MLA Style

This handout provides some basic examples of MLA style. For more information, use the following sources from the Modern Language Association:

The call number is R808.027 M685.

Print.
The call number is R808.027 M6894. Both books are available at the Reference Desk.

Books
The standard information included in a book citation includes the following components:

Author, editor, compiler, or translator. Title of the Work. Edition used (if other than the first). Volume number. City of publication, name of publisher, and year of publication. Medium of publication consulted [Print or Web].

Multiple Authors

Editor(s)
Bedau, Hugo Adam, ed. The Death Penalty in America. 3rd ed. New York:


No Author

Chapter / Work from an Anthology
Sutton, Paul. “Femme Nikita: Violent Women or Amenable Spectacle?” Film Studies:

Periodicals
Periodical sources include magazines, newspapers, and scholarly journals. The typical components for an article in a print periodical include:

Author’s name. “Title of the Article.” *Name of the Periodical* Volume number (for a scholarly journal) Issue number (if available, for a scholarly journal) Date of publication: page numbers. Medium of publication consulted.

**Magazine Examples:**


**Newspaper Examples:**


**Scholarly Journal Examples:**


Microforms
These documents are printed matter that has been reduced in size to aid in storage. The common types are microfilm, microfiche, and microcard. The general format is very similar to that used for print sources. Addition of the name of the vendor and some explanatory detail may be needed to complete the citation.

**ERIC Document**

**Microfilm**
Web Publications
Conducting research on the World Wide Web provides access to a variety of documents and recordings. Citation information is much like what is used for print:

Name of author, compiler, director, editor, narrator, performer, or translator. Title of the Work or, if this is a part of a larger work, use “Quotation Marks.” Title of website, if different from the title of the work. Version or edition used, if available.

Publisher or sponsor—if not available, use N. p. Date of publication—if not available, use n. d. Medium of publication. Date of access.

Scholarly Project:

Professional Web Site:

Personal Web Site

Internet Article in an Internet-only Journal

Article from a Subscription Database Service

Parenthetical References
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. The note will be enclosed in parentheses and is placed as close as possible to the material documented.

Example: Companies can monitor employees’ every keystroke without legal penalty, but they may have to combat low morale as a result (Berkman 183).
• If the author's name is stated in the text, only the page number is necessary.

Example: Berkman asserts that employee morale may be a problem (183).

• If no page number is available, it is preferable to include reference to the author in the text of the paper.

Example: Keith Lilley provides a thorough discussion of medieval rituals based upon the study he completed in 2009.

Content and Bibliographic Notes with Parenthetical References
When using notes with parenthetical references, the 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.

• Content notes offer the reader comment, explanation, or information that the text cannot accommodate.

Example: Studies conclude that we must explore emerging energy technologies before an oil crisis occurs.

• Bibliographic notes contain either several sources or evaluative comments on sources.

Example: For strong points of view on different aspects of this issue, see American Public Health Association 1-10 and Pikulski 251-88.

For other citation examples and more detail about documentation in both the Works Cited and parenthetical notes, see the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers or the MLA Style Manual and Guide to Scholarly Publishing. Additional information regarding documentation is available in the SWOSU library’s LibGuide titled Citing Sources in MLA Style. This is the web address for the guide: http://libguides.swosu.edu/mlastyle