



MLA Documentation Guide, 8th Edition

General Information:

MLA (Modern Language Association) is recommended for papers in literature, arts, and humanities. The 8th edition is the current one used. The paper should be double-spaced with a 12 pt. font size. A title page is not required, but include instead your name, your instructor's name, the course, and the date on the upper left-hand corner. MLA recommends to create a page header (running head) on the upper right-hand corner including your last name and the page number. The list of sources at the end of the paper should be titled "Work Cited" and be alphabetized and double-spaced. Citation styles now incorporate DOIs (Digital Object Identifier) for electronic sources when present. The DOI is favored over a URL, because while URLs often change, the DOI will always stay the same.

General Model (In-Text Citations):

For in-text citations include the author's name and page number in the parenthesis. If the author is named in the sentence, include just the page number in the parenthesis.

Examples:

1. Imperialism is "the practice, the theory, and the attitudes of a dominating metropolitan center ruling a distant territory" (Said 9).
2. According to Edward W. Said, imperialism is defined by "the practice, the theory, and the attitudes of a dominating metropolitan center ruling a distant territory" (9).

General Model (Work Cited):

Author. Title. Title of container* (self-contained if book), Other contributors (translators or editors), Version (edition), Number (vol. and/or no.), Publisher, Publication Date, Location (pages, paragraphs URL or DOI). 2nd container's title, Other contributors, Version, Number, Publisher, Publication date, Location, Date of Access (if applicable).

* The eighth edition refers to containers, unlike to its earlier versions, which are the larger wholes in which the source is located. Example: when citing a poem that is listed in a collection of poems, the individual poem is the source, while the larger collection is the container.

Article in a Scholarly Journal

Model: Author(s). "Title of Article." *Title of Journal*, Volume, Issue, Year, pages.

Example:

Bagchi, Alaknanda. "Conflicting Nationalisms: The Voice of the Subaltern in Mahasweta Devi's *Bashai Tudu*." *Tulsa Studies in Women's Literature*, vol. 15, no. 1, 1996, pp. 41-50.

Books

Model: Last Name, First Name. *Title of Book*. Publisher, Publication Date.

One Author Example: Henley, Patricia. *The Hummingbird House*. MacMurray, 1999.

Two or Three Authors Example:

Gillespie, Paula, and Neal Lerner. *The Allyn and Bacon Guide to Peer Tutoring*. Allyn and Bacon, 2000.

More than Three Authors Example:

Wysocki, Anne Frances, et al. *Writing New Media: Theory and Applications for Expanding the Teaching of Composition*. Utah State UP, 2004.

Website

Model: Editor, author, or compiler name (if available). *Name of Site*. Version number, Name of institution/organization affiliated with the site (sponsor or publisher), date of resource creation (if available), URL, DOI or permalink. Date of access (if applicable).

Example:

Felluga, Dino. *Guide to Literary and Critical Theory*. Purdue U, 28 Nov. 2003, www.cla.purdue.edu/english/theory/. Accessed 10 May 2006.