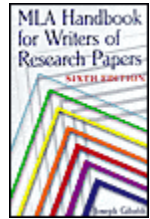


Basic MLA Citation Format

One of the citation formats Lesley University recommends for students is the Modern Language Association citation format. The following page includes sample citations from the MLA handbook:

Gibaldi, Joseph. *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*. 6th ed. New York: MLA, 2003.



For more information, consult the original document, or the MLA web site:
<http://www.mla.org>

References within the Text

Example A

"There are two basic types of sociodramatic play training: outside intervention and inside intervention" (Christie 29).

By putting the author's last name, Christie, and the page number, 29, in parentheses after your quotation about play training, you are telling the reader where you found this information.

Example B

Christie states that "there are two basic types of sociodramatic play training: outside intervention and inside intervention" (29).

Because you have mentioned the author's name in your sentence, you do not have to repeat it in the parentheses.

Example C

Margaret Sanger was thought to be primarily responsible for the introduction of birth control in this country (Kennedy 251).

or

David Kennedy says that Margaret Sanger was primarily responsible for the introduction of birth control in this country (251).

Sentences in your own words about the idea(s) of an author are treated in much the same way. Here there are no quotation marks because you are describing an author's idea, not quoting word-for-word. This is called "paraphrasing" and is as important to cite correctly as if it were a direct quote.

Formatting Citations for Your Bibliography or Works Cited Page

Basic MLA Style Format

- Arrange the citations in alphabetical order by the first element of the citation, usually the author's last name.
- Hanging Indents are required for citations in the bibliography, as shown below. That is, the first line of the citation starts at the left margin. Subsequent lines are indented 5 spaces.
- As with every other part of an MLA formatted essay, the bibliography is double spaced, both within the citation and between citations. Do not add an extra line between the citations.
- The right margin is the normal right margin of your document.

MLA Citation Examples

Books / Articles / Encyclopedias / Web Pages / Images / Other

I. Books

Printed books / Online books / Book chapter, short story, poem

Printed book with one author

Kennedy, David. Birth Control in America: The Career of Margaret Sanger. New Haven: Yale UP, 1970.

Printed book with two or more authors (Cite authors as they appear on title page, not necessarily in alphabetical order.)

Wellek, Rene, and Austin Warren. Theory of Literature. 3rd ed. New York: Harcourt, 1962.

Online book

(When citing an online resource, follow the basic format for a print source, and then add online retrieval information. If the URL, or Web address, is more than one line, don't break at a hyphen; only break after a slash.)

Pinson, Linda, and Jerry Jinnett. Steps to Small Business Start-up: Everything You Need to Know to Turn Your Idea Into a Successful Business. Chicago: Dearborn, A Kaplan Professional Company, 2000. NetLibrary, Lesley University Libraries, Cambridge, MA. March 31, 2003 <<http://www.netlibrary.com/>>.

Chapter, short story, or poem from a book or a work in a collection (an anthology, a casebook, or a group of essays)

O'Connor, Flannery. "Everything That Rises Must Converge." Mirrors: An Introduction to Literature. Ed. John R. Knott, Jr. and Christopher R. Reaske. San Francisco: Canfield, 1975. 58-67.

II. Articles, essays, and reviews

Scholarly journal articles: Print or PDF / Lesley database / Web

Magazine articles

Newspaper articles

Art review

Book review

Print or PDF article in a scholarly journal

Christie, James F. "Sociodramatic Play Training." Young Children 37 (1982): 25-32.

Scholarly journal article available online from a Lesley University database – if not PDF

Buchanan, Richard. "Education and Professional Practice in Design." Design Issues 14 (Summer 1998): 63-66. Academic Search Premier. EBSCO. Lesley University Libraries, Cambridge, MA. 21 November 2003 <<http://www.epnet.com/>>.

Scholarly journal article on the Web (not from a Lesley database)

MacLean, A. Peter, and Peters, Ray Dev. "Graduate Student Couples: Dyadic Satisfaction in Relation to Type of Partnership and Demographic Characteristics."
Canadian Journal of Behavioral Science 17.1 (1995): 13 pars. 22 April 2004
<<http://www.cpa.ca/cjbsnew/1995/april/peters.html>>.

Print or PDF article in a weekly magazine

Cohen, Hennig. "Why Isn't Melville for the Masses?" Saturday Review 16 Aug.
1969: 19-21.

Article in a newspaper, print or PDF. (If an edition is noted, list this after the date – e.g., 15 Nov. 1976, late ed. If a section letter is used, add this to the citation. If the article is not on consecutive pages, write only the first page number and a plus sign, leaving no intervening space. Ex.: A13+)

Brody, Jane E. "Cancer Termed on Increase." New York Times 10 Oct. 1976, sec. 1:37.

Newspaper article on the Web if not PDF

Calem, Robert E. "Does the Web Addict People? Or Just Tempt Internet Abuse?" The New York Times 17 March 1996. 20 March 1996
<<http://www.nytimes.com/web/docsroot/library/cyber/week/0317addict.html>>.

Art review

Kipnis, Jeffrey. Rev. of Lifestyle, by Bruce Mau. Artforum International
Sum. 2001: 46.

Book review

Nodelman, Perry. Rev. of Inside Picture Books, by Ellen Handler Spitz. The Lion and the Unicorn 22 (2000) 150-171.

III. Encyclopedia articles

Print / Online

Print encyclopedia article with no author

“China.” Encyclopedia Americana. 1978 ed.

Print encyclopedia article with an author

Buckley, Francis J. “Team Teaching.” Encyclopedia of Education. Ed. James W. Guthrie. 2nd ed. 8 vols. New York: Macmillan Reference USA, 2003.

Online encyclopedia article with no author

“Western Painting.” Encyclopaedia Britannica. 2004. Encyclopaedia Britannica
Online. Lesley University Libraries, Cambridge, MA. 7 April 2004
<<http://search.eb.com/eb/article?eu=115377>>.

IV. Web Pages

Web page

Vandergrift, Kay E. “Social History of Children’s Literature.” Kay E. Vandergrift’s
Special Interest Page. September 1995. SCILS, Rutgers U. 1 April, 2004
<<http://www.scils.rutgers.edu/~kvander/HistoryofChildLit/index.html>>.

Web page essay from an organization’s Web site

National Center for Health Statistics. “Alcohol Use.” 25 March 2004. Fastats A to Z. 28 April
2004 <<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/fastats/alcohol.htm>>.

V. Images

Original work / Art reproduction / Image from Lesley database / Image from Web

Original painting, sculpture, or photograph

(The date of creation is not necessary; if used, place it immediately after the title of the work. In this example, it is 1308-11.)

Duccio di Buoninsegna. The Temptation of Christ on the Mountain. 1308-11. The Frick Collection, New York.

Art reproduction

Walker, Kara. The End of Uncle Tom and the Grand Allegorical Tableau of Eva in Heaven. 1995. Collection of Jeffrey Deitch, New York. The American Century: Art & Culture, 1950-2000. By Lisa Phillips. New York: Whitney Museum of American Art, 1999. Plate 556.

Image from a Lesley University Library Database

Barney, Matthew. Cremaster 1. 1995-6. Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, MN. The AMICO Library. Wilson. Lesley University Libraries, Cambridge, MA. 4 April, 2003. <<http://www.amico.org/>>.

Image from the Web

Wallen, Ruth. If Frogs Sicken and Die, What Will Happen to the Princes? Bus Image 11. 1999. Green Museum, Corte Madera, CA. 4 April 2003
<http://greenmuseum.org/content/wif_detail_view/img_id-55_prev_size-1_artist_id-5_work_id-13.html>.

VI. Other Resources

ERIC Document / Lesson Plan / Personal E-mail / Interviews / Film or Video / Lecture, Speech, etc.

ERIC document

Milgram, Norman A. The Many Faces of Procrastination: Implications and Recommendations for Counselors. Paper presented at the Annual International Council of Psychologists Convention. 22-16 Aug. 1987. New York: 1987. ERIC ED 290 103.

Lesson Plan on the Web

Barry, Karie. "Amelia Bedelia." Educator's Reference Desk Lesson Plans. 1994. 5 February 2004 <http://www.eduref.org/cgi-bin/printlessons.cgi/Virtual/Lessons/Language_Arts/Reading/RDG0043.html>.

Personal E-mail

Kennedy, Edward. "Budget Preparation Meeting." E-mail to John Kerry. 10 March 1996.

Personal interview conducted in person

McKenna, Margaret. Personal interview. 17 April 1992.

Telephone interview

Poussaint, Alvin F. Telephone interview. 10 Dec. 1998.

Film or video recording

Andrew's Plan. Prod. IEP Resources. Videocassette. Attainment Co. and Video Architects, 2000.

Lecture, speech, address, or reading

(When citing an oral presentation, give the speaker's name; title of the presentation, if known, in quotation marks, or a descriptive label; the meeting and sponsoring organization; the location; and the date.)

Terkel, Studs. Address. Conf. on Coll. Composition and Communication

Convention. Palmer House, Chicago. 22 Mar. 1990.

Course lecture

Dockray-Miller, Mary. "Modernism: A Quick Overview." CLITR 2116 English

Literature II: Romanticism to the Present. Lesley University, Cambridge,

MA. 30 Mar. 2004.