

MLA Style and Formatting for a List of Works Cited

The following information is an abridged version of the style and formatting guidelines found in the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, 7th ed. (2009), published by the Modern Language Association. This sheet is to serve as a ready-reference; more in-depth descriptions can be found in the handbook in the sections listed before each example. You should check with your professor to determine style and formatting preferences.

GENERAL FORMAT:

- Place the Works Cited at the end of your paper in continuous pagination.
- Arrange entries alphabetically by the first word of each entry.
- Center the title—Works Cited—1 inch from the top of the page.
- Double-space the entire page, including the entries and the title.
- Align the first line of a citation flush with the left margin; subsequent lines are indented 1/2 inch.
- In the absence of an author, begin the entry with the title of the work.
- Include the medium of the publication within each entry (e.g., Print, Web, etc.)

Citation Format

A book with one author (5.5.2):

Author. *Title*. City: Publisher, Year. Print.

Hayles, Katherine N. *My Mother Was a Computer: Digital Subjects and Literary Texts*. Chicago: U of Chicago P, 2005. Print.

A book with two or more authors (5.5.4):

Authors' names (only the first is reversed). *Title*. City: Publisher, Year. Print.

Cole, George F. and Christopher E. Smith. *Criminal Justice in America*. Belmont: Wadsworth, 1996. Print.

A work in an anthology (5.5.6):

Author's name. "Title of work." *Title of anthology*. Abbreviation Ed. before editor's name. Editor's name.

Edition. City: Publisher, Year. Page number(s). Print.

Hurt, James. Wilkie, Brian. "Volume 1: The Ancient World Through the Renaissance." *Literature of the Western World*. Ed. Leah Jewell. 5th ed. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice-Hall, 2001. 24-29. Print.

An article in a reference book (5.5.7):

Entry author (if given). "Entry title." *Book title*. Book author/editor. City: Publisher, Year. Print.

"Rodchenko, Alexander." *A Biographical Dictionary of Artists*. Ed. Lawrence Gowing. New York: Facts on File, 1995. Print.

An article in a scholarly journal (5.4.2):

Author. "Article Title." *Journal Title* Volume number.Issue number (Year): Page numbers. Print.

Goldsmith, Meredith. "White Skin, White Mask: Passing, Posing, and Performing in The Great Gatsby." *MFS Modern Fiction Studies* 49.1 (2003): 443-68. Print.

A print copy of a newspaper article (5.4.5):

Author. "Article Title." *Newspaper Title* Day Month Year: Section and Page number(s). Print.
Norris, Floyd. "Are 20 Years of Market Joy About to End?" *New York Times* 27 Nov. 1994: F1. Print.

A print copy of a magazine article (5.4.6):

Author. "Article Title." *Magazine Title* Day Month Year: Page number(s). Print.
Ezzell, Carol. "The Business of the Human Genome." *Scientific American* 4 July 2000: 48-49. Print.

A government publication (5.5.20):

Author or government agency. Title of document. *Title of Publication*. City: Publisher, Year. Print.
New York State. Commission on the Adirondacks in the Twenty-First Century. *The Adirondack Park in the Twenty-First Century*. Albany: State of New York, 1990. Print.

A basic Internet site (5.6.2):

Author or creator (if available). "Title of page." *Title of site*. Name of institution associated with site, Date of Publication (if available, if not use n.d.). Web. Date Retrieved.
"Martin Luther King." *Nobelprize.org*. The Nobel Foundation, 10 July 2003. Web. 20 Sept. 2007.

A newspaper or magazine article published on the web (5.6.2):

Author. "Article Title." *Newspaper or Magazine Title*. Publisher of the site, Date of Publication (if available, if not use n.d.). Web. Date Retrieved.
Nordland, Rod. "Iran Plays Host to Delegations after Iraq Elections." *New York Times*. New York Times, 1 Apr. 2010. Web. 2 Apr. 2010.

A publication in an online database (5.6.4):

Author. "Article Title." *Journal Title* Volume number.Issue number (Year): Page numbers. *Name of Database*. Web. Date of Access.
Note: In terms of volume and issue, one or both may be available.
Chan, Evans. "Postmodernism and Hong Kong Cinema." *Postmodern Culture* 10.3 (2000): 17-18. *Project Muse*. Web. 22 Nov. 2006.

An online government publication (5.6):

Author or government agency. Title of Document. *Title of site*. Name of institution associated with site (if available), Date of Publication. Web. Date Retrieved.
United States Department of Justice. Law Enforcement and Juvenile Crime. *National Criminal Justice Reference Service*. Web. 15 May 2008.

A Digital File (5.7.18):

Note: Digital files are nothing more than traditional sources found in a non-traditional medium; an eBook is a good example. Digital files adhere to the citation style of their original source until the medium is listed with the word "file" in it. Instead of writing "Print" one would write "eBook file." or "Kindle file." or "JPEG file."

Vonnegut, Kurt. *Cat's Cradle*. RosettaBooks: N.Y., 2010. Kindle file.