

MLA

Citing in MLA 8

MLA 8 is a very straightforward citation style, where all the citations, regardless of their type, follow the same basic format style, as the chart on the right displays. Unlike other citation styles, there may be multiple ways to cite works using this basic format; MLA encourages whatever will make the most sense to the reader.

See our *MLA FAQ* handout for more information on citing in MLA.

MLA 8 Basic Format

1. Author.
2. "Title of Source."
3. *Title of Container*,
4. Other contributors,
5. Version,
6. Number,
7. Publisher,
8. Publication date,
9. Location (page numbers and/or online location).

Books

Basic Format

Author A's Last Name, First Name, and Author B's First Name Last Name. *Title of Book*, Publisher, Year of Publication.

▪ One Author

Bazin, Patrick. "Toward Metareading." *The Future of the Book*, edited by Geoffrey Nunberg, University of California Press, 1996, pp. 153-68.

Woolf, Virginia. *Jacob's Room*, annotated and with an introduction by Vara Neverow, Harcourt, Inc., 2008.

▪ Two Authors

Prachett, Terry, and Neil Gaiman. *Good Omens: The Nice and Accurate Prophecies of Agnes Nutter Witch*, HarperCollins, 2006.

Article in a Journal

Basic Format

Author A's Last Name, First Name and Author B's First Name Last Name. "Title of the Article." *Title of Journal*, Volume, Issue, Year of Publication, Page Numbers, *Database name*, DOI (or URL).

Order of Authors

List authors in order presented on the title page, not necessarily alphabetically.

▪ One Author

Kincaid, Jamacia. "In History." *Callaloo*, vol. 20, no. 1, 1997, pp. 1-7.

▪ Three or More Authors

Hampton, Riley, et al. "Owl Eyes in The Great Gatsby." *American Literature*, vol. 48, no. 2, 1976, p. 229, *JSTOR*, doi: 10.2307/2925076

Article from a Website

Basic Format

Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of Work." *Title of Website*, Date of Publication, URL.

▪ Examples

Tyre, Peg. "Standardized Tests in College?" *Newsweek*, 16 Nov 2007,
<http://www.newsweek.com/standardized-tests-college-96211>

Hollmichel, Stefanie. "The Reading Brain: Differences Between Digital and Print." *So Many Books*, 25 Apr. 2013, somanycbooksblog.com/the-reading-brain-differences-between-digital-and-print/.

Citing a Website with No Author

In the case of no known author, skip the author section and simply start the citation with the title of the website.

Movie

Basic Format

Contributor's Last Name, First Name, contributor's role. *Title of Movie*.

Role by Other Contributor's First Name Last Name, Name of Production or Distribution Company, Year of Release.

▪ Examples

Weir, Peter, director. *Dead Poets Society*. Written by Tom Schulman, performance by Robin Williams, Touchstone Pictures, 1989.

Dead Poets Society. Directed by Peter Weir, written by Tom Schulman, Touchstone Pictures, 1989.

Who are the contributors?

A movie requires the work of many people with different roles, including directors, producers, writers, performers, and more. Always include the director, but only cite other contributors if they are important to your writing. The examples to the left show how to put emphasis on different contributors for the same movie.

How do I do In-Text Citations in MLA?

1 Author

"...he still knew nothing of the piracy of Love" (Longus 23).

Kenneth Burke describes human beings as "symbol-using animals" (3).

2 Authors

"...these are the metaphors we live by" (Lakoff and Johnson 18).

3 or more Authors

"... they could bear it no more" (Wesley et al. 10).

No Author:

List the title of the source instead, in the text itself or parenthetically, abbreviated.

In "The Impact of Global Warming in North America..." (3).

("Impact of Global Warming" 3).

Do not place a comma between the author(s) and page number(s).

Information adapted from the MLA Handbook, Eighth Edition. For more information, find it on our bookshelf or in the library.