# MLA Citation Guide

Citing sources properly when researching and writing a paper or preparing a presentation is an integral element in the research process. The MLA style is most often used in the fields related to the humanities and history. The following examples provide a starting point to citing resources using the MLA Style. For more detailed information use the MLA Handbook listed at the bottom of the next page.

## Books:

**Basic Form -**   Author name. *Title of the Book.* Publisher location: Publisher name, Publication date. Publication medium (Print.)

**Examples -**   Delbanco, Andrew. *Required Reading: Why Our American Classics Matter Now.*
New York: Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 1997. Print.

Nicolay, John G., and Michael Burlingame. *An Oral History of Abraham Lincoln: John G. Nicolay's Interviews and Essays*. Carbondale: Southern Illinois University Press, 1996. Print.

## Online Books:

**Basic Form -**   Author name. *Title of the Book.* Publisher location: Publisher name, Publication date. *Title of database or website.* Publication medium (Web.) Access date.

**Examples -**   Cummings, Claire Hope. *Uncertain Peril: Genetic Engineering and the Future of Seeds.* Boston: Beacon Press, 2008. e*brary.* Web. 29 June 2010.

Raabe, Emily. *The Gold Rush: California or Bust!* New York: Rosen Publishing Group, 2003. *Google Book Search.* Web. 29 June 2010.

## Magazine and Newspaper Articles:

**Basic Form -**   Author name. "Title of the Article." *Publication Title*  Date: Pages. Publication medium (Print.)

**Examples -**   Strobel, Warren P. "A War in the Shadows." *U.S. News and World Report*  8 Jan. 2001: 22-25. Print.

Gugliotta, Guy. "'Fast Track' Rides Back on Africa Bill." *Washington Post*  22 Jul. 1998: A4. Print.

## Scholarly Articles:

**Basic Form -**   Author name. "Title of the Article." *Journal Title*  Volume.Issue  (Year): Pages. Publication medium (Print.)

**Examples -**   O'Hanlon-Nichols, Theresa. "Adult Cardiovascular System." *American Journal of Nursing*  97.12 (1997): 34-40. Print.

Pernick, Martin. "Eugenics and Public Health in American History." *American Journal of Public Health*  87 (1997): 1767-1772. Print.

## Articles Retrieved from Online Databases:

**Basic Form -**   Author name. "Title of the Article." *Title of Journal or Magazine*  Publication information. *Database name*. Publication Medium (Web.) Access date. (If page numbers are not continuous, give the first page number followed by a plus sign; if pagination is not known, use "n. pag.")

**Examples -**
**Scholarly -**   Aronson, Barbara S. and Melissa Marquis. "Care of the Adult Patient with Cystic Fibrosis." *Medsurg Nursing* 13 (2004): 143-155.  *Nursing and Allied Health Source*. Web. 2 August 2004.

Walls, Kimberly C. "Technology for Future Music Educators." *Journal of Music Teacher Education*  9.2 (2000): n. pag. *Education Journal*s. Web. 2 August 2004.

**Magazine -**   Gibbs, Nancy. "Spooked by the Surplus." *Time* 19 July 1999: 32+.  *Academic Search Premier.* Web. 15 February 2001

**Newspaper -**   Bittman, Mark. "Choice Tables: in Amsterdam, a Mediterranean Style Holds Sway." *New York Times* 15 Sept. 2002, late ed., sec. 5:6+. *LexisNexis Academic Universe.* Web. 14 December 2003.

# Videocassettes & DVDs:

**Basic Form -**   *Title*. Director. If pertinent, include screenwriters, performers, producer, and original release date. Distributor, Release date. Publication medium (Videocassette or DVD.)

**Examples -**   *All the President's Men.* Dir. Alan J. Pakula. Perf. Robert Redford, Dustin Hoffman. 1976. Warner Home Video, 1986. Videocassette.

*American Tongues.* Dir. Andrew Kolker and Louis Alvarez. Center for New American Media. 1987. Videocassette.

# Web Pages:

**Basic Form -**   Author (or one of the following: Editor, Compiler, Translator). "Title of Work." *Title of Overall Website.* Publisher or sponsor (if none found, use "N.p."), Date of publication (or "n.d." for no date). Publication medium (Web.) Date of access. (Note: use a generic label such as Home page, Introduction, or Online posting for untitled pages. Do not put these in quotations or italics.)

**Example -**   "The Murder of the Handicapped." *United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.* United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, n.d. Web. 14 June 2004.

**Originally avail. in print -**  Original publication info. *Title of Database or Web Site.* Publication medium (Web.) Access date.

**Example -**   Ramaswamy, Vinita M. "Identity-Theft Toolkit." *CPA Journal* 76.10 (2006): 66-70. *CPA Journal Online.* Web. 30 June 2010.

**Avail. in medium other than print -**  Original publication info. *Title of Database or Web Site.* Publication medium (Web.) Access date.

**Example -**   Sinclair, Peter. *Climate Denial Crock of the Week: the "Temp Leads Carbon" Crock.* 20 April 2009. *YouTube.com.* Web. 5 June 2009.

# Parenthetical References:

Parenthetical references or references within the text of a research paper must point to a specific source in that paper's list of works cited. These references must be as specific as possible and generally consist of the author or authors' names and the relevant page numbers of the information discussed. If the author's name is clearly identified in your text, put the number reference in parentheses. Otherwise, the references are placed within parentheses with a space between the author's name and the page numbers. Below are a few common examples. For more specific information, see the sources listed at the bottom of the page.

One work by a single author in the list of works cited:
(Johnson 15-21)

More than one author with same last name – add first initial:
(J. Henderson 125-131)  or  (M. Henderson 253-254)

When there is more than one author of a work:
(Smith and Jones 58-62)  or  (Smith, Jones, and Hanover 58-62)

If there are more than three authors, follow the form used in the list of works cited. Write out all the authors names or abbreviate with "**et al.**"
(Smith, Jones, Hanover and Riley 58-62)  or  (Smith et al. 58-62)

When the work is listed by title in the List of Works Cited, use the full title or the first part of the title in place of an author:
(*Capitol Punishment in America since World War II* 212)  or  (*Capitol Punishment* 212)

**Web Pages and Videotapes -**

When citing an electronic source that does not have page numbers or any other type of reference markers, it is usually easier to refer to it directly within the text. If you listed the source by author in your list of works cited, refer to it by author. If you listed it by title, refer to it by title.

David Manura's *Dave's Math Tables* provides a wonderful resource for algebra students.
    or
*Dave's Math Tables,* by David Manura, provides a wonderful resource for algebra students.