

MLA Eighth Edition (2016)

This most recent edition of the *MLA Handbook* is both briefer than the previous edition and more inclusive of different resources. As in previous editions, it includes information on in-text citations and Works Cited elements. Both are required to document sources used. This new style is not centered on publication format; consequently, it is much easier to cite new media such as e-mails and tweets.

What is **different** – Works Cited

- The concept of the **container**. When a source is located within something larger than itself, such as a chapter in a book, an article in a journal, an episode in a television series, a video within a web site, that larger source is the Container. If the container is located within something larger than itself, such as a database, that will be a second container. Titles of containers are italicized.
- No longer needed: media type (print or web)
- Punctuation
 - When citing a journal article, only commas are used to separate the title of the journal, volume, number, date, and page numbers – see example. No parenthesis around the date
- When citing a periodical, rather than just numbers, the abbreviations for volume and number are used – see examples
- Use of **DOI** (digital object identifier) when available. Like other documentation styles, MLA recognizes the importance of using persistent/stable links, such as DOIs, for online sources. ERIC numbers and other identification numbers can be used. When no such numbers are available, use the URL, and, if possible, a permalink, which is generally more stable and shorter.
- For a book, place of publication not needed
- Authors, when a source has three or more authors (editors, translators), only Cite the first author, followed by et al.

Note regarding subscription databases: the databases are seen as Container 2 in this new MLA format. Cite the database by name. If using an EBSCOHost database, it is not wrong to cite the name of the specific database, such as Academic Source Premier, rather than EBSCOHost. **Date accessed** is no longer required.

What is **the same**:

- Importance of citing the source of information used.
- In-text citations are basically the same as in the previous edition.

In-text citations. Whenever you use a direct quote, a summary, a reference to someone else's ideas, note this by using in-text references, which will usually include the author's last name and a page number. Variations can be: using the author's name in the text, as in a signal phrase such as: according to Jane Austen, (24); then using the page number (or numbers) in parenthesis. Or, using a direct quote: "Some victims of hate crimes endure serial attacks" (Turpin-Petrosino 137). For two authors cite both names: (Alexander and Shelton 379), and for more than two authors, cite the first author's last name, followed by et al. and page number (Ellis et al. 174). When there is no author, cite by title.

Any sources cited in-text must be included in the Works Cited list at the end of the document.

Works Cited – Examples

Please note: For online examples used in this handout for materials located through subscription databases, complete URLs are not provided.

Books

Book with one author:

Turpin-Petrosino, Carolyn. *Understanding Hate Crimes: Acts, Motives, Offenders, Victims, and Justice*. Routledge, 2015.

Book with two authors

Alexander, Bruce K., and Curtis P. Shelton. *A History of Psychology in Western Civilization*. Cambridge UP, 2014.

Book with three or more authors

Ellis, Markman, et al. *Empire of Tea: The Asian Leaf That Conquered the World*. Reaktion Books, 2015.

Electronic book – cite an e-book as a version, see below example

Little, Michael R. "After Apple Picking." In *Bloom's How to Write About Robert Frost*, e-book, Infobase Publishing, 2010, pp. 1114-123. EBSCO, web.a.ebscohost.com/libserv-prd.bridgew.edu/ehost/ebookviewer/ebook/...

Chapter in a book (or essay in a collection)

Montiel, Anya. "Native American Expressive Arts." *The Oxford Handbook of American Indian History*, edited by Frederick E. Hoxie, Oxford UP, 2016, pp. 453-74.

Periodicals

Periodicals – journal article – with doi.

Leonard, Nathaniel C. “Embracing the ‘Mongrel’: John Marston’s *The Malcontent*, *Antonio and Mellida*, and the Development of English Early Modern Tragicomedy.” *Journal for Early Modern Cultural Studies*, vol. 12, no. 3, Summer 2012, pp. 60-87. *Project Muse*, doi: 10.1353/jem.2012.0019.

Periodical – journal article – with ERIC number

Baker, John D., et al. “An Investigation of an After School Math Tutoring Program: University Tutors + Elementary Students = A Successful Partnership.” *Education*, vol. 127, no. 2, Winter 2006, pp. 287-293. *ERIC*, EJ765828.

Periodical – journal article – without doi.

Capuano, Peter J. “Networked Manufacture in Charlotte Brontë’s *Shirley*.” *Victorian Studies*, vol. 55, no. 2, Winter 2013, pp. 231-42. *MLA*, web.a.ebscohost.com.libserv-prd.bridgew.edu/ehost/search -

Periodicals – monthly magazine – **print version**

Wood, Graeme. “The Future of College?” *The Atlantic*, Sept. 2014, pp. 50-60.

Periodicals – monthly magazine – **online version**

Wood, Graeme. “The Future of College?” *The Atlantic*, Sept. 2014, pp. 50-60. *Academic Search Premier*, web.a.ebscohost.com.libserv-prd.bridgew.edu/ehost/search -

Periodicals – daily newspaper – online version

Murphy, Sean P. “Outnumbered, Outfinanced, and Betting on a Win.” *Boston Globe*, 28 June 2016, B.1. *Proquest*, [search.proquest.com.libserv-prd.bridgew.edu/...](http://search.proquest.com.libserv-prd.bridgew.edu/)

Other resources

Web site:

Kennedy, John F., and Richard M. Nixon. “TV Debate: CBS Transcript: First Debate.” 26 Sept. 1960. *Papers of John F. Kennedy*. John F. Kennedy Library, Digital ID, www.jfklibrary.org.

Video on a Web Site:

Smith, Curtis, and Joe Holdridge. “How to Divide and Replant Irises.” *Southwest Yard and Garden Series*. 25 Aug. 2009. *YouTube*, www.youtube.com/watch?v=O5ZZ_PvNcws.

Film: - if focused on a particular actor or director, begin the citation with the person’s name. If citing the film as a whole, begin the citation with the title, as the example below.

Woman in Gold. Directed by Simon Curtis, performances by Helen Mirren and Ryan Reynolds. Origin Pictures/BBC Films, 2015.

Film Review: Same format for book review.

Gire, Dann. "Civil Snore." Review of *Free State of Jones*, directed by Gary Ross.
Chicago Daily Herald, 24 June 2016. *LexisNexis*, www.lexisnexis.com.libserv-
prd.bridgew.edu/hottopics/lnacademic/?

Interview – cite person interviewed as author, then provide a title if available, and, if relevant, publication information. If untitled, see example below of personal, unpublished interview:

Cruz, Nancy. Interview. By Alex Morganis. 27 Aug. 2016.

For more information and examples, use the *MLA Handbook* (8th edition), on reserve at the Circulation Desk. Also see online materials from the *MLA Style Center* at: style.mla.org/.