

General Guidelines for Citation in MLA

Eight quick rules for MLA Works Cited:

1. Start a new page for your Works Cited list
2. Center the title, Works Cited, at the top of the page and **do not** bold or underline it.
3. Double-space the list.
4. Start the first line of each citation at the left margin; indent each subsequent line five spaces (a "hanging indent").
5. Put your list in alphabetical order. Alphabetize the list by the first word in the citation. In most cases, the first word will be the author's last name. Where the author is unknown, alphabetize by the first word in the title, ignoring the words a, an, the.
6. For each author, give the last name followed by a comma and the first name followed by a period.
7. Italicize the titles of full works: books, audiovisual material, websites.
8. Do not italicize titles of parts of works, such as: articles from newspapers, magazines, or journals / essays, poems, short stories or chapter titles from a book / chapters or sections of an Internet document. Instead, use quotation marks.

https://columbiacollege-ca.libguides.com/mla/works_cited

Accepted and Expected Abbreviations for MLA citations:

- **Months:** Jan. Feb. Mar. Apr. May June July Aug. Sept. Oct.
Nov. Dec.

- **Missing info:** no pag. = no pagination
N.p. = no publisher (common for websites)
n.d. = no date

- **When citing publisher names, a few rules apply to allow you to shorten them as much as possible.**

1. Do not include the articles of "a," "an" and "the"
2. Do not include business abbreviations, such as "Co.," "Inc." or "Ltd."
3. Omit any descriptive words at the end of a publisher name, such as "books," "Press," "Publishers" or "House"
4. Use the letters "U" and "P" for all university presses in case a university publishes independently, such as "U Chicago Press" for "University of Chicago Press"
5. Use only the surname when a publisher name has the full name of one person within it, such as "Wiley" for "John Wiley & Sons Inc."
6. Use only the first surname when a publisher has more than one surname within it, such as "Farrar" for "Farrar, Straus and Giroux, Inc."
7. Utilize other MLA abbreviations that may apply whenever possible, such as "UP" for a university press or "Acad." for Academy
8. Use an acronym if a publisher is commonly known by it.

- Many scholarly words also appear in various citations. Utilize MLA abbreviations for scholarly words whenever possible. The list that follows includes common ones.

anon. = anonymous	fwd. = foreword	publ. for publisher or publication
ca. = circa	jour. = journal	sec., sect. = section
ch. = chapter	lib. = library	ser. = series
comp. = compiler	par. = paragraph	var. = variant
writ. = written by, writer		

<http://www.write.com/writing-guides/style-guide-writing/mla/using-mla-abbreviations/>

Works Cited in MLA

1. For a book with two authors, list the first author's name (last name, first name order) and the second author's name in direct order.

Author: Ronald L. Mize and Alicia C.S. Swords.

Title: Consuming Mexican labor: from the Bracero Program to NAFTA

Publication info.: Toronto ; Tonawanda, N.Y. : University of Toronto Press, c2011.

Citation description:

First Author's last name, First name Middle initial (if any) and Second Author's first name last name. *Title of book.* Publisher, Year of publication.

2. For a book with more than two authors, list only the first author's name followed by a comma and the words et al.

Authors: Charles R. Epp, Steven Maynard-Moody, & Donald Haider-Markel.

Title: [Pulled over : how police stops define race and citizenship](#)

Publication info.: Chicago ; London : The University of Chicago Press, [2014]

Citation description:

First Author's last name, First name Middle initial (if any), et al. *Title of book.* Publisher, Year of publication.

3. Chapter in a book with an editor

Editor: Kimberly B. Morland

Title of book: [Local food environments : food access in America](#)

Chapter author: Barbara A. Laraia

Chapter title: Local food environments and dietary intake

Publication Info.: Boca Raton : CRC Press, Taylor & Francis Group, [2015]

Citation description:

Author's last name, First name Middle initial (if any). "Title of Chapter or Essay." *Title of book*, edited by Editor's first and last name, Publisher, Year of publication, Page numbers for the chapter.

4. Article accessed from an online library periodical database (ex. EBSCO). If the article in the example was retrieved from an online database, add the following information in the citation: Title of Database. Date of researcher's access.

Article title: Store impulse marketing strategies and body mass index

Journal title: American Journal of Public Health

Authors: Cohen D.A., Collins R., Hunter G., Ghosh-Dastidar B., Dubowitz T.

Publication details: 2015 Jul;105(7):1446-52.

Citation description:

Author's last name, First name Middle initial (if any). "Title of article." *Journal title*, vol. (volume number), no. (issue number), Date of publication, page numbers. *Title of Database*, URL (without http:// or https://). Accessed Date.

<http://guides.skylinecollege.edu/c.php?g=492914&p=3372390>

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).