

The MLA Works Cited List

Your Works Cited List

This list, alphabetized by authors' last names, should appear at the end of your essay. It provides the information necessary for a reader to locate and be able to read any sources you cite in the essay. Each source you cite in the essay must appear in your works-cited list; likewise, each entry in the works-cited list must be cited in your text.

Basic Rules

Authors' names are inverted (last name first); if a work has more than one author, invert only the first author's name, follow it with a comma, then continue listing the rest of the authors. If you have cited more than one work by a particular author, order them alphabetically by title, and use three hyphens in place of the author's name for every entry after the first. When an author appears both as the sole author of a text and as the first author of a group, list solo-author entries first. If no author is given for a particular work, alphabetize by the title of the piece and use a shortened version of the title for parenthetical citations. The first line of each entry in your list should be flush left. Subsequent lines should be indented one-half inch. This is known as a hanging indent. All references should be double-spaced. Capitalize each word in the titles of articles, books, etc. This rule does not apply to articles, short prepositions, or conjunctions unless one is the first word of the title or subtitle. Underline or italicize titles of books, journals, magazines, newspapers, and films.

Basic Forms for Sources in Print

- *A book*
Author(s). Title of Book. Place of Publication: Publisher, Year of Publication.
- *A part of a book (such as an essay in a collection)*
Author(s). "Title of Article." Title of Collection. Ed. Editor's Name(s). Place of Publication: Publisher, Year. Pages.
- *An article in a periodical (such as a newspaper or magazine)*
Author(s). "Title of Article." Title of Source Day Month Year: pages.
N.B. When citing the date, list day before month; use a three-letter abbreviation of the month (e.g. Jan., Mar., Aug.). If there is more than one edition available for that date (as in an early and late edition of a newspaper), identify the edition following the date (e.g. 17 May 1987, late ed.).
- *An article in a scholarly journal*
Author(s). "Title of Article." Title of Journal Vol (Year): pages.
N.B. "Vol" indicates the volume number of the journal. If the journal uses continuous pagination throughout a particular volume, only volume and year are needed, e.g. *Modern Fiction Studies* 39 (1993): 156-174. If each issue of the journal begins on page 1, however, you must also provide the issue number following the volume, e.g. *Mosaic* 19.3 (1986): 33-49.

Works Cited Examples

The MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers provides extensive examples covering a wide variety of potential sources. If your particular case is not covered here, use the basic forms (above) to determine the correct format, consult the MLA Handbook, or contact your instructor for help.

- *Book with one author*
Frye, Northrop. Anatomy of Criticism: Four Essays. Princeton: Princeton UP, 1957.
- *Two books by the same author*
Basila, Martin. Commercial Uses of Communication: Today's Evolving Marketplace. New York: Dutton, 1997.
- *Media Advertising for the Masses*. Philadelphia: Merton, 1995.
N.B. After the first listing of the author's name, use three hyphens and a period for the author's name. List books alphabetically.
- *Book with more than one author*
Gesell, Arnold, and Frances L. Ing. Child Development: An Introduction to the Study of Human Growth. New York: Macmillan, 1960.

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N.B. If there are more than three authors, you may list only the first author followed by the phrase et al. (the abbreviation for the Latin phrase "and others") in place of the other authors' names, or you may list all the authors in the order in which their names appear on the title page.

- *Book with a corporate author*

American Allergy Association. Allergies in Children. New York: Random, 1998.

- *Book or article with no author named*

Encyclopedia of Photography. New York: Crown, 1984. "The Decade of the Spy." Newsweek 7 Mar. 1994: 26-27.

N.B. For parenthetical citations of sources with no author named, use a shortened version of the title instead of an author's name. Use quotation marks and underlining as appropriate. For example, parenthetical citations of the two sources above would appear as follows: (Encyclopedia 235) and ("Decade" 26).

- *Anthology or collection*

Rueschemeyer, Marilyn, ed. Women in the Politics of Postcommunist Eastern Europe. Armonk: Sharpe 1994.

- *Essay in a collection*

Krutch, Joseph Wood. "What the Year 2000 Won't Be Like." Finding a Voice. Ed. Jim W. Corder. Glenview: Scott Foresman, 1973. 21-36.

- *Cross-referencing*

Asante, Molefi Kete. "What is Afrocentrism?" Atwan and Roberts 11-17.

Atwan, Robert and Jon Roberts, eds. Left, Right, and Center: Voices from Across the Political Spectrum. Boston: Bedford, 1996.

Bennett, William J. "Revolt Against God: America's Spiritual Despair." Atwan and Roberts 559-71.

N.B. If you cite more than one essay from the same edited collection, you should cross-reference within your works cited list in order to avoid writing out the publishing information for each separate essay. To do so, include a separate entry for the entire collection listed by the editor's name. For individual essays from that collection, simply list the author's name, the title of the essay, the editor's last name, and the page numbers.

- *Article from a reference book*

"Mandarin." Encyclopedia Americana. 1980 ed.

- *Essay in a journal with continuous pagination*

Flanigan, Beverly Olson. "Peer Tutoring and Second Language Acquisition in the Elementary School." Applied Linguistics 12 (1991): 141-58.

- *Essay in a journal that pages each issue separately*

Barthelme, Frederick. "Architecture." Kansas Quarterly 13.3-4 (1981): 77-80.

- *Magazine or newspaper article*

Nimmons, David. "Sex and the Brain." Discover Mar. 1994: 26-27.

Goodman, Laurence. "New Discoveries in AIDS Prevention." New York Times 27 Mar. 1998, late ed.: C3.

- *Government publication*

United States Dept. of Labor. Bureau of Statistics. Dictionary of Occupational Titles. 4th ed. Washington: GPO, 1977.

- *Pamphlet*

Your Health. New York: Modern Woman, 1996.

- *Interview that you conducted*

Lesh, Philip. Personal Interview. 12 Nov. 1996.

- *Television or radio program*

"The Blessing Way." The X-Files. Fox. WXIA, Atlanta. 19 Jul. 1998.

- *Film*

It's a Wonderful Life. Dir. Frank Capra. Perf. James Stewart, Donna Reed, Lionel Barrymore, and Thomas Mitchell. RKO, 1946.

- *Advertisement*

Acura. Advertisement. Rolling Stone 16 May 1996: 8-9.

McDonald's. Advertisement. CNN. 4 May 1998.