



A Guide to MLA Citation for CSN's Resources

This guide is an effort to assist CSN students in formatting citations in all disciplines based on the Seventh Edition of the MLA Handbook. Always check with your instructors to make sure these guidelines meet their requirements. Revised August 2009.

I. EXAMPLES FOR A "WORKS CITED" LIST

ELECTRONIC SOURCES

Many electronic sources do not supply all desired information, so while aiming for comprehensiveness, you may have to settle for citing whatever information is available. According to the *Handbook*, "MLA style is flexible, and sometimes you must improvise to record features not anticipated by the handbook" (section 5.6.1).

WWW (World Wide Web) Sites

(*MLA Handbook* section 5.6.2)

A citation for most works on the Web usually contains most of the following components, in sequence:

1. Name of the author. If no author is listed, begin with the title of the work (see step 2)
2. Title of the work in quotation marks
3. Title of the overall Web site in italics
4. Version or edition used, if available
5. Publisher or sponsor of the site; if not available, N.p.
6. Date of publication; if no date is available, use n.d.
7. Medium of publication (Web)
8. Date of access

Bressert, Steve. "The Causes of Bipolar Disorder (Manic Depression)." *Psych Central*. Psych Central, 23 Feb.

2007. Web. 9 June 2009.

Ford, Victoria. "Sarah Winnemucca." *Nevada Women's History Project*. University of Nevada, Reno, n.d. Web. 12

June 2009.

"General Information about Skin Cancer." *Skin Cancer Prevention (PDQ)*. National Cancer Institute, 8 June 2009.

Web. 2 July 2009.

Weatherford, Mike. "Jackson had a Unique Relationship with Las Vegas." *Reviewjournal.com*. Las Vegas Review-

Journal, 25 June 2009. Web. 1 July 2009.

ONLINE DATABASES

(*MLA Handbook* section 5.6.4)

Online databases such as *Academic Search Premier*, *Proquest* and *Literature Resource Center* provide access to information from magazines, journals, newspapers and other sources.

Journal, Scholarly or Peer-Reviewed Article from an Online Database

(*MLA Handbook* sections 5.4.1, 5.4.2 & 5.6.4)

A citation for most scholarly or peer-reviewed journal articles from an online database usually contains most of the following components, in sequence:

1. Author's name. For more than one author, give their names in the same order as on the title page of the article
2. Title of the article in quotation marks, with a period within the quotes
3. Name of the journal in italics
4. Volume and issue number (if available), with a period between them
5. Year of publication in parenthesis
6. Inclusive pages
7. Title of the database in italics
8. Medium of publication consulted (Web)
9. Date of access

Katsioloudis, Petros J., Stella Bondi, and Walter F. Deal. "Energy from the Skies: Empowering Future Generations."

Technology Teacher 68.6 (2009): 11-18. *Academic Search Premier*. Web. 8 Apr. 2009.

Magazine Article from an Online Database

(*MLA Handbook* sections 5.4.1, 5.4.6 & 5.6.4)

A citation for most magazine articles from an online database usually contains most of the following components, in sequence:

1. Author's name. For more than one author, give their names in the same order as on the title page of the article
2. Title of the article in quotation marks, with a period within the quotes
3. Name of the magazine in italics
4. Date of the magazine. Do not give the volume and issue numbers, even if they are listed
5. Inclusive pages
6. Title of the database in italics
7. Medium of publication consulted (Web)
8. Date of access

Arnst, Catherine. "Someone Must Pay for Health Reform." *Business Week* 1 June 2009: 27-28. *Academic OneFile*.

Web. 12 June 2009.

Newspaper Article from an Online Database

(*MLA Handbook* sections 5.4.1, 5.4.5 & 5.6.4)

A citation for most newspaper articles from an online database usually contains most of the following components, in sequence:

1. Author's name. For more than one author, give their names in the same order as on the title page of the article
2. Title of the article in quotation marks, with a period within the quotes
3. Name of the newspaper in italics, omitting any introductory article like "The." If the city of publication is not included in the name of a locally published newspaper, add the city in square brackets, not italicized, after the name
4. Date of the newspaper
5. Inclusive pages. For sections labeled with letters, the letter is part of the page number
6. Title of the database in italics
7. Medium of publication consulted (Web)
8. Date of access

Edwards, John G. "Nevada Clean Energy Thrives." *Las Vegas Review Journal* 16 June 2009: D1. *ProQuest*. Web. 17 June 2009.

Murawski, John. "Legislature Backs Off Ban on Wind Power in the Appalachians." *News and Observer* [Raleigh] 8 July 2009: n. pag. *Newspaper Source*. Web. 9 July 2009.

ADDITIONAL DATABASES and ONLINE RESOURCES

CQ Researcher Online

Katel, Peter. "Legalizing Marijuana." *CQ Researcher* 19.22 (2009): 525-48. *CQ Researcher Online*. Web. 15 June 2009.

Katel, Peter. "Legalizing Marijuana." *CQ Researcher* 19.22 (2009): n. pag. *CQ Researcher Online*. Web. 15 June 2009.

Note: In the examples above, the PDF version includes the page numbers, while the HTML version does not.

Issues and Controversies On File Database

"Digital Divide." *Issues & Controversies On File* 4 June 2009: n. pag. *Issues and Controversies*. Web. 15 June 2009.

Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center Database

Holcberg, David. "Scientists Should Be Allowed to Patent Genes." *Opposing Viewpoints: Genetic Engineering*. Ed. Louise I. Gerdes. San Diego: Greenhaven Press, 2005. N. pag. *Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center*. Web. 11 Apr. 2009.

Literature Resource Center Database

French, Warren. "On the Road: Overview." *Reference Guide to American Literature*. Ed. Jim Kamp. St. James Press, 1994. N.pag. *Literature Resource Center*. Web. 15 May 2009.

NetLibrary Electronic Book: Single Author

Beesley, David. *Crow's Range: An Environmental History of the Sierra Nevada*. Reno: U of Nevada P, 2004. *NetLibrary*. Web. 21 Mar. 2009.

NetLibrary Electronic Book: Edited Work (Includes Anthologies)

Williams, Susan. "Domestic Science: The Education of Girls at Home." *Public or Private Education? Lessons from History*. Ed. Richard Aldrich. London: Taylor & Francis, 2004. 116-26. *NetLibrary*. Web. 13 Apr. 2009.

Streaming Video (Web)

(*MLA Handbook* sections 5.6.2d & 5.7.3)

Videos viewed on the Web may have originally appeared in another medium (i.e. television). To document sources such as these, begin the entry by following the recommendations in section 5.7 of the *MLA Handbook*. Conclude the entry with the following items:

1. Title of database or Web site (italicized)
2. Medium of publication consulted (Web)
3. Date of access

“Poisoned Waters.” *Frontline*. By Hedrick Smith and Rick Young. Dir. Rick Young. PBS. 21 Apr. 2009. *Frontline*.
Web. 24 May 2009.

“Bob Dylan – Interview with TIME Magazine 1965.” *YouTube*. YouTube, 4 Nov. 2007. Web. 7 May 2009.

Hungerford, Amy. “Jack Kerouac, On the Road.” *The American Novel Since 1945 (ENGL 291)*. Yale University. 21
Nov. 2008. *YouTube EDU*. Web. 29 June 2009.

PRINT SOURCES**NEWSPAPER**

(*MLA Handbook* sections 5.4.1 & 5.4.5)

A citation for most print newspaper articles usually contains most of the following components, in sequence:

1. Author's name
2. Title of the article in quotation marks, with a period within the quotes
3. Name of the newspaper in italics, omitting any introductory article like “The.” If the city of publication is not included in the name of a locally published newspaper, add the city in square brackets, not italicized, after the name
4. Date of the newspaper
5. Inclusive pages. If the article is not printed on consecutive pages, write only the first page number and a plus sign. For sections labeled with letters, the letter is part of the page number
6. Medium of publication consulted (Print)

Signed article

Fairclough, Gordon, and Ellen Zhu. “Chinese Car Makers Add Luxury.” *Wall Street Journal* 11 May 2009, Western
ed.: B2+. Print.

Unsigned article

“Visiting Scientist Discusses Cooling Earth.” *Tri-City Herald* [Kennewick] 18 Mar. 2009: A13+. Print.

MAGAZINE

(*MLA Handbook* sections 5.4.1 & 5.4.6)

A citation for most print magazine articles usually contains most of the following components, in sequence:

1. Author's name. For more than one author, give their names in the same order as on the title page of the article
2. Title of the article in quotation marks, with a period within the quotes
3. Name of the magazine in italics
4. Date of the magazine. Do not give the volume and issue numbers, even if they are listed
5. Inclusive pages
6. Medium of publication consulted (Print)

Weekly

Hecht, Jeff. "Beware Earth-shattering Headlines." *Education Week* 7 Feb. 2009: 24-26. Print.

Monthly

Burka, Paul. "The Thrilla in Vanilla." *Texas Monthly* Feb. 2009: 98-112. Print.

Bimonthly

Jiang, Helen, Martin Young, and Karen Hardee. "Population, Urbanization, and the Environment." *World Watch* Sept.-Oct. 2008: 34-39. Print.

SCHOLARLY JOURNAL

(*MLA Handbook* sections 5.4.1 & 5.4.2)

A citation for most print scholarly or peer-reviewed journal articles usually contains most of the following components, in sequence:

1. Author's name. For more than one author, give their names in the same order as on the title page of the article
2. Title of the article in quotation marks, with a period within the quotes
3. Name of the journal in italics
4. Volume and issue number (if available), with a period between them
5. Year of publication in parenthesis
6. Inclusive pages
7. Medium of publication consulted (Print)

Reaser, Jamie K., Rafe Pomerance, and Peter O. Thomas. "Coral Bleaching and Global Climate Change: Scientific Findings and Policy Recommendations." *Conservation Biology* 14.5 (2000): 1,500-11. Print.

BOOK

(*MLA Handbook* sections 5.5.1, 5.5.2 & 5.5.4)

A citation for most print books usually contains most of the following components, in sequence:

1. Name of the author, editor, or translator of the book. If no author is listed, begin with the title of the book (see step 2)
2. Title of the book in italics
3. Edition used (if available)
4. City of publication, name of the publisher, and year of publication
5. Medium of publication (Print)

One author

Berra, Tim M. *Charles Darwin: The Concise Story of an Extraordinary Man*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins UP, 2009. Print.

Two or three authors

Moehring, Eugene P., and Michael S. Green. *Las Vegas: A Centennial History*. Reno: U of Nevada P, 2005. Print.

Reynolds, Cecil R., Ronald B. Livingston, and Victor Willson. *Measurement and Assessment in Education*. Upper Saddle River: Pearson, 2009. Print.

More than three authors

Upgren, Arthur R., et al. *Many Skies: Alternative Histories of the Sun, Moon, Planets and Stars*. New Brunswick: Rutgers UP, 2005. Print.

A Work in an Anthology or Edited Book (Essay, Short Story, Poem, etc.)

(*MLA Handbook* section 5.5.1 & 5.5.6)

A citation for an essay, short story, poem or another work that appears within an anthology or some other book collection, usually contains most of the following components, in sequence:

1. Author of the essay, short story, poem or other piece. If no author is listed, begin with the title of the piece
2. Title of the essay, short story, poem or other piece in quotes
3. Title of the anthology in italics
4. Name of the editor, translator, or compiler of the book being cited, preceded by the abbreviation "Ed.," "Trans.," "Comp.," etc.
5. City of publication, name of the publisher, and year of publication
6. Inclusive page numbers of the cited piece
7. Medium of publication (Print)

Applegate, David. "The Mountain Matters." *Uncertainty Underground: Yucca Mountain and the Nations High-level Nuclear Waste*. Ed. Allison M. Macfarlane and Rodney C. Ewing. Cambridge: MIT P, 2006. Print.

Schulz, Charles M. "Developing a Comic Strip." *An Anthology of Graphic Fiction, Cartoons, and True Stories*. Ed. Ivan Brunetti. New Haven: Yale UP, 2006. Print.

Article in a Reference Book

(*MLA Handbook* sections 5.5.6 & 5.5.7)

A citation for an article in a reference book is similar to that for a work in an anthology or edited book, and usually contains most of the following components, in sequence:

1. Author of the article or entry. If no author is listed, begin with the title of the article or entry
2. Title of the article or entry in quotes
3. Title of the reference book in italics
4. Year of publication
5. Inclusive page numbers of the cited piece
6. Medium of publication (Print)

Note: When citing widely used reference books, especially those that frequently appear in new editions, do not give full publication information. List only the edition, the year of publication, and the medium of publication consulted. When citing specialized reference works however, give full publication information, omitting inclusive page numbers if the book is arranged alphabetically.

Ries, Frank W. D., "Miranda, Carmen." *International Encyclopedia of Dance*. Ed. Selma Jeanne Cohen. Vol. 4. New York: Oxford UP, 2004. Print.

"Posse." Def. 1b. *The Oxford English Dictionary*. 2nd ed. 1989. Print.

"Prozac." *Physicians' Desk Reference*. 63rd ed. 2009. 1,852-60. Print.

Essay from Opposing Viewpoints Series

Rogers, Heather. "Mandatory Recycling Promotes Environmental Awareness." *Garbage and Recycling*. Ed. Mitchell Young. Detroit: Greenhaven, 2007. 35-40. Print. Opposing Viewpoints Ser.

Essay from Taking Sides

Bodde, David L. "Fueling the Future: The Road to the Hydrogen Economy." *Taking Sides: Clashing Views in Science, Technology, and Society*. Ed. Thomas A. Easton. 8th ed. Boston: McGraw-Hill Higher Education, 2008. 118-27. Print.

MISCELLANEOUS

DVDs

Dimming the Sun. Dir. Duncan Copp. Nova/WGBH and BBC, 2006. DVD.

"A Masterpiece by Midnight." *Jazz*. Narr. Keith David. Dir. Ken Burns. PBS, 2000. DVD.

Some Like it Hot. Dir. Billy Wilder. Perf. Marilyn Monroe, Tony Curtis, and Jack Lemmon. 1959. MGM, 2001. DVD.

Interviews – Personal

(*MLA Handbook* section 5.7.7)

A citation for most personal interviews usually contains the following components, in sequence:

1. Name of the person interviewed
2. The kind of interview (personal interview, telephone interview)
3. The date (day, month, and year)

Goodman, Oscar. Personal interview. 2 Mar. 2009.

Smith, Mary. Telephone interview. 21 Feb. 2009.

II. CITING SOURCES IN THE TEXT – PARENTHETICAL CITATIONS

Whenever you directly quote or paraphrase material from your sources, you must provide a brief parenthetical citation within the text of your paper. These parenthetical citations must clearly point to specific sources in your "Works Cited" list. Parenthetical citations will typically consist of two elements:

1. Author's last name
2. Page number

Sample Direct Quotation:

The appointment of Thurgood Marshall to the Supreme Court "was critically important to African Americans, as the nation's racial sensibilities underwent a radical, at times violent, transformation during the civil rights movement" (Johnson 6).

The parenthetical citation above "(Johnson 6)" indicates that the quotation comes from page 6 of a work by Johnson. Readers can find the complete citation on the "Works Cited" page at the end of your paper:

Works Cited

Johnson, Kevin R. "On the Appointment of a Latina/o to the Supreme Court." *Berkeley La Raza Law Journal* 13.1 (2002): 1-14. *Academic Search Premier*. Web. 3 July 2009.

However, if you include the author's name in the sentence with the quotation, list only the page number in the parenthetical citation – it is not necessary to repeat the author's name.

For example:

According to Johnson, the appointment of Thurgood Marshall to the Supreme Court “was critically important to African Americans, as the nation’s racial sensibilities underwent a radical, at times violent, transformation during the civil rights movement” (6).

Long Quotations

Long quotations are those that are longer than four typed lines in a free-standing block of typewritten text. Omit the quotation marks and start the quotation on a new line indenting one inch from the left margin and double-spacing. In long quotations, the closing punctuation mark comes before the parenthetical citation. If quoting two or more paragraphs, indent the first line of each paragraph an additional quarter inch.

Sample Long Quotation:

Orr's situation is described below:

There was only one catch and that was Catch-22, which specified the concern for one's own safety in the face of dangers that were real and immediate was the process of a rational mind...Orr would be crazy to fly more missions and sane if he didn't, but if he was sane he had to fly them. If he flew them, he was crazy and didn't have to; but if he didn't want to he was sane and had to. (Heller 11)

Citing an Entire Work (Including Works with No Page Numbers)

(*MLA Handbook* section 6.4.1)

When directly quoting or paraphrasing from a source that has no page numbers – such as a web site or article from an online database – no number can be given in the parenthetical citation. In this case, it is often preferable to include in the text, rather than in a parenthetical citation, the name of the person (author, editor, performer, etc.), or title if no author is listed, that begins the corresponding entry in the “Works Cited” list.

Below is a sample direct quote from a web site with no page numbering. Note that the author – Bressert – is identified in the text preceding the actual quote; therefore, no parenthetical citation is necessary.

As stated by Bressert, the causes of bipolar disorder are largely biological, and “may involve neurotransmitters like norepinephrine, serotonin and probably many others.”

Works Cited

Bressert, Steve. “The Causes of Bipolar Disorder (Manic Depression).” *Psych Central*. Psych Central, 23 Feb. 2007. Web. 9 June 2009.

III. WORKS CITED PAGE

This list should be alphabetized by authors' last names (or first word in the title if no author is available). Each source you cite in your essay must appear in the works cited list. This list is used to help a reader locate your sources. Double-space after the heading. The second line of each entry is indented one-half inch, and all references are double-spaced.

Works Cited

- Arnst, Catherine. "Someone Must Pay for Health Reform." *Business Week* 1 June 2009: 27-28. *Academic OneFile*.
Web. 12 June 2009.
- Berra, Tim M. *Charles Darwin: The Concise Story of an Extraordinary Man*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins UP, 2009.
Print.
- Dimming the Sun*. Dir. Duncan Copp. Nova/WGBH and BBC, 2006. DVD.
- Edwards, John G. "Nevada Clean Energy Thrives." *Las Vegas Review Journal* 16 June 2009: D1. *ProQuest*. Web.
17 June 2009.
- Hecht, Jeff. "Beware Earth-shattering Headlines." *Education Week* 7 Feb. 2009: 24-26. Print.
- Holcberg, David. "Scientists Should Be Allowed to Patent Genes." *Opposing Viewpoints: Genetic Engineering*. Ed.
Louise I. Gerdes. San Diego: Greenhaven Press, 2005. N. pag. *Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center*.
Web. 11 Apr. 2009.
- Jiang, Helen, Martin Young, and Karen Hardee. "Population, Urbanization, and the Environment." *World Watch*
Sept.-Oct. 2008: 34-39. Print.
- Rogers, Heather. "Mandatory Recycling Promotes Environmental Awareness." *Garbage and Recycling*. Ed. Mitchell
Young. Detroit: Greenhaven, 2007. 35-40. Print. *Opposing Viewpoints Ser.*
- "Visiting Scientist Discusses Cooling Earth." *Tri-City Herald* [Kennewick] 18 Mar. 2009: A13+. Print.

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