



MLA STYLE DOCUMENTATION

This handout gives some examples of how to document (or cite) information sources in bibliographies, works cited, or reference pages using Modern Language Association of America (MLA) style. For more detailed information, consult the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers, 7th edition (call number REF LB 2369.G53 2009). You can also find more information at the MLA Style web page: <http://www.mla.org>.

A bibliography or works cited page appears at the end of a research paper. It informs the reader of the sources of quotes, facts and information used to formulate the opinions in your research paper. It is important to provide an accurate and complete bibliography to prevent plagiarism. Follow punctuation, capitalization, and italicizing as provided in the examples. Begin each entry even with the **left margin**. Subsequent lines for that entry are indented ½ inch from the left margin.

- **Double-space** within and between all entries.
- **Alphabetize** entries by author; if no author is given, begin with title, ignoring the articles **a, an, the**.
- Do NOT number the entries.
- MLA requires that you state in your citation whether items are in print format or web (electronic) format.

NOTE: The examples in this handout are **NOT** properly double-spaced as MLA formatting requires.

PRINT BOOKS

BASIC FORMAT..... Author last name, First name. *Book Title*. City of Publication:
MLA 5.5 Publisher, copyright date. Print.

ONE AUTHOR Alexie, Sherman. *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*.
MLA 5.5.2 New York: Little, Brown, 2007. Print.

TWO OR THREE AUTHORS Suzuki, David, and Amanda McConnell. *The Sacred Balance:
MLA 5.5.4 Rediscovering our Place in Nature*. Vancouver: Greystone Books, 1999. Print.

MORE THAN THREE AUTHORSHartwell, Leland H., et al. *Genetics: From Genes to Genomes*.
MLA 5.5.4 Boston: McGraw-Hill Higher Education, 2008. Print.

EDITOR Isay, Dave, ed. *Listening is an Act of Love*. New York: Penguin
MLA 5.5.3 Books, 2008. Print.

GOVERNMENT SOURCEUnited States. Bureau of Census. *Statistical Abstract of the
MLA 5.5.20 United States*. 128th ed. Washington: GPO, 2009. Print.

ARTICLES WITHIN PRINT BOOKS

AUTHORED ARTICLE IN A BOOK Balderston, Daniel. "Secrets and Truths." *Literary Cultures of Latin
MLA 5.5.7 America*. Eds. Mario J. Valdés and Djelal Kadir. Vol. 1. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2004. 349-355. Print.

ENCYCLOPEDIA ARTICLEAbdullahi, Mohamed Diriye. "Mogadishu." *Encyclopedia of African
MLA 5.5.7 History*. Ed. Kevin Shillington. Vol. 2. New York: Fitzroy Dearborn, 2005. Print.

ENCYCLOPEDIA ARTICLE (NO AUTHOR)..... "Theophanes the Greek, c1340-c1410." *Biographical
MLA 5.5.7 Encyclopedia of Artists*. Ed. Lawrence Gowing. Vol. 4. New York: Facts on File, Inc., 2005. Print.

PERIODICAL ARTICLES

If you can't identify the author(s) of your periodical article, start the citation with the title of the article.

- BASIC FORMAT (MAGAZINE ARTICLE)..... Author last name, First name. "Title of Article." *Title of Periodical*
MLA 5.4.6 Date of Source: page numbers. Print.
- MAGAZINE..... Ihlwan, Moon. "What GE Capital Learned in Korea." *Business*
MLA 5.4.6 *Week* 27 Apr. 2009: 46-47. Print.
- NEWSPAPER ARTICLE..... Bauerlein, Valerie. "Pepsi Bottling Continues Acquisition Spree."
MLA 5.4.5 *The Wall Street Journal* 15 May 2009: B5. Print.
- BASIC FORMAT (JOURNAL ARTICLE)..... Author last name, First name. "Title of Article." *Journal Title*
MLA 5.4.2 Volume.Issue Number (Year): page numbers. Print.
- SCHOLARLY JOURNAL ARTICLE..... Khalaf, Roseanne Saad. "Youthful Voices in Post-War Lebanon."
MLA 5.4.2 *Middle East Journal* 63.1 (2009): 49-68. Print.

ARTICLES FROM DATABASES

- BASIC FORMAT..... Author. "Title of Article." *Title of Periodical* Date of Source: page
MLA 5.6.4 numbers. *Database Name*. Web. Date of Access.
- MAGAZINE ARTICLE (DATABASE)..... McRae, Sheiresa. "Go Green!" *Black Enterprise* Aug. 2007: 133.
MLA 5.6.4 *EBSCOhost Academic Search Complete*. Web. 21 May 2009.
- NEWSPAPER ARTICLE (DATABASE)..... Hernandez, Javier C. "Racial Imbalance Persists at Elite Schools."
MLA 5.6.4 *New York Times* 8 Nov. 2008: A23. *ProQuest Newspapers*.
Web. 20 May 2009.
- JOURNAL ARTICLE (DATABASE) Egan, Mary Lou, and Marc Bendick, Jr. "Combining Multicultural
MLA 5.6.4 Management and Diversity into One Course on Cultural
Competence." *Academy of Management Learning &*
Education 7.3 (2008): 387-393. *EBSCOhost Business Source*
Complete. Web. 21 May 2009.
- NON-PERIODICAL DATABASES..... Katel, Peter. "Affirmative Action" *CQ Researcher*. 17 Oct. 2008:
MLA 5.6.4 n. pag. *CQ Researcher Database*. Web. 20 May 2009.

INTERNET RESOURCES

If you can't find a publisher/sponsor, type "N. p." If you can't find the date of publication, type "n. d."

- BASIC FORMAT..... Author. "Article Title." *Title of Publication or Web Site*. Publisher/
MLA 5.6 Sponsoring Organization, Date of Publication/Update. Web.
Date of Access.
- WEB SITES McAdie, Colin. "Tropical Cyclone Climatology." *National Hurricane*
MLA 5.6.2 *Center*. NOAA, 16 Jan. 2009. Web. 21 May 2009.
- WEB SITES (NO AUTHOR LISTED) "Preventing and Controlling High Blood Pressure." *Centers for*
MLA 5.6.2 *Disease Control and Prevention*. U.S. Department of Health
and Human Services, 22 Aug. 2007. Web. 22 May 2009.

E-BOOKS

- E-BOOK..... Padova, Ted, and Kelly L. Murdock. *Adobe Creative Suite 4 Bible*.
MLA 5.6.1 Hoboken, N.J.: John Wiley & Sons, 2009. *Books 24x7*.
SkillSoft, n.d. Web. 22 May 2009.
- AUTHORED ARTICLE IN AN E-BOOK..... Freedman, Bill, and Larry Gilman. "Greenhouse Effect." *Gale*
MLA 5.6.1 *Encyclopedia of Science*. Eds. K. Lee Lerner and Brenda
Lerner. 3rd ed. Vol. 3. Detroit: Gale, 2004. 1875-1880. *Gale*
Virtual Reference Library. Gale, n.d. Web. 22 May 2009.