

MLA 8 Terms and Examples

Use the template for all types of sources. Fill in all available information in the appropriate section. Any section that has no information is left out of the citation. **Use the punctuation indicated on the template** (Example: Author. • Title of container. Include web addresses and DOIs.

1 Author.

Begin each entry with the author's last name, followed by a comma and the rest of the name. Pseudonyms, including online usernames, can be used. Authors can be a person or the group responsible for the source. If the person responsible for the source is not the author, follow their name with their function such as "editor" or "translator". **If there is no author, skip this entry.** Examples: Baron, Naomi S. • Dorris, Michael, and Louise Erdrich • Burdick, Anne, et al. • Junberg, Geoffry, editor.

2 Title of source.

Titles are given in the entry in full exactly as they are found in the source, except that capitalization and the punctuation between the main title and a subtitle are standardized. A title is placed in quotation marks if the source is part of a larger work such as a journal article. A title is italicized if the source is self-contained. Examples: *Kiss of the Spider Woman*. • *Othermindedness: The Emergence of Network Culture*. • "The Reading Brain: Differences between Digital and Print." *So Many Books*, • "We have report of large street battles in east & west of Tehran now - #Iranslection." *Twitter*,

3 Title of container,

When the source being documented forms a part of a larger whole, the larger whole can be thought of as a container that holds the source. The title of the container is italicized, followed by a comma, since the information that comes next describes the container. A source may have two containers such as a magazine article found in a database. The article is found in the original journal and in the database.

4 Other contributors,

Other contributors may be important in identifying your source. Precede each name with a description of their role. Example: adapted by (name) • directed by • edited by • translated by • narrated by • performance by.

5 Version,

If the source has been released in more than one version, identify the version in your citation. Example: second edition, • director's cut, • version 1.3.1,

6 Number,

Sources may be a part of a numbered sequence such as volume set. Journals issues are typically numbered and some use both volume and issue number. Include this information in the citation. Example: vol. 2, • vol. 128, no. 1, • season 4, episode 10.

7 Publisher,

The publisher is the organization primarily responsible for producing the source. If there is more than one publisher use the organization that had primary responsibility for the work. If two or more organizations appear to have equal responsibility cite each of them separated by a forward slash (/).

8 Publication date,

Some sources will have more than one publication date. Use the date most meaningful to the source you used. **Example:** A journal article or book may have a second date if it appears in an online source. If the online source was used, use the date for the online source.

9 Location.

The location of the source depends on the medium of publication. A printed source may have a page number. An online source will have a web address. A journal article in a database may have a DOI number. **Example:** p. 27. • pp. 74-92. • doi:10.1353/pmc.2000.0021 • disc 3. • www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2015/01/the-death-of-the-artist-and-the-birth-of-the-creative-entrepreneur/383497/.

Container 2

Use this section if your source has a second container. Fill in all available information and place it after the first container information in your citation.

Putting it all together

List the citation information in the same order as on the template. Leave out any blank lines. The first line of the citation is left justified. Additional lines are indented. The citation always ends with a period (.). Arrange your citations in alphabetical order according to the first entry (Author or Title).

Works Cited page

The Works Cited page is separate and is placed at the end of your paper. All sources used in your work will have a citation. These citations appear in alphabetical order with the first line left justified and additional lines indented.

In-text Citations

The in-text citation should direct the reader to the entry on your works-cited list for the source while creating the least possible interruption in your text. Include the element that comes first in the citation (usually the author's name) and a location. If the first element is used in your text use only the location. This information goes in a parenthesis placed at a natural pause in the text. Example: (Baron 194) • ("Buffy" 00:03:16-17)

For more information consult the MLA Handbook Eighth Edition (LB 2369 .G53) or the MLA Style Center <https://style.mla.org/>. All examples in this form are from The MLA Handbook Eighth Edition.

If you have questions about citing your source, please feel free to contact:

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