Plagiarism
Plagiarism is the act of using another person’s ideas, information or words and passing them off as your own. This is not only intellectual theft but can also be construed as fraud if you plagiarize with the intent of getting a better grade (MLA 52). According to the MLA Handbook, most plagiarism in student writing is unintentional and almost always the result of inaccurate notes. To guard against this, always take careful notes that distinguish between your own thoughts and ideas, those that you have paraphrased from other sources, and those that you have directly quoted. Remember that “presenting an author’s exact wording without marking it as a quotation is plagiarism, even if you cite the source” (MLA 55).

Parenthetical References
A parenthetical reference briefly identifies the source in the body of the paper without repeating the information from the works cited page. See the MLA Handbook, (ch. 6; 214-232) for more details and examples than those provided below.

Sample citation for a work with no author:

Works Cited

In the text, use the first word of the title (not including a, an, or the) and the page number. If the title is italicized, underline it in your reference or if the title is in quotes place it in quotes. Follow the example below:

In Text
The NBA is trying to develop a minor league system (“Lakers” 22).

Sample citation for a work with one author:

Works Cited

In your paper cite the author’s name and the page number in parentheses after the text or in the text. If the author is mentioned in the text, only the page number is needed in parentheses.

In Text
NFL coaching responsibility is greater than in other sports (Freeman 5).

Freeman says that NFL coaching responsibility is greater than in other sports (5).

If you have more than one book or article by the same author, use the last name of the author, a comma, a shortened version of the article or book title (in quotes or italicized) and the page number.

In Text
NFL coaching responsibility is greater than in other sports (Freeman, Bloody 5).
Sample citation for a work with two or more authors:

When a work has two or more authors, include up to three authors in the in text citation. Let the works cited entry guide the parenthetical reference.

**Works Cited**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2 authors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**In Text**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2 authors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The public opposes competition between schools due to a concern over equity (Osborne and Gaebler 101).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Works Cited**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3 authors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**In Text**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3 authors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The survey showed that teachers “approach their work with a strong sense of duty” (Kilpatrick, Cummings, and Jennings 67).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Works Cited**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>4+ authors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**In Text**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>4+ authors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The president decides how the country reacts to an act of “external aggression” (Peabody et al. 28).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sample citation for two works by the same author in one paper:

When you have two works by the same author on one works cited page do not repeat the name of the author a second time. Instead use three hyphens to indicate that the author is the same (see the second example). When using two or more works by the same author, cite the author and a few words from the title in the parenthetical reference.

**Works Cited**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3 authors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>


**In Text**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3 authors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The government tells “selective truths” in order “to shape events to fit policy” (Wise, <em>The Politics</em> 62).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3 authors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The political views and personal lives of citizens are interesting to the government because it gives the state power over the individual (Wise, <em>The American</em> 102).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Additional tips:

When referencing an entire work in your text, mention the author and title of the work in the text rather than in parentheses.

*In Text* 

In *Bloody Sundays*, Freeman exposes football’s secrets.

When citing a direct quote used by the author of your source, use the abbreviation *qtd.* in your parenthetical reference.

*In Text* 

Bill Lyon said, “Favre is a fierce and fiery competitor” (qtd. in Freeman 117).

Tips for web documents:

- If a web page includes fixed page numbers, include them as you would for a print source. [e.g. (Smith 28)].
- If a web page has other fixed numbers, use them with the appropriate labels: *line(s)*, *par(s)*, for paragraph(s), *sec(s)*, for sections, *ch(s)*, for chapters, etc. [e.g. (“Knight’s Tale,” lines 50-75); (Moulthrop, pars. 19-20)].
- If there are no fixed numbers in a web document, omit them. Never cite a page or line number from a printout; these may vary depending on text size, paper size or printer.

The Works Cited Page

All works that are acknowledged in the paper and identified by a parenthetical reference require a listing in the works cited page. The purpose of the works cited page is to permit the reader to return to the original source.

Here is the basic format for the works cited page:

- Start your works cited page on a new sheet at the end of your paper, number the page (not the citations) consecutively, and use the same font style and size as for the rest of the paper.
- Center the title *Works Cited* one inch from the top of the page and double space between the title and the first entry. Double space the entire list. Arrange entries alphabetically. Do not number the entries.
- Begin each entry flush with the left margin. Indent the following lines five spaces.

Medium of Publication

The medium of publication is the way a resource is delivered to the reader. Print and Web are the two most common delivery methods. A print resource is tangible and “printed”. These include but are not limited to books, magazines, letters, and transcripts. A web resource is delivered on the web and can include the same types of sources as above. Other publication mediums include but are not limited to: television, DVD, performance, personal interview, and CD-ROM.

Types and Formats of Sources

The following terms will be important for understanding the different types of sources, how a source is formatted, and how it is delivered:

- **Books** – A book is usually published once and may be updated in different editions. Usually the information in a book is one to two years old when it is published.
- **Periodicals** – Periodicals are published in regular intervals, which can be as often as daily or as far apart as annually. In this handout, periodicals will refer to newspapers, magazines and journals.
- **Databases** – are collections of sources that are usually available by subscription only via the Internet. Databases include sources such as books, periodicals, photographs, videos, and more.
- **Websites** – are usually available for free on the Internet.
- **Print** – a print source indicates a written source that you can hold in your hand, like a book or a magazine.
- **Web** – a web source is can be delivered via the Internet or created for the Internet.
  - Sources delivered via the Internet include many electronic books, newspapers, magazines, journals and books that were originally created in print and may or may not still exist in print as well as online.
  - Sources that are created for the Internet have been designed by private individuals, companies, agencies or organizations that have created material especially for their websites. These sources do not exist in any other format.
Citation
Citing print and web formats of any type of resource is not really dependent on how you found the source, but on original MLA style. A source’s identity does not depend on the way you access it. A book will be a book whether you find it on a library’s book shelf, access it in an online database, or find it on a website. Likewise a magazine is a magazine regardless of how you accessed it. You would always use the regular MLA citation format for book or magazine citations to cite print and web sources. Then you would add the medium of publication (print, web, Kindle, Nook, etc.).

Basic Citation Elements:
Every type of citation from any kind of source will contain some if not all of the following elements in the order listed below. The format of these elements does not usually change.

Author - Include all the authors of the work in the format listed (sections 5.5.2 & 5.5.4)

- No Author – start with the title of the work
- 1 Author – Smith, Jane.
- 2 Authors – Smith, Jane and John Doe.
- 3 Authors – Smith, Jane, John Doe and Dudley Doright.
- More than three authors – Smith, Jane, et al.
- Editors as authors – list the author’s as above and add the abbreviation ed. or eds. preceded by a comma –
  o 1 editor - Smith, Jane, ed.
  o 2 editors - Smith, Jane and John Doe, eds.
  o 3 editors – Smith, Jane, John Doe and Dudley Doright, eds.
  o More than three editors – Smith, Jane, et al., eds.
- Organizations and associations can be authors as well – American Heart Association

Title of the work - Include any titles for the work.

- Italicize the titles of books, magazines, newspapers, journals, movies, and other large sources
- Place in quotation marks the titles of articles, short stories, poetry, and other smaller sources within larger ones
- Any section cited from a larger source (like an anthology or a web page within a web site) must be in quotes.

Publication Information – includes publisher information for print as well as database resources.

- Book – use the format (Place of Publication: Publisher, Date – for example, New York: Putnam, 2007).
- Magazine – give the publication date for article and page numbers of the article.
  o Weekly publications – Day Month Year format (10 Apr. 2007)
  o Monthly publications – Month Year format (Apr. 2007)
  o Bi-Monthly publications – Month-Month Year format (Nov.- Dec. 2007)
  o Seasonal publications – Season Year format (Winter 2007)
  o Months should be in the following format: Jan.; Feb.; Mar.; Apr.; May; June; July; Aug.; Sept.; Oct.; Nov.; Dec.
  o Volume and issue numbers (for journals only) and page numbers will also be included
- Database Source –
  o list the publication information for the original print source
  o give the name of the database
- Website – date the information on the website was added or updated (if available)

Access Information & Medium of Publication – access dates are required for all online sources. URLs are only required if “you probably can’t relocate the source without it”. (Use the same formats for dates as listed above).

- Print Source – use the notation Print when you use the physical (not virtual) version of any type of source
- Database Source –
  o include the access date (the date when you found the article)
  o include the medium of publication Web
- Website – include:
  o Access date (the date you found the site or page)
  o include the medium of publication Web
  o include the URL if a general web search for the title and author of the source does not immediately return you to the source
Examples: Please Note: MLA Style requires your citations to be double-spaced even though the examples here are single-spaced

Book Examples

**Book Citation Format – Print:**
Author’s last name, first name (initial if known). *Title of Book*. City of Publication, state or country: publisher, year of publication. Print.

**Book Citation Format – Database:**
Author’s last name, first name (initial if known). *Title of E-Book*. City of Publication, state or country: publisher, year of publication. *Name of database*. Web. Access date (day month year).

**Book Citation Format – Website:**
Author’s last name, first name (initial if known). *Title of E-Book*. City of Publication, state or country: publisher, year of publication. *Name of Website*. Web. Access date (day month year).

**Book Citation Format – From Electronic Device or E-Reader:**
Author’s last name, first name (initial if known). *Title of E-Book*. City of Publication, state or country: publisher, year of publication. *Name of Device*.

**Books – Print** (section 5.5.2)


**eBooks from Databases** (section 5.6.2c and 5.6.4)
To cite eBooks APA requires a standard print book citation and a “Retrieved from” statement that includes the URL of the database homepage.

E-book – Website (section 5.6.2c)


E-book – From Electronic Device or E-Reader (examples include Kindle, Nook, or IPad - section 5.7.18)


Encyclopedias and Dictionaries – Print (section 5.5.7)
When citing familiar works that are constantly updated the publication information is not necessary. If citing works that are less familiar or that only appear in one edition give complete publication information.


Encyclopedias and Dictionaries -- Databases (sections 5.5.7 & 5.6.2c)


Encyclopedias and Dictionaries – Website (sections 5.5.7 & 5.6.2c)


Work from an Anthology -- Print (section 5.5.6)


**Multivolume Work -- Print** (section 5.5.14)

**Book in a Series -- Print** (section 5.5.15)

**Chapter From a Book in a Series -- Print** (sections 5.5.6 & 5.5.15)

**Reprints of Scholarly Publications w/same title -- Print** (sections 5.5.6, 5.5.14 & 5.5.16)
When the title of a reprinted article and the original article are the same, cite the original source first followed by the abbreviation Rpt. in and the new publication information for the reprint.


**Reprints or Excerpts of Scholarly Publications with different titles -- Print** (section 5.5.6)
When the title of a reprinted or excerpted material is different from the original source, cite the reprint or excerpt first. Then add Rpt. of or Excerpt of and follow with as much of the original source information as provided.


**More Reprints or Excerpts -- Print** (section 5.5.6)
Many anthologies (like Opposing Viewpoints, At Issue, or Ideas in Conflict) will reprint articles previously published in books, magazines or a website. If the original article was not published in scholarly journal you do not have to give the original publishing information.


**Periodical Examples (magazines, journals, newspapers)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Periodical Citation Format – <strong>Print</strong></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Author’s last name, first name. “Title of Article.” <em>Title of Magazine or Newspaper</em> Date of publication (day month year): page number(s). Print.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Authors last name, first name. “Title of Article.” <em>Title of Journal</em> Volume.number (year of publication): page number(s). Print.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Periodical Citation Format – <strong>Database</strong>:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Author’s last name, first name (initial if known). “Title of Article.” <em>Title of Magazine or Newspaper</em> Date of publication: page number(s). <em>Name of Database</em>. Web. Access date (day month year).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Author’s last name, first name (initial if known). “Title of Article.” <em>Title of Journal</em> Volume.number (Year of publication): page number(s). <em>Name of Database</em>. Web. Access date (day month year).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Periodical Citation Format – <strong>Website</strong> (section 5.6.2 &amp; 5.6.3):</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Author’s last name, first name (initial if known). “Title of Article.” <em>Title of Magazine or Newspaper.</em> Publisher/Sponsor (usually the name of the magazine or newspaper), date of last update (day month year). Web. Access date (day month year).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Author’s last name, first name (initial if known). “Title of Article.” <em>Title of Journal</em> Volume.number (Year of publication): page numbers (use n. pag. if there are no page numbers). Web. Access date (day month year).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Newspapers – Print** (section 5.4.5)

- If the city is not included in the title of the newspaper, include it brackets after the title.
- When a newspaper includes the edition on the front page, add a comma after the date and specify the edition.


**Newspapers or Newswires – Databases** (sections 5.4.5 & 5.6.4)


**Newspapers or Newswires – Websites** (section 5.6.2)


**Magazines – Print** (sections 5.4.6)


For magazine articles with no author, start the citation with the title of the article in quotes.


Magazines – Databases (sections 5.4.6, & 5.6.4)


Magazines – Websites (section 5.6.2)


Journals – Print (24.3 stands for volume 24 issue 3 – see section 5.4.2 & 5.4.3)


Journals – Databases (sections 5.4.2, 5.4.3, & 5.6.4)


Journals – Websites (always try to use a .pdf file if available. If an article does not have any pages listed use the abbreviation n.pag. – section 5.4.2, 5.4.3, & 5.6.3)


Editorials, Letters, and Reviews

Editorials or Letters to Editor – Print (sections 5.4.5, 5.4.6, 5.4.9, 5.4.10 & 5.4.11)

When citing editorials, add the descriptive label Editorial (not italicized or in quotes) after the title of the editorial.


When citing a letter to the editor, add the descriptive label Letter (not italicized or in quotes) after the name of the letter’s author. To identify a published response to a letter add Reply to the letter of […], (not italicized or in quotes) after the author's name.


Editorials or Letters to Editor – Databases (see rules above – sections 5.4.5, 5.4.6, 5.4.9, 5.4.10, 5.4.11, & 5.6.4)


**Book and Movie Reviews** (section 5.4.7)

When citing a review, give the reviewer’s name and the title of the review (if there is one); then write Rev. of (neither italicized nor enclosed in quotes) followed by the title of the work reviewed, a comma, the word by, and the author of the reviewed work. When citing a movie review, omit the word by after the title and replace with the director instead.

**Book Review – Print**


**Book Review – Databases** (sections 5.4.7 & 5.6.4)


**Movie Review – Print**


**Movie Review – Databases** (sections 5.4.7 & 5.6.4)


**Movie Review – Websites** (sections 5.4.7, 5.6.3, & 5.6.4)


Many of the web pages you use in your research will be parts of larger websites. These sites are usually affiliated with larger entities such as scholarly, professional, charitable or advocacy organizations or government agencies.

Documents within a Website (section 5.6.2b)


**Government Websites and Documents** (section 5.6.2, 5.6.2c, and 5.5.20)


Government sites often post versions of their print publications online. Follow the guidelines for citing print government documents on page 4, and add the information about the electronic version.


**Website cited with print publication data** (section 5.6.2c)


**When to Include URL’s (website addresses)**

According to the MLA Handbook, you should only include URLs in a citation when the reader will not be able to find the website without it or if the instructor requires it. Cite it like the examples below:


**Unsure about whether or not to include the URL?** Search for the title of the webpage and the title of the website in Google. If the page in question is listed in the top 3-5 results, do NOT include the URL. Remember this webpage:


Because the page comes up first on the result list you don’t have to include the URL.
Other Types of Sources

**Government Publications** (section 5.5.7, 5.5.15 & 5.5.20)
For federal or state government publications, cite the government agency that issued the publication, if no author is given. Cite the name of the government first (i.e. United States or Florida). Follow with the agency or agencies responsible for the publication. For congressional publications, use accepted abbreviations as listed in the *MLA Handbook*.


If an author, compiler or editor is given, insert the word By or the correct abbreviation (Comp. or Ed.) after the title, then give the author's name.


Some government agencies issue dated fliers or newsletters, which may or may not list a publisher. List the date of the publication after the title.


**Congressional Documents – Print** (section 5.5.20)


**Congressional Documents – Websites** (section 5.5.20 and 5.7.14)


**Public Laws and Supreme Court Opinions – Print** (section 5.7.14)

Public Laws and Supreme Court Opinions – Website (section 5.7.14)


United States Code – Print
(section 5.7.14 – Example has added information not included in MLA handbook. Please ask instructor.)

United States Code – Website
(section 5.7.14 – Example has added information not included in MLA handbook. Please ask instructor.)

Pamphlet (section 5.5.19)

Literary or Religious Works (section 6.4.8)
Citing passages from classic literature, plays or religious works usually requires a parenthetical reference mentioning the specific section used. In the works cited, follow normal guidelines for citing the work.

• For novels, give the page number and the chapter or section within the work so readers using other editions can find the citation [e.g. In Pride and Prejudice, after Elizabeth and Mr. Darcy reveal their real feelings for one another, Elizabeth cannot bear to have her own words repeated to her (Austen 452; ch.58).].
• In plays, omit the page numbers and cite the act, scene and line numbers with periods separating each. Use Arabic numerals unless the instructor tells you otherwise. The citation in the example refers to act 5, scene 3, lines 85-86 of Romeo and Juliet [e.g. To Romeo, Juliet is beautiful even in death. When he finds her, he says, “...her beauty makes this vault a feasting presence full of light” (Romeo and Juliet 5.3.85-86)].
• For biblical passages, cite the abbreviated title of the book, the chapter and the verse separated by periods [e.g. After the three kings found the baby Jesus, they presented him with gifts (Matt.1.9-11).]
• For acceptable abbreviations of literary and religious works see section 7.7 of the MLA Handbook.

Audio-Visuals & Interviews Examples

Movies in Theaters (section 5.7.3)
Begin with the title and include the director, the distributor and the year of release. You may include other pertinent information – such as the names of the writer, performers, and producer – between the title and distributor. This is especially helpful whenever several versions of the film have been made.


Movies on VHS, DVD, or Blu-Ray (section 5.7.3)
When your paper focuses on the contribution of an individual (e.g. an actor, director, etc.), begin with that person’s name followed by the appropriate abbreviation (dir. for director; perf. for performer; prod. for producer; adapt. for writer, etc.).

To cite a videocassette, DVD, laser disc, slide program or filmstrip, include the original release date and the medium before the name of the distributor.


Treat short extras, outtakes, and simultaneous commentary as part of the movie. Enclose the name of the special feature in quotes and italicize the name of the film.


Long documentaries about the making of a film are often created independently of the film, but are often included on special edition DVDs. Cite these as you would a stand-alone movie, but attach the information about the DVD.


**Movie Streams on the Web** (section 5.6.2d)

Cite the film as you would normally. If the studio that originally produced it is not mentioned, omit it.


**Television Broadcast** (section 5.7.1)


**Television Streams on the Web** (section 5.6.2d)

Cite the film as you would normally. If the studio that originally produced it is not mentioned, omit it.


**YouTube Videos** (section 5.6.2d)

**Interview** (section 5.7.7)
To cite a television or radio interview, include the name of the person being interviewed, the name of the interviewer if known, and the name of the program (in italics). Also include the network name, the broadcast station, the station’s city, and the date. For interviews conducted by the researcher, use the name of the person interviewed, the type of interview (*personal interview, telephone interview*, etc.), and the date the interview was conducted.


Mojock, Charles. Telephone Interview. 29 May 2011.


**Digital File** (section 5.7.18)
Digital files include “a PDF file stored on your computer, a document created by a peer using a word processor, a scanned image you received as an email attachment, and a sound recording formatted for playing on a digital audio player.


**Images** (section 5.7.6 and 5.6.2d and [http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/08/](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/08/))

For artwork displayed in a museum


For online version of artwork in a museum


From [http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/08/](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/08/): If the work is cited on the web only, then provide the name of the artist, the title of the work, the medium of the work, and then follow the citation format for a website. If the work is posted via a username, use that username for the author.

Specific Database Examples

**Academic Search Complete**

**Biography in Context**

**Book Review Digest Plus**

**Business Source Complete**

**The Chronicle of Higher Education**
Consumer Reports
Product overviews in Consumer Reports contain sections that illustrate different aspects of the product. This section is easily identifiable because it has tabs. Use the first example under the image for articles with tabs and the second example for articles without tabs.

Tabs separate different sections. List the product name, the tab, and the article title, then cite like an article from a website.


CQ Researcher

Criminal Justice Periodicals Index

Encyclopædia Britannica Online

General OneFile
Health Source – Consumer Edition

Health Source – Nursing/Academic Edition

Health and Wellness Resource Center


History Reference Center

Hoover's Online Premium (no original print version)

Issues and Controversies

JSTOR

Legal Periodicals and Books

Literary Reference Center Plus

Literature Resources from Gale


Newsbank


Opposing Viewpoints in Context

Oxford Art Online


Oxford English Dictionary Online

Oxford Music Online


Oxford Reference Online: Premium Collection

Physician’s Desk Reference

PsycArticles

Science in Context (use the example from Biography in Context)

Sources in U.S. History: Civil War

Springer eJournal Collection

Virtual Reference Library

World Almanac