



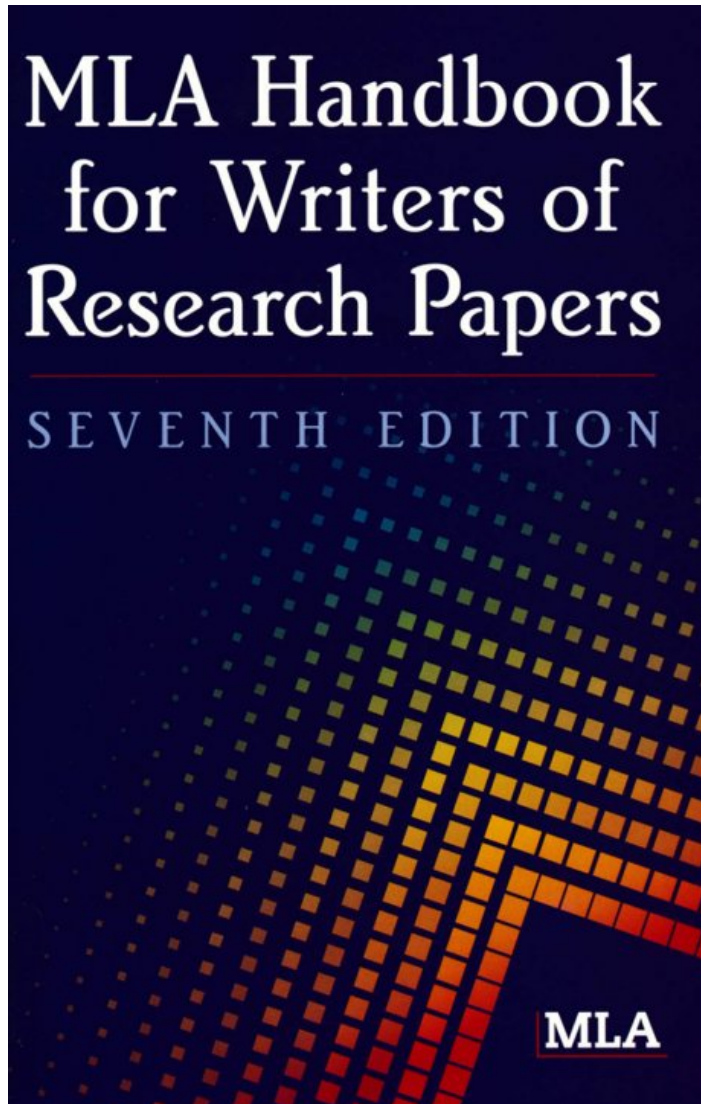
• The OSU at Lima Writing Center
Presents

MLA DOCUMENTATION

A guide to:

- **In-text citations**
- **The Works Cited page**
- **Formatting the essay**
- **& More**

MLA – An Overview



- MLA Stands for Modern Language Association.
- It is important to cite all information taken from any outside source.
- It is important to identify and acknowledge the source from which the information was taken.

MLA – An Overview

MLA accomplishes source attribution through the use of:

- In-Text Citations
 - Attributes sources in your paper as you discuss them.
- A Reference Page
 - A list of sources used in your essay with more complete information about the sources.

In-Text Citation:

Delano is described as “a man of such native simplicity as to be incapable of satire or irony” (Melville 287).

Works Cited

- Aldrich, Frederick A. and Marguerite L. Marks. "Wyman Reed Gren, American Biologist." *Bios* 23.1 (1952): 26-35. Print.
- Berger, James D. and Helmut J. Schmidt. "Regulation of Macronuclear DNA Content in Paramecium tetraurelia." *The Journal of Cell Biology* 76.1 (1978): 116-126. JSTOR. Web. 20 Nov. 2008.
- Carré, John le. *The Tailor of Panama*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1996. Print.
- Cohen, Elizabeth. "Five ways to avoid germs while traveling." *CNN.com*. CNN. 27 Nov. 2008. Web. 28 Nov. 2008.
- Kessl, Fabian and Nadia Kutsche. "Rationalities, Practices, and Resistance in Post-Welfarism. A Comment on Kevin Stenson." *Social Work & Society* 6.1 (2008): n. pag. Web. 10 Oct. 2008.
- Kline, Daniel T., ed. *Geoffrey Chaucer Online: The Electronic Canterbury Tales*. U. of Alaska Anchorage, 30 Jul. 2007. Web. 2 Dec. 2008.
- Lubell, Sam. "Of the Sea and Air and Sky." *New York Times*. New York Times, 26 Nov. 2008. Web. 1 Dec. 2008.

Part I:



IN-TEXT CITATIONS

EXAMPLES & EXPLANATIONS

IN-TEXT (PARENTHETICAL) DOCUMENTATION – OVERVIEW

In-Text Citations:


- Show readers from where the information was taken.
- Direct the reader to the Works Cited page.
- Are placed as close as possible to the borrowed material.



In-Text Citation – Paraphrase

- Delano blames the strange behavior of Don Benito on either some sort of elaborate performance or insanity (Melville 288).
- This is a paraphrase; none of the author's words from the original text are used, but it does repeat the author's ideas.
- Paraphrases **MUST** be cited to avoid plagiarism.
- Paraphrasing is easiest when taking a large amount of material and condensing it into a few sentences (for example, summarizing a scientific study or the meaning of a stanza of poetry).

In-Text Citation – Direct Quote

- Delano is described as “a man of such native simplicity as to be incapable of satire or irony” (Melville 287).
 - The citation follows the quotation marks, but the period comes after the parenthesis.
- 

In-Text Citation – Block Quote

Block Quote, Author Cited in Text:


In Melville's text, Delano continuously misreads the activities on the Spanish ship:

Though the remark of Captain Delano, a man of such native simplicity as to be incapable of satire or irony, had been dropped in playful allusion to the Spaniard's singularly evidenced lordship over the black; yet the hypochondriac seemed in some way to have taken it as a malicious reflection upon his confessed inability thus far to break down, at last, on a verbal summons, the entrenched will of the slave. (287)

- There are no quotation marks because the quote is clearly offset from the rest of the text.
- Punctuation comes before the citation for block quotes only.
- Since the author of the work is given in the text, it is not necessary to repeat it in the Citation.
 - In this case only the page number is given.

In-Text Citations - Using One of Two Sources by the Same Author.

Sometimes you will need to cite two essays by more than one author. In that case, here is how you would cite that:

- The railways forced “cities across England to standardize how they kept time so that the train schedules could be constructed” (Ramsey, “Railways”).
 - Give the Author’s last name followed by a comma and the title of the work.
 - Punctuation still comes after the parenthesis.
- 

In-Text Citation – More than one Author

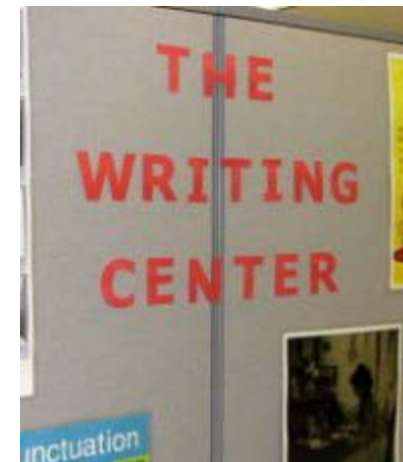
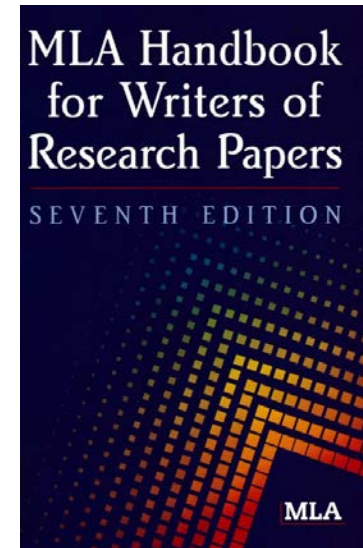
Sometimes a work will have more than one author.

In that case, here is how you would cite that:

- Twenty percent of all participants had brown eyes (Kretzke, Sheamus and Bacon 32).
- Most people surveyed said they had one eye with blurry vision (Kramer et. al 23)
- If there are 2 or 3 authors write all of their last names in the parenthetical citation or in-text.
- If there are 4 or more authors write the first authors last name followed by et. al in the parenthetical citation.

In-Text Citations – Further Reference

- For further reference on in-text citations, see the most recent edition of the MLA Handbook.
- Also, you may visit the writing center to meet with a tutor.
- Or take advantage of some of our other helpful online resources through the Writing Center website at:



<http://www.lima.ohio-state.edu/academics/writing/>

Part 2:



WORKS CITED PAGE

EXAMPLES & EXPLANATIONS

Works Cited – An Overview

- The Works Cited page contains more detailed information for all of the sources used in the essay.
- It is found at the end of the essay on a separate page.

Works Cited

Aldrich, Frederick A. and Marguerite L. Marks. "Wyman Reed Gren, American Biologist." *Bios* 23.1 (1952): 26-35. Print.

Berger, James D. and Helmut J. Schmidt. "Regulation of Macronuclear DNA Content in *Paramecium tetraurelia*." *The Journal of Cell Biology* 76.1 (1978): 116-126. *JSTOR*. Web. 20 Nov. 2008.

Carré, John le. *The Tailor of Panama*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1996. Print.

Cohen, Elizabeth. "Five ways to avoid germs while traveling." *CNN.com*. CNN. 27 Nov. 2008. Web. 28 Nov. 2008.

Kessl, Fabian and Nadia Kutsche. "Rationalities, Practices, and Resistance in Post-Welfarism. A Comment on Kevin Stenson." *Social Work & Society* 6.1 (2008): n. pag. Web. 10 Oct. 2008.

Kline, Daniel T., ed. *Geoffrey Chaucer Online: The Electronic Canterbury Tales*. U. of Alaska Anchorage, 30 Jul. 2007. Web. 2 Dec. 2008.

Lubell, Sam. "Of the Sea and Air and Sky." *New York Times*. New York Times, 26 Nov. 2008. Web. 1 Dec. 2008.

Works Cited - Format

Hanging
indent:
0.5 inch

Works Cited

Aldrich, Frederick A. and Marguerite L. Marks. "Wyman Reed Gren, American Biologist." *Bios* 23.1 (1952): 26-35. Print.

Berger, James D. and Helmut J. Schmidt. "Regulation of Macronuclear DNA Content in *Paramecium tetraurelia*." *The Journal of Cell Biology* 76.1 (1978): 116-126. JSTOR. Web. 20 Nov. 2008.

Carré, John le. *The Tailor of Panama*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1996. Print.

Cohen, Elizabeth. "Five ways to avoid germs while traveling." *CNN.com*. CNN. 27 Nov. 2008. Web. 28 Nov. 2008.

Kessler, Fabian and Nadia Kutsche. "Rationalities, Practices, and Resistance in Post-Welfarism. A Comment on Kevin Stenson." *Social Work & Society* 6.1 (2008): n. pag. Web. 10 Oct. 2008.

Kline, Daniel T., ed. *Geoffrey Chaucer Online: The Electronic Canterbury Tales*. U. of Alaska Anchorage, 30 Jul. 2007. Web. 2 Dec. 2008.

Lubell, Sam. "Of the Sea and Air and Sky." *New York Times*. New York Times, 26 Nov. 2008. Web. 1 Dec. 2008.

- "Works Cited" is found at the top of the page in plain text, centered.
- Each entry begins even with the left margin and every additional line indented one half inch.
- Entries are entered alphabetically by first item—typically author's last name. If there is no author, or if there are two works by the same author, alphabetize by title.
- All entries should be double spaced.
 - There is no additional space between entries.

Works Cited – Book (Simple)

Book

Condon, Richard. *An Infinity of Mirrors*. New York: Random, 1964. Print.

- Use the information from the title page and copyright page; do not use the cover.
- Omit any information that is not included in the book.
 - If there is no author, for example, leave it out and begin the entry with the title.
- The general citation format is: author, title, place of publication, publisher, date, and publication medium.

Works Cited - Anthology

Melville, Herman. "Benito Cereno." *Nation of Letters: A Concise Anthology of American Literature*. Ed.

Stephen Cushman and Paul Newlin. Vol 1. St. James: Brandywine P, 1998. 278-315. Print.

Order of Citation:

- Author of the short work found in the anthology.
- Title of the work (in quotation marks).
- Title of the anthology itself (underlined).
- The abbreviation Ed.
- Editor's name for the anthology.
- Volume number.
- Place of publication.
- Publisher and the date.
- INCLUSIVE page numbers for the short work (where it starts and where it ends).
- Publication medium.

Works Cited – Journal Article

Journal Article

Spiller, Elizabeth A. "Reading through Galileo's Telescope: Margaret Cavendish and the Experience of Reading." *Renaissance Quarterly* 53.1 (2000): 192-221. Print.

Order of Citation:

- Author's last name, First name. "Title of the Article." *Name of the Periodical* Volume Number. Issue Number (Date of Publication): Inclusive Page Numbers. Publication medium.

Works Cited - Online Article Examples

Journal Article Found Online

Flynn, Kevin. "Destination Nation: Nineteenth-Century Travels aboard the Canadian Pacific Railway."

Essays on Canadian Writing 67.3 (1999): 190-222. *MLA Bibliography*. Web. 1 June 2009.

Order of Citation:

- Author of the article.
- Title of the article (in quotations).
- Title of the journal (italicized).
- Volume number.issue number
- Date of publication (in parentheses followed by a colon)
- INCLUSIVE page numbers for the short work (where it starts and where it ends).
- The database where it was retrieved (italicized).
- Publication medium: "Web."
- The date of access (the date you accessed the article online).

Works Cited - Online Article Examples

Online Article with Unknown Author

“Fighting Resumes at Camp in Lebanon.” *New York Times*. New York Times, 1 June 2007. Web. 22 June 2007.

Order of Citation:

- Title of the article (in quotations).
- Title of the newspaper, magazine, or website (italicized).
- Publisher of website.
- Date of publication.
- Publication medium: “Web.”
- The date of access.

Works Cited - Online Article Examples

Academic Online Article

Cooley, Ron. "Margaret Cavendish, Duchess of Newcastle: Biographical Introduction." *As One Phoenix: Four Seventeenth Century Women Poets*. U of Saskatchewan Dept of English, 8 June 1998. Web. 27 Feb. 2004.

Order of Citation:

- Author of the article.
- Title of the article (in quotations).
- Title of the journal (italicized).
- The name of the sponsoring organization.
- Date of publication.
- Print medium: "Web."
- The date of access.


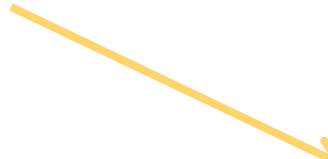
Works Cited – Website

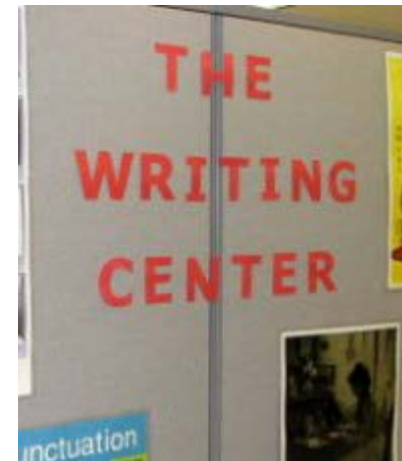
There are so many possibilities on the Internet that we can't show all possible entries for internet sources. Below is the general format to follow:

Order of Citation:

Author/Editor's last name, First name. "Title of the Work (article, poem story, etc.)." Publication Information for any Print Source of the Material (In the same format as for that type of print source). *Title of the Online Site*. Ed. And Name of any Editor of Site. Version or Volume number for the Source. Range or Total Number of Paragraphs, Pages or Sections (if numbered—if not numbered, omit). Name of any Sponsoring Organization or Group. Date of Electronic Publication or Last Update. Print medium: "Web." Date You Accessed Material.

Works Cited – Further Reference

- For further reference on the Works Cited page, see the most recent edition of the MLA Handbook. 
- Also, you may visit the writing center to meet with a tutor. 
- Or take advantage of some of our other helpful online resources through the Writing Center website at:



<http://www.lima.ohio-state.edu/academics/writing/>

Part 3:



MLA PAPER FORMAT

EXAMPLE & EXPLANATION

MLA Paper Format

Slusher 1

Jered Slusher

Dr. Deborah Burks

English 521

29 May 2008

“Hero and Leander” and Feminine Beauty as Deception

Christopher Marlowe's “Hero and Leander” has been discussed by many literary critics in regards to the poem's explicit sexual content, and justifiably so. “Hero and Leander” is full of sexual imagery, and the narrator showcases both Hero and Leander as sexual objects throughout the poem. While we are supposed to see Hero as a chaste woman, John Leonard contends that the narrator's main goal is to discredit Hero (58). While instances of Hero's deception can be seen, Leander's beauty can be seen as

- MLA guidelines state all margins should be set at one inch.
- MLA recommends using twelve point font, generally Times New Roman, and essays are generally written double-spaced.
- MLA recommends a header be placed one half inch from the top of the page and should include your last name and the page number right aligned.
- Instead of using a Title Page, MLA formatting recommends the information be found at the top of the first page, left aligned and double spaced.
 - This includes: Your Name, The Professor's Name, The Class, The Date in that order
- The Title is then Centered.

Part 4



ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY

EXAMPLE & EXPLANATION

Annotated Bibliography - Explanation

Annotated Bibliography

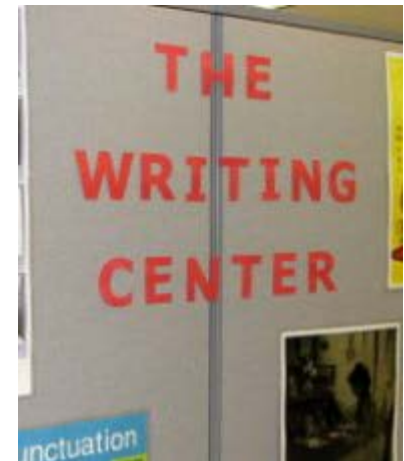
Jarrell, Randall. "Robert Frost's 'Home Burial.'" *Critical Reading and Writing Across the Disciplines*. Ed. Cyndia Susan Clegg. New York: Holt, 1988. 468-488. Randall Jarrell, a respected poet himself, analyzes the dramatic dialogue and action of Robert Frost's "Home Burial," showing how the rhythms of the lines and the word choices illustrate the separate ways of grieving and the failure of the couple to reach an understanding of each other's pain at the loss of their child. Jarrell's emphasis on the husband's domineering manner will support my own view that the husband attempts to devalue his wife's feelings, suggesting a pattern in their relationship that has caused previous anguish and explains her rejection of his efforts to appease her.

<http://www.wordsworth2.net/images/annotbib.jpg>

- An Annotated Bibliography contains descriptive or evaluative comments on the sources used in the essay.
- Cite the work first, and then write the annotation of the work.
- Be sure to read the professor's guidelines very carefully for formatting and what exactly should be included in the Annotation.

Works Cited – Further Reference

- For further reference on MLA Documentation, see the most recent edition of the MLA Handbook.
- Also, you may visit the writing center to meet with a tutor.
- Or take advantage of some of our other helpful online resources through the Writing Center website at:



<http://www.lima.ohio-state.edu/academics/writing/>

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Visit us online at:

<http://www.lima.ohio-state.edu/academics/writing/>



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