

# MLA Style

Modern Language Association style calls for (1) brief in-text documentation and (2) complete documentation in a list of works cited at the end of your text. The models in this chapter draw on the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, 7th edition (2009). Additional information is available at [www.mla.org](http://www.mla.org).

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Throughout this chapter, you'll find models and examples that are color-coded to help you see how writers include source information in their texts and lists of works cited: **tan** for author or editor, **yellow** for title, **gray** for publication information: place of publication, publisher, date of publication, page number(s), and so on.

**MLA-a In-Text Documentation**

Brief documentation in your text makes clear to your reader what you took from a source and where in the source you found the information.

In your text, you have three options for citing a source: **QUOTING**, **PARAPHRASING**, and **SUMMARIZING**. As you cite each source, you will need to decide whether or not to name the author in a signal phrase—“as Toni Morrison writes”—or in parentheses—“(Morrison 24).”

The first examples in this chapter show basic in-text citations of a work by one author. Variations on those examples follow. The examples illustrate the MLA style of using quotation marks around titles of short works and italicizing titles of long works.

### 1. AUTHOR NAMED IN A SIGNAL PHRASE

If you mention the author in a signal phrase, put only the page number(s) in parentheses. Do not write *page* or *p*.

McCullough describes John Adams's hands as those of someone used to manual labor (18).

### 2. AUTHOR NAMED IN PARENTHESES

If you do not mention the author in a signal phrase, put his or her last name in parentheses along with the page number(s). Do not use punctuation between the name and the page number(s).

Adams is said to have had “the hands of a man accustomed to pruning his own trees, cutting his own hay, and splitting his own firewood” (McCullough 18).

Whether you use a signal phrase and parentheses or parentheses only, try to put the parenthetical citation at the end of the sentence or as close as possible to the material you've cited without awkwardly interrupting the sentence. Notice that in the example above, the parenthetical reference comes after the closing quotation marks but before the period at the end of the sentence.

### 3. TWO OR MORE WORKS BY THE SAME AUTHOR

If you cite multiple works by one author, include the title of the work you are citing either in the signal phrase or in parentheses. Give the full title if it's brief; otherwise, give a short version.

Kaplan insists that understanding power in the Near East requires “Western leaders who know when to intervene, and do so without illusions” (*Eastward* 330).

Include a comma between author and title if you include both in the parentheses.

Understanding power in the Near East requires “Western leaders who know when to intervene, and do so without illusions” (Kaplan, *Eastward* 330).

#### 4. AUTHORS WITH THE SAME LAST NAME

Give the author’s first name in any signal phrase or the author’s first initial in the parenthetical reference.

*Imaginative* applies not only to modern literature (E. Wilson) but also to writing of all periods, whereas *magical* is often used in writing about Arthurian romances (A. Wilson).

#### 5. TWO OR MORE AUTHORS

For a work by two or three authors, name all the authors, either in a signal phrase or in the parentheses.

Carlson and Ventura’s stated goal is to introduce Julio Cortázar, Marjorie Agosín, and other Latin American writers to an audience of English-speaking adolescents (v).

For a work with four or more authors, either mention all their names or include just the name of the first author followed by *et al.*, Latin for “and others.”

One popular survey of American literature breaks the contents into sixteen thematic groupings (Anderson et al. A19–24).

#### 6. ORGANIZATION OR GOVERNMENT AS AUTHOR

Cite the organization either in a signal phrase or in parentheses. It’s acceptable to shorten long names.

The U.S. government can be direct when it wants to be. For example, it sternly warns, “If you are overpaid, we will recover any payments not due you” (Social Security Administration 12).

## 7. AUTHOR UNKNOWN

If you don’t know the author, use the work’s title or a shortened version of the title in the parentheses.

A powerful editorial in last week’s paper asserts that healthy liver donor Mike Hurewitz died because of “frightening” faulty postoperative care (“Every Patient’s Nightmare”).

## 8. LITERARY WORKS

When referring to literary works that are available in many different editions, cite the page numbers from the edition you are using, followed by information that will let readers of any edition locate the text you are citing.

**NOVELS.** Give the page and chapter number.

In *Pride and Prejudice*, Mrs. Bennet shows no warmth toward Jane and Elizabeth when they return from Netherfield (105; ch. 12).

**VERSE PLAYS.** Give the act, scene, and line numbers; separate them with periods.

Macbeth continues the vision theme when he addresses the Ghost with “Thou hast no speculation in those eyes / Which thou dost glare with” (3.3.96–97).

**POEMS.** Give the part and the line numbers (separated by periods). If a poem has only line numbers, use the word *line(s)* in the first reference.

Whitman sets up not only opposing adjectives but also opposing nouns in “Song of Myself” when he says, “I am of old and

young, of the foolish as much as the wise, / . . . a child as well as a man" (16.330–32).

One description of the mere in *Beowulf* is "not a pleasant place!" (line 1372). Later, the label is "the awful place" (1378).

#### 9. WORK IN AN ANTHOLOGY

Name the author(s) of the work, not the editor of the anthology—either in a signal phrase or in parentheses.

"It is the teapots that truly shock," according to Cynthia Ozick in her essay on teapots as metaphor (70).

In *In Short: A Collection of Creative Nonfiction*, readers will find both an essay on Scottish tea (Hiestand) and a piece on teapots as metaphors (Ozick).

#### 10. ENCYCLOPEDIA OR DICTIONARY

Cite an entry in an encyclopedia or dictionary using the author's name, if available. For an entry in a reference work without an author, give the entry's title in parentheses. If entries are arranged alphabetically, no page number is needed.

Katz notes that before *Spartacus*, Kubrick went without work for two years ("Stanley Kubrick").

#### 11. LEGAL AND HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS

For legal cases and acts of law, name the case or act in a signal phrase or in parentheses. Italicize the name of a legal case.

In 2005, the Supreme Court confirmed in *MGM Studios, Inc. v. Grokster, Ltd.* that peer-to-peer file sharing is illegal copyright infringement.

Do not italicize the titles of laws, acts, or well-known historical documents such as the Declaration of Independence. Give the title and any relevant articles and sections in parentheses. It's okay to use common abbreviations such as *art.* or *sec.* and to abbreviate well-known titles.



The United States Constitution grants the president the right to make recess appointments (US Const., art. 2, sec. 2).

## 12. SACRED TEXT

When citing sacred texts such as the Bible or the Qur'an, give the title of the edition used, and in parentheses give the book, chapter, and verse (or their equivalent), separated by periods. MLA style recommends that you abbreviate the names of the books of the Bible in parenthetical references.

The wording from *The New English Bible* follows: "In the beginning of creation, when God made heaven and earth, the earth was without form and void, with darkness over the face of the abyss, and a mighty wind that swept over the surface of the waters" (Gen. 1.1–2).

## 13. MULTIVOLUME WORK

If you cite more than one volume of a multivolume work, each time you cite one of the volumes, give the volume *and* the page numbers in parentheses, separated by a colon.

Sandburg concludes with the following sentence about those paying last respects to Lincoln: "All day long and through the night the unbroken line moved, the home town having its farewell" (4: 413).

If your works-cited list includes only a single volume of a multivolume work, give just the page number in parentheses.

## 14. TWO OR MORE WORKS CITED TOGETHER

If you're citing two or more works closely together, you will sometimes need to provide a parenthetical citation for each one.

Tanner (7) and Smith (viii) have looked at works from a cultural perspective.

If you include both in the same parentheses, separate the references with a semicolon.

Critics have looked at both *Pride and Prejudice* and *Frankenstein* from a cultural perspective (Tanner 7; Smith viii).

#### 15. SOURCE QUOTED IN ANOTHER SOURCE

When you are quoting text that you found quoted in another source, use the abbreviation *qtd. in* in the parenthetical reference.

Charlotte Brontë wrote to G. H. Lewes: “Why do you like Miss Austen so very much? I am puzzled on that point” (qtd. in Tanner 7).

#### 16. WORK WITHOUT PAGE NUMBERS

For works without page numbers, including many online sources, identify the source using the author or other information either in a **SIGNAL PHRASE** or in parentheses.

Studies reported in *Scientific American* and elsewhere show that music training helps children to be better at multitasking later in life (“Hearing the Music”).

If the source has paragraph or section numbers, use them with the abbreviation *par.* or *sec.:* (“Hearing the Music,” par. 2). If an online work is available as a PDF, cite its page numbers in parentheses.

#### 17. AN ENTIRE WORK OR ONE-PAGE ARTICLE

If you cite an entire work rather than a part of it, or if you cite a single-page article, identify the author in a signal phrase or in parentheses. There’s no need to include page numbers.

At least one observer considers Turkey and Central Asia explosive (Kaplan).

## MLA-b Notes

Sometimes you may need to give information that doesn't fit into the text itself—to thank people who helped you, provide additional details, refer readers to other sources, or to add comments about sources. Such information can be given in a *footnote* (at the bottom of the page) or an *endnote* (on a separate page with the heading *Notes* just before your works-cited list). Put a superscript number at the appropriate point in your text, signaling to readers to look for the note with the corresponding number. If you have multiple notes, number them consecutively throughout your paper.

### TEXT

This essay will argue that small liberal arts colleges should not recruit athletes and, more specifically, that giving student athletes preferential treatment undermines the larger educational goals.<sup>1</sup>

### NOTE

<sup>1</sup>I want to thank all those who have contributed to my thinking on this topic, especially my classmates and my teachers Marian Johnson and Diane O'Connor.

## MLA-c List of Works Cited

A works-cited list provides full bibliographic information for every source cited in your text. See page 132 for guidelines on preparing this list; for a sample works-cited list, see page 135.

### Books

For most books, you'll need to provide information about the author; the title and any subtitle; and the place of publication, publisher, and date. At the end of the citation provide the medium—Print.

**IMPORTANT DETAILS FOR CITING BOOKS**

- **AUTHORS:** Include the author's middle name or initials, if any.
- **TITLES:** Capitalize all principal words in titles and subtitles. Do not capitalize *a*, *an*, *the*, *to*, or any prepositions or coordinating conjunctions unless they are the first or last word of a title or subtitle.
- **PUBLICATION PLACE:** If there's more than one city, use the first.
- **PUBLISHER:** Use a short form of the publisher's name (Norton for W. W. Norton & Company, Yale UP for Yale University Press).
- **DATES:** If more than one year is given, use the most recent one.

**1. ONE AUTHOR**

Author's Last Name, First Name. *Title*. Publication City: Publisher,  
Year of publication. Medium.

Anderson, Curtis. *The Long Tail: Why the Future of Business Is Selling Less of More*. New York: Hyperion, 2006. Print.

**2. TWO OR MORE WORKS BY THE SAME AUTHOR(S)**

Give the author's name in the first entry, and then use three hyphens in the author slot for each of the subsequent works, listing them alphabetically by the first important word of each title.

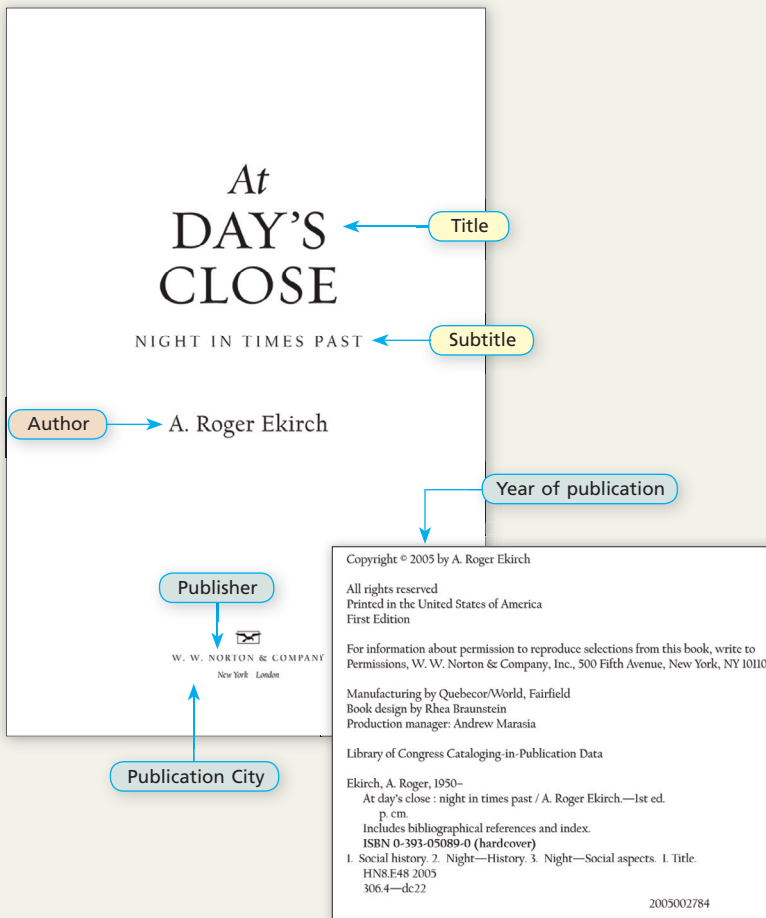
Author's Last Name, First Name. *Title That Comes First Alphabetically*.  
Publication City: Publisher, Year of publication. Medium.  
---. *Title That Comes Next Alphabetically*. Publication City: Publisher,  
Year of publication. Medium.

Kaplan, Robert D. *The Coming Anarchy: Shattering the Dreams of the Post Cold War*. New York: Random, 2000. Print.

---. *Eastward to Tartary: Travels in the Balkans, the Middle East, and the Caucasus*. New York: Random, 2000. Print.

## Documentation Map (MLA)

### BOOK



Ekirch, A. Roger. *At Day's Close: Night in Times Past*. New York: Norton, 2005. Print.

### 3. TWO OR THREE AUTHORS

First Author's Last Name, First Name, Second Author's First and Last Names, and Third Author's First and Last Names. *Title*.

Publication City: Publisher, Year of publication. Medium.

Malless, Stanley, and Jeffrey McQuain. *Coined by God: Words and Phrases That First Appear in the English Translations of the Bible*. New York: Norton, 2003. Print.

Sebranek, Patrick, Verne Meyer, and Dave Kemper. *Writers INC: A Guide to Writing, Thinking, and Learning*. Burlington: Write Source, 1990. Print.

### 4. FOUR OR MORE AUTHORS

You may give each author's name or the name of the first author only, followed by *et al.*, Latin for "and others."

First Author's Last Name, First Name, Second Author's First and Last Names, Third Author's First and Last Names, and Final Author's First and Last Names. *Title*. Publication City: Publisher, Year of publication. Medium.

Anderson, Robert, John Malcolm Brinnin, John Leggett, Gary Q. Arpin, and Susan Allen Toth. *Elements of Literature: Literature of the United States*. Austin: Holt, 1993. Print.

Anderson, Robert, et al. *Elements of Literature: Literature of the United States*. Austin: Holt, 1993. Print.

### 5. ORGANIZATION OR GOVERNMENT AS AUTHOR

Organization Name. *Title*. Publication City: Publisher, Year of publication. Medium.

Diagram Group. *The Macmillan Visual Desk Reference*. New York: Macmillan, 1993. Print.

For a government publication, give the name of the government first, followed by the names of any department and agency.

United States. Dept. of Health and Human Services. National Institute of Mental Health. *Autism Spectrum Disorders*. Washington: GPO, 2004. Print.

## 6. ANTHOLOGY

Editor's Last Name, First Name, ed. *Title*. Publication City: Publisher, Year of publication. Medium.

Hall, Donald, ed. *The Oxford Book of Children's Verse in America*. New York: Oxford UP, 1985. Print.

If there is more than one editor, list the first editor last-name-first and the others first-name-first.

Kitchen, Judith, and Mary Paumier Jones, eds. *In Short: A Collection of Brief Creative Nonfiction*. New York: Norton, 1996. Print.

## 7. WORK(S) IN AN ANTHOLOGY

Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of Work." *Title of Anthology*. Ed. Editor's First and Last Names. Publication City: Publisher, Year of publication. Pages. Medium.

Achebe, Chinua. "Uncle Ben's Choice." *The Seagull Reader: Literature*. Ed. Joseph Kelly. New York: Norton, 2005. 23–27. Print.

To document two or more selections from one anthology, list each selection by author and title, followed by the anthology editor(s) names and the pages of the selection. Then include an entry for the anthology itself (see no. 6).

Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of Work." Anthology Editor's Last Name Pages.

Hiestand, Emily. "Afternoon Tea." Kitchen and Jones 65–67.

Ozick, Cynthia. "The Shock of Teapots." Kitchen and Jones 68–71.

## 8. AUTHOR AND EDITOR

Start with the author if you've cited the text itself.

Author's Last Name, First Name. *Title*. Ed. Editor's First and Last Names. Publication City: Publisher, Year of publication. Medium.

Austen, Jane. *Emma*. Ed. Stephen M. Parrish. New York: Norton, 2000. Print.

Start with the editor to cite his or her contribution rather than the author's.

Editor's Last Name, First Name, ed. *Title*. By Author's First and Last Names. Publication City: Publisher, Year of publication. Medium.

Parrish, Stephen M., ed. *Emma*. By Jane Austen. New York: Norton, 2000. Print.

## 9. NO AUTHOR OR EDITOR

*Title*. Publication City: Publisher, Year of publication. Medium. 2008 *New York City Restaurants*. New York: Zagat, 2008. Print.

## 10. TRANSLATION

Start with the author to emphasize the work itself.

Author's Last Name, First Name. *Title*. Trans. Translator's First and Last Names. Publication City: Publisher, Year of publication. Medium.

Dostoevsky, Fyodor. *Crime and Punishment*. Trans. Richard Pevear and Larissa Volokhonsky. New York: Vintage, 1993. Print.

Start with the translator to emphasize the translation.

Pevear, Richard, and Larissa Volokhonsky, trans. *Crime and Punishment*. By Fyodor Dostoevsky. New York: Vintage, 1993. Print.



**11. GRAPHIC NARRATIVE**

Start with the person whose work is most relevant to your research, and include labels to indicate each collaborator's role.

Pekar, Harvey, writer. *American Splendor*. Illus. R. Crumb. New York: Four Walls, 1996. Print.

Crumb, R., illus. *American Splendor*. By Harvey Pekar. New York: Four Walls, 1996. Print.

If the work was written and illustrated by the same person, format the entry like that of any other book.

**12. FOREWORD, INTRODUCTION, PREFACE, OR AFTERWORD**

Part Author's Last Name, First Name. Name of Part. *Title of Book*.

By Author's First and Last Names. Publication City: Publisher,

Year of publication. Pages. Medium.

Tanner, Tony. Introduction. *Pride and Prejudice*. By Jane Austen. London: Penguin, 1972. 7–46. Print.

**13. MULTIVOLUME WORK**

If you cite all the volumes of a multivolume work, give the number of volumes after the title.

Author's Last Name, First Name. *Title of Complete Work*. Number of vols. Publication City: Publisher, Year of publication. Medium.

Sandburg, Carl. *Abraham Lincoln: The War Years*. 4 vols. New York: Harcourt, 1939. Print.

If you cite only one volume, give the volume number after the title.

Sandburg, Carl. *Abraham Lincoln: The War Years*. Vol. 2. New York: Harcourt, 1939. Print.

**14. ARTICLE IN A REFERENCE BOOK**

Provide the author's name if the article is signed. If the reference work is well known, give only the edition and year of publication.

Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of Article." *Title of Reference*

Book. Edition number. Year of publication. Medium.

"Kiwi." *Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary*. 11th ed. 2003.  
Print.

If the reference work is less familiar or more specialized, give full publication information. If it has only one volume or is in its first edition, omit that information.

Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of Article." *Title of Reference*

Book. Ed. Editor's First and Last Name. Edition number.

Number of vols. Publication City: Publisher, Year of  
publication. Medium.

Campbell, James. "The Harlem Renaissance." *The Oxford Companion to Twentieth-Century Poetry*. Ed. Ian Hamilton. Oxford: Oxford UP, 1994. Print.

#### 15. BOOK IN A SERIES

Editor's Last Name, First Name, ed. *Title of Book*. By Author's First

and Last Names. Publication City: Publisher, Year of  
publication. Medium. Series Title abbreviated.

Wall, Cynthia, ed. *The Pilgrim's Progress*. By John Bunyan. New York: Norton, 2007. Print. Norton Critical Ed.

#### 16. SACRED TEXT

If you have cited a specific edition of a religious text, you need to include it in your works-cited list.

*The New English Bible with the Apocrypha*. New York: Oxford UP, 1971. Print.

*The Torah: A Modern Commentary*. Ed. W. Gunther Plaut. New York: Union of Amer. Hebrew Congregations, 1981. Print.

**17. BOOK WITH TITLE WITHIN THE TITLE**

When the title of a book contains the title of another long work, do not italicize that title.

Walker, Roy. *Time Is Free: A Study of Macbeth*. London: Dakers, 1949. Print.

When the book title contains the title of a short work, put the short work in quotation marks, and italicize the entire title.

Thompson, Lawrance Roger. "*Fire and Ice*": *The Art and Thought of Robert Frost*. New York: Holt, 1942. Print.

**18. EDITION OTHER THAN THE FIRST**

Author's Last Name, First Name. *Title*. Name or number of ed.

Publication City: Publisher, Year of publication. Medium.

Hirsch, E. D., Jr., ed. *What Your Second Grader Needs to Know: Fundamentals of a Good Second-Grade Education*. Rev. ed. New York: Doubleday, 1998. Print.

**19. REPUBLISHED WORK**

Give the original publication date after the title, followed by the publication information of the republished edition.

Author's Last Name, First Name. *Title*. Year of original edition.

Publication City: Current Publisher, Year of republication.

Medium.

Bierce, Ambrose. *Civil War Stories*. 1909. New York: Dover, 1994. Print.

**20. PUBLISHER AND IMPRINT**

Some sources may provide both a publisher's name and an imprint on the title page; if so, include both, with a hyphen between the imprint and the publisher.

Author's Last Name, First Name. *Title*. Publication City: Imprint-  
Publisher, Year of publication. Medium.

Rowling, J. K. *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*. New York:  
Levine-Scholastic, 2000. Print.

## Periodicals

For most articles, you'll need to provide information about the author, the article title and any subtitle, the periodical title, any volume or issue number, the date, inclusive page numbers, and the medium—Print.

### IMPORTANT DETAILS FOR CITING PERIODICALS

- **AUTHORS:** If there is more than one author, list the first author last-name-first and the others first-name-first.
- **TITLES:** Capitalize titles and subtitles as you would for a book. For periodical titles, omit any initial A, An, or *The*.
- **DATES:** Abbreviate the names of months except for May, June, or July: Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr., Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec. Journals paginated by volume or issue need only the year (in parentheses).
- **PAGES:** If an article does not fall on consecutive pages, give the first page with a plus sign (55+).

### 21. ARTICLE IN A JOURNAL

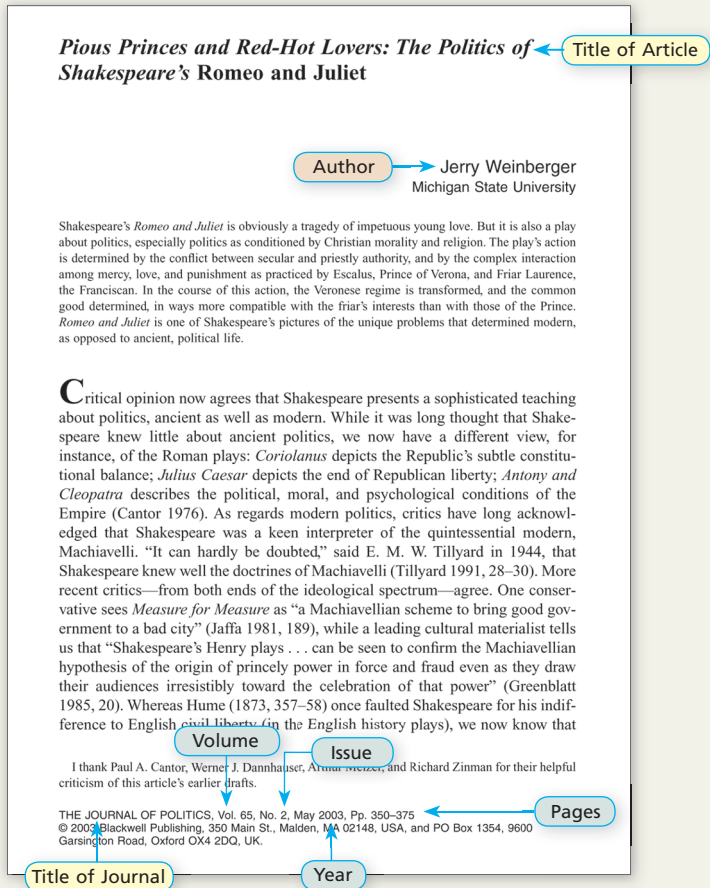
Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of Article." *Title of Journal*  
Volume.Issue (Year): Pages. Medium.  
Cooney, Brian C. "Considering *Robinson Crusoe's* 'Liberty of  
Conscience' in an Age of Terror." *College English* 69.3 (2007):  
197–215. Print.

### 22. ARTICLE IN A JOURNAL NUMBERED BY ISSUE

Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of Article." *Title of Journal*  
Issue (Year): Pages. Medium.

# Documentation Map (MLA)

## ARTICLE IN A JOURNAL



Weinberger, Jerry. "Pious Princes and Red-Hot Lovers: The Politics of Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*." *Journal of Politics* 65.2 (2003): 350–75. Print.

## Documentation Map (MLA)

### ARTICLE IN A MAGAZINE

**10 YEARS**  
PERSPECTIVES  
Essays by leading thinkers  
in celebration of the dog

Title of Article

# The Wolf in Your Dog

By Michael W. Fox, DVM, PhD

Author



Though in their deep heart's core, there is a commonality of origin, spirit, emotional intelligence and empathetic sensibility, the wild wolf looks through us, while the dog looks to us.

OF ALL THE MYRIAD MEMBERS OF THE ANIMAL KINGDOM, the domesticated dog (*Canis lupus familiaris*) is closest to us. With individual exceptions in other species, this canine species is the most understanding, if not also the most ob-servant, of human behavior—of our actions and intentions. This is why dogs are so responsive to us, even mirroring or mimicking our behavior. And it is why dogs are so trainable. Fear in unsocialized and abused dogs interferes with their attentiveness to and interpretation of human behavior and intentions. This is one reason wild species like the coyote and wolf, even when born and raised in captivity, are difficult to train. The wolf “Tim,” whom I bottle-raised and intensely socialized during her formative early days, never really lost her fear and distrust of strangers.

Tim did not start mirroring human behavior until she was close to nine years old. At this point, she began to mimic the human-to-human greeting grin, revealing her front teeth as she curled her lips into a snarly smile. In my experience, dogs

who can do this so at a much earlier age, even as early as four to six months.

In comparing socialized (human-bonded) wolves and dogs in terms of how they have related to me as well as to my family members, friends and strangers, I would say that the main difference between the two species is the fear factor. Differences in trainability hinge on this; as I theorize in my new book (*Dog Body, Dog Mind*), domestication has altered the tuning of the dog’s adrenal and autonomic nervous systems. This tuning (which dampens adrenal fright, flight and fight reactions and possibly alters brain serotonin levels), is accomplished through selective breeding for docility, and by gentle handling during the critical period for socialization. According to the earlier research of my mentors—Drs. John Paul Scott and John L. Fuller of the Jackson Laboratory in Bar Harbor, Maine—pups with no human contact during this critical socialization period (which ends around 12 to 16 weeks of age) are wild and unapproachable.

Pages

85

Month and year

Mar/Apr 2008 |

Title of Magazine

Bark

Fox, Michael W. “The Wolf in Your Dog.” *Bark* Mar.-Apr. 2008:

85–87. Print.

Flynn, Kevin. "The Railway in Canadian Poetry." *Canadian Literature* 174 (2002): 70–95. Print.

### 23. ARTICLE IN A MAGAZINE

Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of Article." *Title of Magazine*  
Day Month Year: Pages. Medium.

Walsh, Bryan. "Not a Watt to Be Wasted." *Time* 17 Mar. 2008: 46–47. Print.

For a monthly magazine, include only the month and year.

Fellman, Bruce. "Leading the Libraries." *Yale Alumni Magazine* Feb. 2002: 26–31. Print.

### 24. ARTICLE IN A DAILY NEWSPAPER

Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of Article." *Name of Newspaper* Day Month Year: Pages. Medium.

Springer, Shira. "Celtics Reserves Are Whizzes vs. Wizards." *Boston Globe* 14 Mar. 2005: D4+. Print.

If you are citing a particular edition of a newspaper, list the edition (late ed., natl. ed., etc.) after the date. And if a section is not identified by a letter, put the name of the section after the edition information.

Burns, John F., and Miguel Helft. "Under Pressure, YouTube Withdraws Muslim Cleric's Videos." *New York Times* 4 Nov. 2010, late ed., sec. 1: 13. Print.

### 25. UNSIGNED ARTICLE

"Title of Article." *Name of Publication* Day Month Year: Pages.  
Medium.

"Being Invisible Closer to Reality." *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* 11 Aug. 2008: A3. Print.

## 26. EDITORIAL

"Title." Editorial. *Name of Publication* Day Month Year: Page.  
Medium.

"Gas, Cigarettes Are Safe to Tax." Editorial. *Lakeville Journal* 17 Feb. 2005: A10. Print.

## 27. LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title (if any)." Letter. *Name of Publication* Day Month Year: Page. Medium.

Festa, Roger. "Social Security: Another Phony Crisis." Letter. *Lakeville Journal* 17 Feb. 2005: A10. Print.

## 28. REVIEW

Reviewer's Last Name, First Name. "Title (if any) of Review." Rev. of *Title of Work*, by Author's First and Last Names. *Title of Periodical* Day Month Year: Pages. Medium.

Frank, Jeffrey. "Body Count." Rev. of *The Exception*, by Christian Jungersen. *New Yorker* 30 July 2007: 86–87. Print.

## Online Sources

Not every online source gives you all the data that MLA would like to see in a works-cited entry. Ideally, you will be able to list the author's name, the title, information about print publication, information about electronic publication (title of site, editor, date of first electronic publication and /or most recent revision, name of the publisher or sponsoring institution), the publication medium, date of access, and, if necessary, a URL.

### IMPORTANT DETAILS FOR CITING ONLINE SOURCES

- **AUTHORS OR EDITORS** and **TITLES**: Format authors and titles as you would for a print book or periodical.
- **PUBLISHER**: If the name of the publisher or sponsoring institution is unavailable, use *N.p.*



- **DATES:** Abbreviate the months as you would for a print periodical. Although MLA asks for the date when materials were first posted or most recently updated, you won't always be able to find that information; if it's unavailable, use *n.d.* Be sure to include the date on which you accessed the source.
- **PAGES:** If the citation calls for page numbers but the source is unpaginated, use *n. pag.* in place of page numbers.
- **MEDIUM:** Indicate the medium—Web, email, CD-ROM, and so on.
- **URL:** MLA assumes that readers can locate most sources on the Web by searching for the author, title, or other identifying information, so they don't require a URL for most online sources. When users can't locate the source without a URL, give the address of the website in angle brackets. When a URL won't fit on one line, break it only after a slash (and do not add a hyphen). If a URL is very long, consider giving the URL of the site's home or search page instead.

## 29. ENTIRE WEBSITE

For websites with an editor, compiler, director, narrator, or translator, follow the name with the appropriate abbreviation (*ed.*, *comp.*).

Author's Last Name, First Name. *Title of Site*. Publisher or Sponsoring Institution, Date posted or last updated. Medium. Day Month Year of access.

Zalta, Edward N., ed. *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*. Metaphysics Research Lab, Center for the Study of Language and Information, Stanford U, 2007. Web. 14 Nov. 2010.

## PERSONAL WEBSITE

Author's Last Name, First Name. Home page. Sponsor, Date posted or last updated. Medium. Day Month Year of access.

Nunberg, Geoffrey. Home page. School of Information, U of California, Berkeley, 2009. Web. 13 Apr. 2009.

# Documentation Map (MLA)

## WORK FROM A WEBSITE

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <http://fore.research.yale.edu/disciplines/ethics/>. The page has a green header with the title "Forum on Religion and Ecology" and a navigation bar with links: Information, Religion, Intersecting Disciplines, Resources for Educators, Publications, and Events. A left sidebar lists categories: Ethics, Bibliography, Additional Essays, Links, Science, Economics, Gender, and Policy. The main content area features a photograph of a forest with pink flowers. Below the photo, the article title "Introduction to Ethics" is displayed, followed by the subtitle "Environmental Ethics: An Overview" and the author "J. Baird Callicott, University of Texas". A callout box labeled "Author" points to the author's name. Below the author information is a paragraph of text. At the bottom of the page, a footer contains copyright information and a note about the site being hosted by the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies. A callout box labeled "Date posted or last updated" points to the copyright year "2000". Another callout box labeled "Sponsoring Institution" points to the "Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies" text. The bottom navigation bar includes links for Home, Contact, and Search.

**Title of Site** → Forum on Religion and Ecology

**Title of Article** → Introduction to Ethics

**Author** → J. Baird Callicott  
University of Texas

**Date posted or last updated** → Copyright © 2000 J. Baird Callicott.  
Reprinted with permission.

**Sponsoring Institution** → This site is hosted courtesy of the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies  
Copyright © 2004 Forum on Religion and Ecology.  
All rights reserved.  
Last Updated:

Callicott, J. Baird. "Environmental Ethics: An Overview." *Forum on Religion and Ecology*. Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies, 2000. Web. 17 Sept. 2008.

**30. WORK FROM A WEBSITE**

Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of Work." *Title of Site*. Ed. Editor's First and Last Names. Sponsor, Date posted or last updated. Medium. Day Month Year of access.

Buff, Rachel Ida. "Becoming American." *Immigration History Research Center*. U of Minnesota, 24 Mar. 2008. Web. 4 Apr. 2008.

**31. ONLINE BOOK OR PART OF A BOOK**

Cite a book you access online as you would a print book, adding the name of the site or database, the medium, and the date of access.

Anderson, Sherwood. *Winesburg, Ohio*. New York: B. W. Huebsch, 1919. *Bartleby.com*. Web. 7 Apr. 2008.

If you are citing a part of a book, put the part in quotation marks before the book title. If the online book is paginated, give the pages; if not, use *N. pag.*

Anderson, Sherwood. "The Strength of God." *Winesburg, Ohio*. New York: B. W. Huebsch, 1919. *N. pag. Bartleby.com*. Web. 7 Apr. 2008.

To cite a book you've downloaded onto a Kindle, Nook, or other digital device, follow the setup for a print book, but indicate the ebook format at the end of your citation.

Larson, Erik. *The Devil in the White City: Murder, Mayhem, and Madness at the Fair That Changed America*. New York: Vintage, 2004. Kindle.

**32. ARTICLE IN AN ONLINE SCHOLARLY JOURNAL**

If a journal does not number pages or if it numbers each article separately, use *n. pag.* in place of page numbers.

Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of Article." *Title of Journal*. Volume.Issue (Year): Pages. Medium. Day Month Year of access.

Gleckman, Jason. "Shakespeare as Poet or Playwright? The Player's Speech in *Hamlet*." *Early Modern Literary Studies* 11.3 (2006): n. pag. Web. 24 June 2008.

### 33. ARTICLE IN AN ONLINE NEWSPAPER

Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of Article." *Title of Newspaper*. Publisher, Day Month Year. Medium. Day Month Year of access.

Banerjee, Neela. "Proposed Religion-Based Program for Federal Inmates Is Canceled." *New York Times*. New York Times, 28 Oct. 2006. Web. 24 June 2008.

### 34. ARTICLE IN AN ONLINE MAGAZINE

Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of Article." *Title of Magazine*. Publisher, Date of publication. Medium. Day Month Year of access.

Lithwick, Dahlia. "Privacy Rights Inc." *Slate*. Washington Post–Newsweek Interactive, 14 Oct. 2010. Web. 25 Oct. 2010.

### 35. BLOG ENTRY

Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of Entry." *Title of Blog*. Sponsor, Day Month Year posted. Medium. Day Month Year of access.

Gladwell, Malcolm. "Enron and Newspapers." *Gladwell.com*. N.p., 4 Jan. 2007. Web. 26 Aug. 2008.

If the entry has no title, use "Blog entry" without quotation marks. Cite a whole blog as you would an entire website (see no. 29). If the publisher or sponsor is unavailable, use N.p.

### 36. ARTICLE ACCESSED THROUGH A DATABASE

For articles accessed through a library's subscription services, such as InfoTrac and EBSCO, cite the publication information for the source, followed by the name of the database.

Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of Article." *Title of Periodical*  
Date or Volume.Issue (Year): Pages. Database. Medium. Day  
Month Year of access.

Stalter, Sunny. "Subway Ride and Subway System in Hart Crane's 'The Tunnel.'" *Journal of Modern Literature* 33.2 (2010): 70-91.  
*Academic Search Complete*. Web. 28 May 2010.

### 37. ONLINE EDITORIAL

"Title of Editorial." Editorial. *Title of Site*. Publisher, Day Month Year  
of publication. Medium. Day Month Year of access.

"Keep Drinking Age at 21." Editorial. *ChicagoTribune.com*. Chicago  
Tribune, 25 Aug. 2008. Web. 28 Aug. 2008.

### 38. ONLINE FILM REVIEW

Reviewer's Last Name, First Name. "Title of Review." Rev. of *Title of*  
*Work*, dir. First and Last Names. *Title of Site*. Publisher, Day  
Month Year posted. Medium. Day Month Year of access.

Edelstein, David. "Best Served Cold." Rev. of *The Social Network*, dir.  
David Fincher. *New York Magazine*. New York Media, 1 Oct.  
2010. Web. 3 Nov. 2010.

### 39. EMAIL

Writer's Last Name, First Name. "Subject Line." Message to the  
author. Day Month Year of message. Medium.

Smith, William. "Teaching Grammar—Some Thoughts." Message to  
the author. 19 Nov. 2007. Email.

### 40. POSTING TO AN ONLINE FORUM

Writer's Last Name, First Name. "Title of Posting." *Name of Forum*.  
Sponsor, Day Month Year of posting. Medium. Day Month  
Year of access.

Mintz, Stephen H. "Manumission During the Revolution." *H-Net List*  
*on Slavery*. Michigan State U, 14 Sept. 2006. Web. 18 Apr. 2009.

# Documentation Map (MLA)

## ARTICLE ACCESSED THROUGH A DATABASE

The screenshot shows the EBSCOhost search results page for the article "I'm Bart Simpson, who the hell are you?" by Ott, Brian L. The page is annotated with yellow callouts for MLA documentation elements:

- Title of Article**: Points to the article title "I'm Bart Simpson, who the hell are you?" A Study in Postmodern Identity (Re)Construction.
- Author**: Points to the author name Ott, Brian L.<sup>1</sup>
- Title of Periodical**: Points to the journal title *Journal of Popular Culture*.
- Pages**: Points to the page range p56-82, 27p.
- Volume and issue**: Points to the volume and issue information Vol. 37 Issue 1.
- Year**: Points to the year 2003.
- Database**: Points to the database name Academic Search Complete.

The EBSCOhost interface includes a search bar, navigation tabs (Basic Search, Advanced Search, Visual Search, Choose Databases), and a list of search results. The article details are as follows:

| Field              | Value  |
|--------------------|--|
| Title              | "I'm Bart Simpson, who the hell are you?" A Study in Postmodern Identity (Re)Construction.   |
| Authors            | Ott, Brian L. <sup>1</sup>   |
| Source             | <i>Journal of Popular Culture</i> , Summer 2003, Vol. 37 Issue 1, p56-82, 27p  |
| Document Type      | Article  |
| Subject Terms      | *SIMPSON, Bart (Fictitious character)<br>*SIMPSON, Homer (Fictitious character)<br>*SIMPSON, Marge (Fictitious character)<br>*SIMPSON, Lisa (Fictitious character)<br>*SIMPSON, Bart (Fictitious character)<br>*SIMPSON, Homer (Fictitious character)<br>*SIMPSON, Marge (Fictitious character)<br>*SIMPSON, Lisa (Fictitious character)<br>*SIMPSON, Bart (Fictitious character)<br>*SIMPSON, Homer (Fictitious character)<br>*SIMPSON, Marge (Fictitious character)<br>*SIMPSON, Lisa (Fictitious character) |
| Reviews & Products | SIMPSON, The (TV program)  |
| People             | GROENING, Matt   |

Below the search results, the following information is provided:

| Field                           | Value   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Author Affiliations:            | <sup>1</sup> Assistant Professor of Media Studies, Colorado State University  |
| ISSN:                           | 00223840  |
| DOI:                            | 10.1111/1540-6931.00054   |
| Accession Number:               | 10130896  |
| Persistent link to this record: | <a href="http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&amp;db=a9h&amp;AN=10130896&amp;site=ehost-live">http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&amp;db=a9h&amp;AN=10130896&amp;site=ehost-live</a> |
| Database:                       | Academic Search Complete  |
| View Links:                     | <a href="#">Find it!</a> <a href="#">Find it!</a>   |
| Publisher Logo:                 |   |

Ott, Brian L. "I'm Bart Simpson, Who the Hell Are You?' A Study in Postmodern Identity (Re)Construction." *Journal of Popular Culture* 37.1 (2003): 56-82. *Academic Search Complete*. Web. 24 Mar. 2008.

**41. ARTICLE IN AN ONLINE REFERENCE WORK**

"Title of Article." *Title of Reference Work*. Sponsor, Date of work.  
Medium. Day Month Year of access.

"Dubai." *MSN Encarta*. Microsoft Corporation, 2008. Web. 20 June 2008.

**42. WIKI ENTRY**

"Title of Entry." *Title of Wiki*. Sponsor, Day Month Year updated.  
Medium. Day Month Year of access.

"Pi." *Wikipedia*. Wikimedia Foundation, 28 Aug. 2008. Web. 2 Sept. 2008.

**43. PODCAST**

Performer or Host's Last Name, First Name. "Title of Podcast."  
Host Host's First and Last Name. *Title of Program*. Sponsor, Day  
Month Year posted. Medium. Day Month Year of access.

Blumberg, Alex, and Adam Davidson. "The Giant Pool of Money."  
Host Ira Glass. *This American Life*. Chicago Public Radio, 9 May 2008. Web. 18 Sept. 2008.

**Other Kinds of Sources (including online versions)**

Many of the sources in this section can be found online, and you'll find examples here for how to cite them. If there is no Web model here, start with the guidelines most appropriate for the source you need to cite, omit the original medium, and end your citation with the title of the website, italicized; the medium (Web); and the day, month, and year of access.

**44. ADVERTISEMENT**

Product or Company. Advertisement. *Title of Periodical*. Date or  
Volume.Issue (Year): Page. Medium.

Empire BlueCross BlueShield. Advertisement. *Fortune* 8 Dec. 2003: 208. Print.

**ADVERTISEMENT ON THE WEB**

Rolex. Advertisement. *Time*. Time, n.d. Web. 1 Apr. 2009.

**45. ART**

Artist's Last Name, First Name. *Title of Art*. Medium. Year. Institution, City.

Van Gogh, Vincent. *The Potato Eaters*. Oil on canvas. 1885. Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam.

**ART ON THE WEB**

Warhol, Andy. *Self-Portrait*. 1979. J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles. *The Getty*. Web. 29 Mar. 2007.

Cite photographs you find online by giving the photographer, title, and date of the image, if available. If the date is unavailable, use n.d. For photographs you take yourself, see no. 64.

Donnell, Ryan. *At a Pre-Civil War Railroad Construction Site Outside of Philadelphia*. 2010. Smithsonian Institution. *Smithsonian.com*. Web. 3 Nov. 2010.

**46. CARTOON**

Artist's Last Name, First Name. "Title of Cartoon (if titled)." Cartoon. *Title of Periodical* Date or Volume.Issue (Year): Page. Medium.

Chast, Roz. "The Three Wise Men of Thanksgiving." Cartoon. *New Yorker* 1 Dec. 2003: 174. Print.

**CARTOON ON THE WEB**

Horsey, David. Cartoon. *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*. Seattle Post-Intelligencer, 20 Apr. 2008. Web. 21 Apr. 2008.

**47. DISSERTATION**

Treat a published dissertation as you would a book, but after its title, add the abbreviation Diss., the institution, and the date of the dissertation.



Author's Last Name, First Name. *Title*. Diss. Institution, Year.

Publication City: Publisher, Year. Medium.

Goggin, Peter N. *A New Literacy Map of Research and Scholarship in Computers and Writing*. Diss. Indiana U of Pennsylvania, 2000. Ann Arbor: UMI, 2001. Print.

For unpublished dissertations, put the title in quotation marks and end with the degree-granting institution and the year.

Kim, Loel. "Students Respond to Teacher Comments: A Comparison of Online Written and Voice Modalities." Diss. Carnegie Mellon U, 1998. Print.

#### 48. CD-ROM OR DVD-ROM

*Title*. Any pertinent information about the edition, release, or version. Publication City: Publisher, Year of publication. Medium.

*Othello*. Princeton: Films for the Humanities and Sciences, 1998. CD-ROM.

If you are citing only part of the CD-ROM or DVD-ROM, name the part as you would a part of a book.

"Snow Leopard." *Encarta Encyclopedia 2007*. Seattle: Microsoft, 2007. CD-ROM.

#### 49. FILM, DVD, OR VIDEO CLIP

*Title*. Dir. Director's First and Last Names. Perf. Lead Actors' First and Last Names. Distributor, Year of release. Medium.

*Casablanca*. Dir. Michael Curtiz. Perf. Humphrey Bogart, Ingrid Bergman, and Claude Rains. Warner, 1942. Film.

To cite a particular person's work, start with that name.

Cody, Diablo, scr. *Juno*. Dir. Jason Reitman. Perf. Ellen Page, Michael Cera, Jennifer Garner, and Jason Bateman. Fox Searchlight, 2007. DVD.

Cite a video clip on YouTube or a similar site as you would a short work from a website.

Director's Last Name, First Name, dir. "Title of Video." *Title of Site*.  
Sponsor, Day Month Year of release. Medium. Day Month Year  
of access.

PivotMasterDX, dir. "Bounce!" *YouTube*. YouTube, 14 June 2008.  
Web. 21 June 2008.

#### 50. BROADCAST INTERVIEW

Subject's Last Name, First Name. Interview. *Title of Program*.  
Network. Station, City. Day Month Year. Medium.  
Gates, Henry Louis, Jr. Interview. *Fresh Air*. NPR. WNYC, New York.  
9 Apr. 2002. Radio.

#### 51. PUBLISHED INTERVIEW

Subject's Last Name, First Name. Interview, or "Title of Interview."  
*Title of Periodical* Date or Volume.Issue (Year): Pages. Medium.  
Stone, Oliver. Interview. *Esquire* Nov. 2004: 170. Print.

#### 52. PERSONAL INTERVIEW

Subject's Last Name, First Name. Personal interview. Day Month Year.  
Roddick, Andy. Personal interview. 17 Aug. 2008.

#### 53. UNPUBLISHED LETTER

For medium, use MS for a hand-written letter and TS for a typed one.

Author's Last Name, First Name. Letter to the author. Day Month  
Year. Medium.

Quindlen, Anna. Letter to the author. 11 Apr. 2002. MS.

#### 54. PUBLISHED LETTER

Letter Writer's Last Name, First Name. Letter to First and Last Names.  
Day Month Year of letter. *Title of Book*. Ed. Editor's First and

Last Names. City: Publisher, Year of publication. Pages.  
Medium.

White, E. B. Letter to Carol Angell. 28 May 1970. *Letters of E. B. White*. Ed. Dorothy Lobarno Guth. New York: Harper, 1976. 600. Print.

#### 55. MAP OR CHART

*Title of Map*. Map. City: Publisher, Year of publication. Medium.  
*Toscana*. Map. Milan: Touring Club Italiano, 1987. Print.

#### MAP ON THE WEB

"Portland, Oregon." Map. *Google Maps*. Google, 25 Apr. 2009. Web.  
25 Apr. 2009.

#### 56. MUSICAL SCORE

Composer's Last Name, First Name. *Title of Composition*. Year of composition. Publication City: Publisher, Year of publication. Medium. Series Information (if any).  
Beethoven, Ludwig van. *String Quartet No. 13 in B Flat, Op. 130*. 1825. New York: Dover, 1970. Print.

#### 57. SOUND RECORDING

Artist's Last Name, First Name. *Title of Long Work*. Other pertinent details about the artists. Manufacturer, Year of release. Medium.

Beethoven, Ludwig van. *Missa Solemnis*. Perf. Westminster Choir and New York Philharmonic. Cond. Leonard Bernstein. Sony, 1992. CD.

Whether you list the composer, conductor, or performer first depends on where you want to place the emphasis. If you are citing a specific song, put it in quotation marks before the name of the recording.

Brown, Greg. "Canned Goods." *The Live One*. Red House, 1995. MP3 file.

For a spoken-word recording, you may begin with the writer, speaker, or producer, depending on your emphasis.

Dale, Jim, narr. *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*. By J. K. Rowling. Random House Audio, 2007. CD.

#### 58. ORAL PRESENTATION

Speaker's Last Name, First Name. "Title of Lecture." Sponsoring Institution. Site, City. Day Month Year. Medium.

Cassin, Michael. "Nature in the Raw—The Art of Landscape Painting." Berkshire Institute for Lifetime Learning. Clark Art Institute, Williamstown. 24 Mar. 2005. Lecture.

#### 59. PAPER FROM PROCEEDINGS OF A CONFERENCE

Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of Paper." *Title of Conference Proceedings*. Date, City. Ed. Editor's First and Last Names. Publication City: Publisher, Year. Pages. Medium.

Zolotow, Charlotte. "Passion in Publishing." *A Sea of Upturned Faces: Proceedings of the Third Pacific Rim Conference on Children's Literature*. 1986, Los Angeles. Ed. Winifred Ragsdale. Metuchen: Scarecrow P, 1989. 236–49. Print.

#### 60. PERFORMANCE

Title. By Author's First and Last Names. Other appropriate details about the performance. Site, City. Day Month Year. Medium.

*Take Me Out*. By Richard Greenberg. Dir. Scott Plate. Perf. Caleb Sekeres. Dobama Theatre, Cleveland. 17 Aug. 2007. Performance.

#### 61. TELEVISION OR RADIO PROGRAM

"Title of Episode." *Title of Program*. Other appropriate information about the writer, director, actors, etc. Network. Station, City, Day Month Year of broadcast. Medium.

"Tabula Rasa." *Criminal Minds*. Writ. Dan Dworkin. Dir. Steve Boyum. NBC. WCNC, Charlotte, 14 May 2008. Television.

#### TELEVISION OR RADIO ON THE WEB

"Bush's War." *Frontline*. Writ. and dir. Michael Kirk. PBS, 24 Mar. 2008. *PBS.org*. Web. 10 Apr. 2009.

#### 62. PAMPHLET, BROCHURE, OR PRESS RELEASE

Author's Last Name, First Name. *Title of Publication*. Publication City: Publisher, Year. Medium.

Bowers, Catherine. *Can We Find a Home Here? Answering Questions of Interfaith Couples*. Boston: UUA Publications, n.d. Print.

To cite a press release, include the day and month before the year.

#### 63. LEGAL SOURCE

The name of a court case is not italicized in a works-cited entry.

Names of the First Plaintiff v. First Defendant. Volume Name Page numbers of law report. Name of Court. Year of decision. Source information for medium consulted.

District of Columbia v. Heller. 540 US 290. Supreme Court of the US. 2008. *Supreme Court Collection*. Legal Information Inst., Cornell U Law School, n.d. Web. 18 Mar. 2009.

For acts of law, include both the Public Law number and the Statutes at Large volume and page numbers.

Name of Law. Public law number. Statutes at Large Volume Stat. Pages. Day Month Year enacted. Medium.

Military Commissions Act. Pub. L. 109-366. 120 Stat. 2083-2521. 17 Oct. 2006. Print.

#### 64. MP3, JPEG, PDF, OR OTHER DIGITAL FILE

For downloaded songs, photographs, PDFs, and other documents stored on your computer or another digital device, follow the guide-

lines for the type of work you are citing (art, journal article, and so on) and give the file type as the medium.

Talking Heads. "Burning Down the House." *Speaking in Tongues*.

Sire, 1983. Digital file.

Taylor, Aaron. "Twilight of the Idols: Performance, Melodramatic Villainy, and *Sunset Boulevard*." *Journal of Film and Video* 59 (2007): 13–31. PDF file.

## Citing Sources Not Covered by MLA

To cite a source for which MLA does not provide guidelines, look for models similar to the source you are citing. Give any information readers will need in order to find your source themselves—author; title, subtitle; publisher and/or sponsor; medium; dates; and any other pertinent information. You might want to try out your citation yourself, to be sure it will lead others to your source.

## MLA-d Formatting a Paper

**Name, course, title.** MLA does not require a separate title page. In the upper left-hand corner of your first page, include your name, your professor's name, the name of the course, and the date. Center the title of your paper on the next line after the date; capitalize it as you would a book title.

**Page numbers.** In the upper right-hand corner of each page, one-half inch below the top of the page, include your last name and the page number. Number pages consecutively throughout your paper.

**Spacing, margins, and indents.** Double-space the entire paper, including your works-cited list. Set one-inch margins at the top, bottom, and sides of your text; do not justify your text. The first line of each paragraph should be indented one-half inch from the left margin.

**Long quotations.** When quoting more than three lines of poetry, more than four lines of prose, or dialogue between two or more char-

acters from a drama, set off the quotation from the rest of your text, indenting it one inch (or ten spaces) from the left margin. Do not use quotation marks, and put any parenthetical documentation *after* the final punctuation.

In *Eastward to Tartary*, Kaplan captures ancient and contemporary Antioch for us:

At the height of its glory in the Roman-Byzantine age, when it had an amphitheater, public baths, aqueducts, and sewage pipes, half a million people lived in Antioch. Today the population is only 125,000. With sour relations between Turkey and Syria, and unstable politics throughout the Middle East, Antioch is now a backwater—seedy and tumbledown, with relatively few tourists. I found it altogether charming. (123)

In the first stanza of Arnold's "Dover Beach," the exclamations make clear that the speaker is addressing a companion who is also present in the scene:

Come to the window, sweet is the night air!  
Only, from the long line of spray  
Where the sea meets the moon-blanced land,  
Listen! You hear the grating roar  
Of pebbles which the waves draw back, and fling. (6–10)

**Illustrations.** Insert illustrations in your paper close to the text that discusses them. For tables, provide a number (*Table 1*) and a title on separate lines above the table. Below the table, include a caption and provide information about the source. For figures (graphs, charts, photos, and so on), provide a figure number (*Fig. 1*), caption, and source information below the figure. If you give only brief information about the source (such as a parenthetical citation), or if the source is cited elsewhere in your text, include the source in your list of works cited. Be sure to discuss any illustrations, and make it clear how they relate to the rest of your text.

**List of Works Cited.** Start your list on a new page, following any notes. Center the title and double-space the entire list. Each entry should begin at the left margin, and subsequent lines should be indented one-half inch (or five spaces). Alphabetize the list by authors' last names (or by editors' or translators' names, if appropriate). Alphabetize works that have no identifiable author or editor by title, disregarding *A*, *An*, and *The*. If you cite more than one work by a single author, list them all alphabetically by title, and use three hyphens in place of the author's name after the first entry.

### **MLA-e Sample Pages**

The following sample pages are from "Against the Odds: Harry S. Truman and the Election of 1948," a report written by Dylan Borchers for a first-year writing course. They are formatted according to the guidelines of the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, 7th edition (2009). To read the complete report, go to [www.norton.com/write/little-seagull-handbook](http://www.norton.com/write/little-seagull-handbook).



## Sample Page of Research Paper, MLA Style

Dylan Borchers  
 Professor Bullock  
 English 102, Section 4  
 31 March 2009

Borchers 1 Last name and page number.

Against the Odds: Title centered.

Harry S. Truman and the Election of 1948

"Thomas E. Dewey's Election as President Is a Foregone Double-spaced throughout.

Conclusion," read a headline in the *New York Times* during the presidential election race between incumbent Democrat Harry S. Truman and his Republican challenger, Thomas E. Dewey. Earlier, *Life* magazine had put Dewey on its cover with the caption "The Next President of the United States" (qtd. in "1948 Truman-Dewey Election"). In a *Newsweek* survey of fifty prominent political writers, each one predicted Truman's defeat, and *Time* correspondents declared that Dewey would carry 39 of the 48 states (Donaldson 210). Nearly every major media outlet across the United States endorsed Dewey and lambasted Truman. As historian Robert H. Ferrell observes, even Truman's wife, Bess, thought he would be beaten (270).

The results of an election are not so easily predicted, as the famous photograph on page 2 shows. Not only did Truman win the election, but he won by a significant margin, with 303 electoral votes and 24,179,259 popular votes, compared to Dewey's 189 electoral votes and 21,991,291 popular votes (Donaldson 204-07). In fact, many historians and political analysts argue that Truman would have won by an even greater margin had third-party Progressive candidate Henry A. Wallace not split the Democratic

Author named in signal phrase, page numbers in parentheses.

## Sample Page of Research Paper, MLA Style

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• **Fig. 1.** President Harry S. Truman holds up an Election Day edition of the *Chicago Daily Tribune*, which mistakenly announced “Dewey Defeats Truman.” St. Louis. 4 Nov. 1948 (Rollins).

vote in New York State and Dixiecrat Strom Thurmond not won four states in the South (McCullough 711). Although Truman’s defeat was heavily predicted, those predictions themselves, Dewey’s passiveness as a campaigner, and Truman’s zeal turned the tide for a Truman victory.

• In the months preceding the election, public opinion polls predicted that Dewey would win by a large margin. Pollster Elmo Roper stopped polling in September, believing there was no reason to continue, given a seemingly inevitable Dewey landslide. Although the margin narrowed as the election drew near, the other pollsters predicted a Dewey win by at least 5 percent (Donaldson 209). Many historians believe that these predictions aided the president in the long run. First, surveys showing Dewey in the lead

Illustration close to the text to which it relates. Figure number, caption, and parenthetical source citation included.

Paragraphs indent  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch or 5 spaces.

No signal phrase; author and page numbers in parentheses.

## Sample Works Cited List, MLA Style

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Heading centered.

## • Works Cited

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Alphabetized by authors' last names.

Double-spaced.

Each entry begins at the left margin; subsequent lines indented.

Multiple works by a single author listed alphabetically by title.