

# Memorial University Libraries

## How to Write Citations & Bibliographies in MLA Style

<http://www.library.mun.ca/guides/howto/mla.pdf>

The examples shown in this handout are based on:

MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers 6th ed. New York: Modern Language Association of America, 2003. (kept at the Research Help Desk)

You can also find style manuals on the Internet. Go to the home page for Memorial University libraries (<http://www.library.mun.ca/>). Select Internet Resources, then Term Papers - Style Guides, Manuals, then Style Guides.

### Citations

Instead of footnotes, MLA uses brief citations that appear in the text of the paper immediately after the quotation or the reference to a work. It gives the author and page of the work you are referring to, allowing readers to locate the full citation in your works cited.

*Example (paraphrasing):*

Pythagoras invented the monochord (Smith 182).

*Example (direct quotation):*

"It is clear from the research presented above that Pythagoras was the first to use the monochord" (Smith 182).

In both examples, the complete information about the work by Smith would appear in the bibliography after Smith's name. If you cite more than one work published by Smith you would distinguish the works by including a shortened version of the title: e.g. (Smith, *Survey* 182).

### Works cited (bibliography)

The following are examples of the most commonly used source materials. For examples not given here, refer to the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*.

#### **Book:**

Author (last name first). Title of Book. Place of publication: Publisher, Year.

*Example:*

Churchill, Winston S. The Age of Revolution. New York: Dodd, 1957.

If your book was written by 2 or 3 authors, put all their names after the name of the first author, in the order in which they appear on the title page. Reverse only the name of the first author (e.g. Smith, John, and Paul Jones). If you have more than three authors, you may give the name of the first author only, then use the abbreviation et al. to indicate that there are other authors, or you can give all names in full.

**Encyclopedia:**

Author (if given). "Title of Entry." Name of Encyclopedia. Edition. Year of publication.

*Example:*

"Decorative Arts and Furnishings". Encyclopedia Britannica. 15th ed. 2002.

OR

O'Brien, David M. "Judiciary, Federal". Encyclopedia of the American Presidency. Ed. Leonard W. Levy and Louis Fisher. 4 vols. NY: Simon & Schuster, 1994.

**Essay, or article, in a book:**

Author. "Title of Essay or Article." Title of Book. Editor's name. Place of publication: publisher, year. Pages.

*Example:*

Calvino, Italo. "Cybernetics and Ghosts." The Uses of Literature: Essays. Ed. John Smith. San Diego: Harcourt, 1982. 3-27.

**Journal article:**

Author. "Title of the Article." Name of the Periodical volume.issue (year): pages.

*Example:*

Craner, Paul M. "New Tool for an Ancient Art: The Computer and Music." Computers and the Humanities 25.2 (1991): 5-24.

**Newspaper article without an author and from a daily newspaper:**

Author (if given). "Title of the Article." Name of the Newspaper Day Month Year: pages.

*Example (no author):*

"New drug appears to sharply cut risk of death from heart failure." The Washington Post 15 July 1993: A12.

**Individual work on the Web:**

Author (if given). Title of page. Date on page (if given). Name of associated institution (if given). Day Month Year of access <web address>.

*Example:*

Powers, John and James Fieser. Buddhism, an introduction. 1995. 27 July 2000 <<http://online.anu.edu.au/asianstudies/textnotes/buddhism.html>>.

**Article in an electronic (online) journal:**

Author. "Title of the article". Name of the periodical volume.issue (year): pages (or # paragraphs if no page numbers). Name of collection. Date retrieved <URL of journal article>

*Example:*

Friedman, Andrea. "Sadists and Sissies: Anti-pornography Campaigns in Cold-War America". Gender & History 15.2 (2003): 201-227. 7 Dec. 2004 <[www.blackwell-synergy.com/servlet/useragent?func=showissues&code=gend](http://www.blackwell-synergy.com/servlet/useragent?func=showissues&code=gend)>

**Article in a full text article index:**

Author. "Title of the article". Name of the periodical volume.issue (year): pages. Name of university and library databases accessed from. Date retrieved <home page of database if known>

*Example:*

Smith, Robert P. "Risk Management in Undergraduate Engineering Economics Education." Engineering Economist 44.2 (1999): p202-. EBSCO Business Source Elite, Memorial U of Newfoundland, Queen Elizabeth II Lib. 7 Aug. 2003

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