MLA Style

This handout gives some basic examples of MLA style. For more examples and complete information, use the following source from the Modern Language Association:

(For High School/College Undergraduate Writers)
Copies are at the Reference Desk and Circulation Reserve at 808.027 G35mh6.

(For College Graduate/Professional Writers)
Copies are at the Reference Desk and Circulation Reserve at 808.027 G35ms2.

Books

Multiple Authors

Editor(s)

No Author

Chapter

Periodicals

Multiple Authors

No Author
Newspaper

Author

No Author

Microforms

ERIC Document

Internet

Scholarly Project

Professional Site

Personal Site

Internet Article in an Internet-only Journal

Internet Article from an Aggregated Database

Using MLA style, all entries on a works cited page should be double-spaced. Due to space restrictions on this style sheet, all examples are shown single-spaced.

For other forms, for example citations of works discussed in a secondary source, papers presented at meetings/conferences, technical reports, translated works, volumes in a series, in-text notations, and others, see either the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers or MLA Style Manual and Guide to Scholarly Publishing.
Addendum

Parenthetical References

*Parenthetical Reference Without Notes*—References in the text must clearly point to specific sources in the list of works cited. Identify the location of the borrowed information as specifically as possible.

A standard parenthetical reference provides the author’s name followed by the specific page numbers where the cited material can be found. It will be enclosed in parentheses and appear at the end of a sentence before the punctuation.

**Example:** (Patterson, 183-85)

If the author is stated in the text, only the page number will be given.

**Example:** (183-85)

If no page number is available, only the author’s name appears.

**Example:** (Patterson)

*Parenthetical Reference With Notes*—References will be enumerated by the placement of a superscripted number at the end of a sentence. The superscripted number will correspond to a note with the same number. The note will identify the location of the borrowed information as specifically as possible with additional comments.

**Example:** Many observers conclude that health care in the United States is inadequate.¹

¹For strong points of view on different aspects of this issue, see Public Agenda Foundation 1-10 and Sakala 151-88.

Two kinds of notes may be used with parenthetical references, *content notes* and *bibliographic notes.*

- Content notes offer the reader comment, explanation, or information that the text cannot accommodate.
- Bibliographic notes contain either several sources or evaluative comments on sources.