the abbreviation ed. (for one editor) or eds. (for two or more editors). If there are signed articles or chapters, see page 7.  
# A Smaller Work within a Print Book

**Last name, First name of the person who wrote the essay, poem, short story, chapter, etc. “The Title of the Smaller Work inside Quotation Marks.” The Book Title in Italics. Ed. First name Last name of editor.  Place of publication:**

**Publisher’s name, publication year. First page of article-Last page of article. Print.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Publication</th>
<th>Examples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| A smaller work from a book or one-volume anthology | MLA: If you have a book that is a one-volume anthology, with chapters (or articles, essays, poems, etc.) by different named authors and an overall editor or editors, start with the author of the smaller work, then the work title, then the information about the book itself. You will also need to cite the page number range for the smaller work:  
  
| A smaller work from a multi-volume work | MLA: If you are citing a smaller piece published within a multi-volume specialized encyclopedia or dictionary, and the article is signed, begin with the article author and title. [Note: if the article is signed with initials, those initials are identified elsewhere in the publication.] Include the volume number. Page numbers are not necessary here; cite them in the in-text citation only.  
  
  MLA: In this example, because the book is a later edition, that detail is added along with the volume number:  
  
| Reprint | MLA: If the smaller work was reprinted from an earlier publication, you may add the year of its first publication. In this example, from the MLA Handbook, 7th edition, the work was first published in 1782; the anthology was published in 1992.  
  
| MLA: if the smaller work originally appeared in a scholarly journal, then you need to give complete details for the earlier publication. See examples on page 11. |

MLA: If the work is not signed, begin with the article title. Include the number of the volume in the entry. Page numbers are not necessary here but should be noted in the in-text citation.  
  
# Print Periodicals

## Magazines, Newspapers, and Academic or Scholarly Journals

Note: these examples are for citing works you found in PRINT. If you are citing a source you found using an electronic database, go to page 9; and, for sources you found searching the Internet, go to page 12.

Formatting varies by type of publication. See specific examples below. **Author rules** are the same as those for print books (see page 6), regardless of publication type. “Article tiles” are inside quotation marks; **Publication titles** are italicized.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Publication</th>
<th>Examples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Academic or Scholarly Journal | MLA: For scholarly journals, you’ll need the volume number and issue number. In this example, 13 is the **volume number** and 4 is the **issue number**. Notice the publication **year** is inside **parentheses**.  
| Monthly Magazine | MLA: Enter both the **month** and **year** of publication. Notice **no parentheses**. When page numbering is not consecutive—if there are intervening pages—include only the first page number followed by a + sign.  
| Weekly Magazine | MLA: Enter **day, month, and year** of publication. Notice **no parentheses**.  
| Newspaper | MLA: For a newspaper with **numbered sections**:  
MLA: For a newspaper with **lettered sections**:  
MLA: If you have an **unsigned article** in a newspaper or magazine, begin with the title in quotation marks:  
| A Review of a film, book, or other creation | MLA: For a **book review** start with the author and title of the review article. Next, include "Rev. of" (meaning review of), then the title of the book being reviewed, a comma, the word, “by,” and the name of the author of the book. Next provide the rest of the information about the publication in which the review appeared. If the review is of a film or performance, use an abbreviation for the role of the work’s creator (e.g. dir. for director, ed. for editor) in place of “by.” See more abbreviations in the *MLA Handbook*, 7th edition, pages 240-247, available in the library.  
Digital Sources — Library Databases  
**eBooks, Academic/Scholarly Journals, Magazines, Newspapers**

These examples are for citing works you obtained in full-text electronic databases accessed through the QVCC Library’s “Find Books” or “Find Articles” online research portal. If you are citing a source found on a website, go to page 12. In general, follow the citation style for the original format of the work you are citing, then add the final elements that identify the source as one found using an electronic database.

**Library databases all have citation tools that let you copy and paste suggested citations. Use these with caution! Copy and paste the data to get started, but check the formatting. Many (most?) will need editing to meet MLA style guidelines.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Publication</th>
<th>Examples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Academic or Scholarly Journal</strong></td>
<td>MLA: The basic citation format for journal articles you found using a library database is the same as for print journal articles (see page 8), except that you add the name of the library database, in <em>italics</em>, the medium of access, Web, and the date you accessed the source, day month year. The volume number (13 in the first example) and the issue number (4 in the first example) are placed after the journal title. Use the abbreviation n.pag. if the page numbers for the original work are not available:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Magazine</strong></td>
<td>MLA: The basic citation for magazine articles you found using a library database is the same as for print magazine articles (see page 8), except that you add to the entry name of the library database, in <em>italics</em>, the medium of access, Web, and the date you accessed the source, day month year. Use the abbreviation n.pag. if the page numbers for the original work are not available:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publication</td>
<td>Examples</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Newspaper           | MLA: Follow the format for print newspaper citations (see page 8). Add to the entry the name of the library database, in *italics*, the medium of access, Web, and the date you accessed the source, day month year. Use the abbreviation n.pag. if the page numbers for the original work are not available.  
| eBook               | MLA: To cite an entire ebook, follow the format guide for print books (see page 6), then add the name of the library database, in *italics*, the medium of access, Web, and the date the electronic resource was accessed:  
| Smaller work in an eBook | MLA: To cite an article, essay, chapter, short story, etc. found in an eBook, start by following the citation format for the article and the publication in which it originally appeared (see page 7), then, add the name of the library database, in *italics*, the medium of access, Web, and the date the electronic resource was accessed. Use N.pag. if page numbers are not available.  
| Reprints            | MLA: For reprints of NON-scholarly articles: If the smaller work in an anthology was published previously, “you may follow the title of the piece with the year of original publication and a period” (MLA 159). In this example, an article was found using the database, *Opposing Viewpoints in Context.* The digital copy in the database comes from a book published in 2005; the article in that book was actually a reprint of original testimony before Congress in 2002. A student accessed the database in 2014.  
For details on reprints of scholarly articles see the next page. |
MLA: **Reprints of scholarly articles** should include information on the original article. The format for the citation depends on whether the article title was changed in the reprint:

- **If the article titles are the same:** First, cite the original article completely. Second, use the phrase, *Rpt. in* (Reprinted in) and cite the newer publication. Third, add the database name, medium and access date for the digital copy.


- **If the article titles are different:** First cite the article as you found it. Second, use the phrase *Rpt. of* (Reprint of) and cite the original article title and publication information. Third, add the database name, medium and access details for the digital copy.


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**Personal Communications**  
**Emails and Personal Interviews**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Personal Communication</th>
<th>Examples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Emails** | MLA: Begin with the name of the person who sent the email. List the subject line of the email as the title, inside quotations marks. Indicate the recipient, the date of the message and medium of delivery.  
If you were the recipient of the email:  
If someone else was the recipient of the email:  
| **Personal Interviews** | MLA: Cite the person you interviewed as you would an author. Indicate whether the interview was face-to-face, over the phone, via video chat, etc. For Skype and similar video chat services, use “IPT” (Internet Protocol Telephony). End with the date the interview took place.  
Jones, Brian. Personal interview. 31 July 2014.  
King, Mark. IPT Interview. 12 Aug. 2014. |
## Internet Sources

Use these examples for sources that can be found using a search engine on the Internet (such as Google or Bing). Key citation components include the **author**, **title**, **sponsor** of the website, the **date** the information was published, posted or updated and the **date** you accessed the information.

If the article (blog, podcast, etc.) is a smaller part of a larger website, cite both the **work title** “inside quotation marks” and the **website title**, in *italics*. If the work and website are one and the same, cite the name of the website in *italics*. Cite the creator of the work as you would an author; cite the owner or sponsor of the website as you would a publisher of a book. Conclude the entry by citing the medium, Web, and the day month year accessed. Unless your instructor requires it, do NOT include the website URL in your citation. The general format for Internet citation is:

Last name, First name of author. “Title of the Work.” *Web Site Name*. Publisher or sponsor of the website, day month year of publication. Web. Day month year accessed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Work</th>
<th>Examples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Smaller work on a website | MLA: In this example, both the author’s name and the sponsoring organization are known:  
MLA: In this example, the sponsoring organization (or publisher) is not known:  
MLA: In this example, the author’s name and the publication date are not known:  
| Website | MLA: In this example, the “article” and the website are one and the same; there is no identified author but the name of the sponsoring organization is known. Start with the title:  
| YouTube Video | MLA: The MLA does not specifically address how to cite a video you find on YouTube. Until the MLA is updated, QVCC Library *recommends* this local practice: Treat a Youtube video as you would any other website source. Start with the name of the “author” and indicate their role (use “dir.” for director, “poster” for the person who posted the video). Next, enter the video title, inside quotation marks, then the website name, *YouTube*, in *italics*. List the website sponsor/publisher, Youtube, in regular type. Include the date published and access information.  
And, if we didn’t know the name of the person directing or posting the above video:  
# Video, Film, Television & Radio

The **general format** for film, video or broadcast recordings or live performances is markedly different from MLA style rules for other sources. In most cases here, you begin the entry with the title, not the name of the creator. The key citation components, in order:

- Start with the “Title of the Individual Episode or Segment.” If applicable.
- Other information (narrator, performer, etc.) about the episode appears next.
- *Title of the Program or Series* in italics.
- Publication information for the program or series.
- Date broadcast or published.
- Format.

In those cases where you are focusing on the work and contributions of a particular artist (the director, screenwriter or actor, for example) rather than the complete work (such as the film) you may format the citation to begin with the artist’s name, as you would an author’s name: last name, first name.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Work</th>
<th>Examples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Television Program</td>
<td><strong>MLA:</strong> This example cites one “episode” from a television series and shows the original broadcast date: “Generation Like.” Narr. Douglas Rushkoff. <em>Frontline</em>. PBS. WGBH, Boston, 18 Feb. 2014. Television.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>MLA:</strong> This example cites a stand-alone documentary that appeared on television, with the original broadcast date shown: <em>Hunger in America</em>. Narr. Jacqueline Conrad. CBS. WCBS, New York, 10 Dec. 2009. Television.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DVD or BluRay</td>
<td><strong>MLA:</strong> These examples use the general format described above, focusing on the title first: <em>Prodigal Sons</em>. Dir. Kimberly Reed. First Run Features, 2008. DVD.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>MLA:</strong> This example focuses the citation on the contributions of one artist, the actor: Streep, Meryl, perf. <em>The Iron Lady</em>. Anchor Bay Entertainment, 2012. DVD.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Streaming</td>
<td><strong>MLA:</strong> Examples include streaming video found on Netflix and through the QVCC Library’s subscription to the Films on Demand database:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Images

Images you use in your papers and presentations should be cited, unless (1) you created the image or (2) you are merely using stock clipart included with your computer software. Because most images used in college course work are in digital format, the examples here are based on images found in databases and on Internet websites or photo-management sites. For images from other sources, consult the *MLA Handbook* or ask a QVCC librarian for assistance.

Last name, First name of photographer, if known. *Title of the Image.* Date of origin (use N.d. if not known). *Name of Database* OR *Name of Website.* Sponsor/Publisher of website (if any). Web. Day month year accessed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Work</th>
<th>Examples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Image from a library database | MLA: This example cites an image with no known date of origin:  
| | MLA: This example cites an image with no known photographer or date of origin:  
| Image found on the Internet | MLA: This example cites an image found on a website. It has no known date of origin. Both the website name and its sponsor are noted:  
| | MLA: This example cites an image with no title, found on a website. Use a brief descriptive phrase in place of the title. Do not italicize the description; only capitalize the first word and any proper names. Both the website and the sponsor or publisher of the website are cited:  
| | MLA: These examples cite images found using popular photo management websites. Both the website and the sponsor or publisher of the website are cited:  
Sample Works Cited


---. Telephone interview. 19 Sept, 2014.


