

MLA Citation Quick Guide

This guide includes examples of in-text citations and Works Cited entries (sources listed at the end of a text). All examples follow the guidelines in the 8th edition of the *MLA Handbook*. For additional details on citing sources in MLA style, consult a copy of the *Handbook* and mla.style.org

In-Text Citations

The Modern Language Association uses references in the body of a paper to acknowledge the use of borrowed material. These references point to the Works Cited page.

Guidelines

1. Keep the parenthetical references brief. Insert the author's last name and a page number in parentheses after a statement:
"A large percentage of the suicides in this category are centered in the New York City area" (Hyde 126).
2. Insert a page number in parenthesis if you include the author's name in a sentence:
Hyde notes that "a large percentage of the suicides in this category are centered in the New York City area" (126).
3. Omit a parenthetical reference if you cite an entire work (rather than a specific section), and include the author's last name in your sentence:
Throughout her book, Hyde argues that suicide among the young constitutes a national epidemic.

Examples

1. A work by an author of two or more works you use:
Last name, short title and page numbers:
(Grossman, *Aesthetics* 5)
2. A work by an author with the same last name as another in your Works Cited:
First initial (or the full first name if the initial is also shared) and page number:
(J. Brown 317)
3. A work by more than one author:
Two authors: (Hyde and Forsyth 47)
Three or more authors: (Quirk et al. 96)
4. More than one work in a single parenthetical reference:
Separate each citation with a semicolon:
(Kabotis 214; Perkins 58)

Works Cited

Include a Works Cited list at the end of your paper. It should include all the sources you noted within the text of your paper, arranged in alphabetical order by author's last name.

Books

One Author:

Morrison, Toni. *Sula*. Knopf, 1974.

Two Authors:

Hyde, Margaret O., and Elizabeth Held Forsyth. *Suicide: The Hidden Epidemic*. Rev. ed., Watts, 1986.

More than Two Authors:

Quirk, Randolph, et al. *A Comprehensive Grammar of the English Language*. Longman, 1985.

Essay/Chapter in a Book:

Klawans, Stuart. "Colorization: Rose-Tinted Spectacles." *Seeing Through Movies*. edited by Mark C. Miller. Pantheon, 1990, pp.150-185.

Articles

Newspaper Article (online):

Cheng, Scarlet. "Fragile Work, Fragile Life." *Los Angeles Times*, 17 Feb. 2002, articles.latimes.com/2002/feb/17/entertainment/ca-cheng17.

Magazine Article:

Theroux, Paul. "China Passage by Rail." *National Geographic*, Mar. 1988, pp. 296-329.

Scholarly Article in an Online Database:

Logan, John R., and Julia Burdick-Will. "School Segregation, Charter Schools, and Access to Quality Education." *Journal Of Urban Affairs*, vol. 38, no. 3, 2016, pp. 323-343. *Academic Search Complete*, doi: 10.1111/juaf.12246.

Additional Sources

Interview in Person:

Basso, Lilliam. Personal interview. 4 Mar. 2018.

Film or Video:

It's a Wonderful Life. Directed by Frank Capra, performances by James Stewart, Donna Reed, and Lionel Barrymore, Republic, 1946.

Web Site (organization as author)

American Library Association. *American Library Association*. 1996-2016, www.ala.org.