

## A Brief Guide for Citing Sources in the MLA Style

September 2009

- Begin the bibliography, or more properly the “works cited” list, on a separate sheet following the text of your paper but continuing the same pagination.
- Double-space the entire list.
- Entries are arranged alphabetically by the author’s last name or, in the case of anonymous works, by title.
- New entries begin at the left-hand margin with subsequent lines for the same entry indented one-half inch.
- *Italicize* the titles of books, periodicals, databases, and Web sites. Use “quotation marks” for the titles of periodical articles, essays, book chapters and Web pages.
- Finish the citation with the medium consulted (“Web” and “Print” are used for our examples, but “CD,” “Radio,” “Television” and many others are possible).

This guide to citing resources in the MLA (Modern Language Association) style was adapted by the reference staff at the Schauerman Library from the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, 7<sup>th</sup> ed. (2009), and gives examples of the most commonly used citations. For further or more complete information, please consult the “Handbook,” which is kept at the Reference Desk.

### **Books in General**

#### **To cite books by one author**

Morrison, Jim. *The Lords and the New Creatures*. New York: Touchstone, 1971. Print.

*The basic work cited entry includes author, title, and publication information. Take this information from the title page of the book itself, rather than from some secondary source, such as a library catalog. Publisher information is reduced to the absolute minimum: Touchstone Press on the title page becomes Touchstone; University Press becomes UP; Vintage Books becomes Vintage. Finish the citation with the medium of publication, in this case “Print.”*

#### **By two or three authors**

McCrum, Robert, William Cram, and Robert MacNeil. *The Story of English*. 3<sup>rd</sup> ed.

London: Faber and Faber, 2002. Print.

*The lead author’s name alone is reversed for alphabetizing; second and third authors’ names revert to the normal order and are not alphabetized within the citation, but are listed in the order they appear on the title page. Unless otherwise stated, assume the book is a first edition. If a later edition is specified on the title page, include the information after the title of the book.*

#### **More than three authors**

Chu, Clara, et al. *Internet Multicultural Resources*. Huntington Park, CA: South State Cooperative Lib.

System, 1997. Print.

*The lead author alone is identified by name; coauthors are reduced to the status “et al,” an abbreviation for the Latin et alia, meaning “and others.” You may, however, list all the authors in full as they appear on the title page.*

### **Two or more books by the same author**

Cisneros, Sandra. *The House on Mango Street*. New York: Vintage, 1991. Print.

- - -. *My Wicked, Wicked Ways*. Bloomington, IN: Third Woman, 1987. Print.

*Give the author's name for the first publication only. Basic publication information includes the city alone, but if the city is not well known (as well known as London, Tokyo, and New York, for example) include an abbreviation for country, state, or province.*

### **By a group or a corporate author**

Los Angeles Olympic Organizing Committee. *Official Olympic Souvenir Program: Games of the XXIIIrd Olympiad*. Los Angeles: The Committee, 1984. Print.

### **Anonymous publication**

*Camping on the Coast without a Permit*. Santa Barbara, CA: Home Grown, 1972. Print.

*For anonymous publications, begin your citation with the title and alphabetize the work in your bibliography by title, rather than author.*

### **Book with an author and editor or translator**

Bronte, Emily. *Wuthering Heights*. 1847. Ed. David Daiches. London: Penguin, 1985. Print.

Homer. *The Odyssey*. Trans. T.E. Lawrence. London: Oxford UP, 1972. Print.

### **Poem or short story in an anthology**

Johnston, Mary. "The Merrimac and the Monitor." *Men at War*. Ed. Ernest Hemingway. New York: Crown, 1942. 493-502. Print.

*In addition to the basic book publication information include the author and title of the work cited, the editor or translator of the collection, and the inclusive pages for the work.*

### **Government publication**

United States. Dept. of Labor. *Occupational Outlook Handbook: 2009-09 Library Edition*. Washington: GPO, 2008. Print.

*If the publication is anonymous, cite the responsible government agency. If the document has an author, the citation may begin with either the author's name or the agency.*

### **Critical essay reprinted in a collection**

Stone, Laurie. "Personal Best: What's New in Towne." *Village Voice* 11 Mar. 1982: 52-53.

Rpt. in *Contemporary Literary Criticism*. Ed. Christopher Giroux. Vol. 87. Detroit: Gale, 1995. 366-369. Print.

*To cite an essay in a collection that has been previously published elsewhere, give the earlier publication information followed by "Rpt." (Reprinted in). Always cite the source you are using; do not pretend you saw the article in the original publication.*

### **Work from a *Taking Sides* book**

Norton, Mary Beth. "In the Devil's Snare: The Salem Witchcraft Crisis of 1692." *Taking Sides: Clashing Views in United States History, Volume 1, the Colonial Period to Reconstruction*. 13<sup>th</sup> ed. Eds. Larry Madaras and James M. SoRelle. Taking Sides. Boston: McGraw-Hill, 2009. 78-85. Print.

*Include the series title (Taking Sides), the editor(s), and the page numbers of the article.*

### **Work from an *Opposing Viewpoints* book**

Crocker, Linda. "Standardized Testing Is a Useful Tool within Public Schools." *Education: Opposing Viewpoints*. Eds. David Haugen and Susan Musser. Opposing Viewpoints. Detroit: Greenhaven, 2009. 54-65. Print.

## **Reference Works**

### **An anonymous article**

"Azimuthal Equidistant Projection." *Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary*. 11<sup>th</sup> ed. 2003. Print. *For standard reference works reappearing often in new editions, include only the edition and year of publication.*

### **An article in a reference work, signed**

Honderich, Ted. "Determinism and Freedom." *Encyclopedia of Philosophy*. Ed. Donald M. Borchert. Vol. 3. Detroit: Thomson Gale, 2006. Print.

*For less familiar reference works, give complete publication information.*

## **Periodical Literature (Newspapers, Magazines, Scholarly Journals)**

### **An article in a newspaper**

Hawkins, Edwina. "Housing Starts Go Down the Tubes." *South Bay News and Review* [Redondo Beach] 2 June 2009, late ed.: A1+. Print.

*When citing a newspaper, give the name in italics as it appears on the masthead, omitting any introductory articles ("a," "the"). If a local paper does not include the city of publication in its title, supply this information in brackets: for example, Daily Breeze [Torrance]. Include the edition, as different editions of the same issue may include different material.*

### **Magazine**

Poniewozik, James. "A Modern Jurassic Family: Discovery's Digital Dinos Mix Fact and Guesswork." *Time* 17 Apr. 2000: 80. Print.

*If an article continues on consecutive pages, show the range after the colon (e.g. 80-5). If a multi-page article is not printed on consecutive pages, include the first page and a plus sign (80+).*

### **A scholarly journal**

Caesar, Judith. "Murakami and the Inklings." *Explicator* 67.1 (2008): 26-30. Print.

*Include the journal title in italics, the volume number and issue number (if available) and year (in parentheses), a colon, and the page numbers. In our example 67.1 is the first issue of the 67<sup>th</sup> volume.*

### **Documents from a Subscription Service/Database**

If you are citing an article, begin the entry by citing the article as you would a newspaper, magazine, or journal entry in print. If pagination is not available, use "n. pag." Conclude your citation with these three elements: Title of the database in italics, medium of publication (Web) and date of access: day, month, and year.

If you are citing a nonperiodical document, record the following information in sequence:

1. Title of the document in quotation marks
2. Title of the database italicized
3. Medium of publication (Web)
4. Date accessed (day, month, and year)

Examples of citations are given below for databases available through El Camino College.

### **Alt HealthWatch**

Shulman, Laina. "Hydrate and Rejuvenate." *Alive: Canadian Journal of Health* May 2008: 68-69.  
*Alt HealthWatch*. Web. 9 Oct. 2008.

### **Britannica Online Academic Edition**

"Mauna Kea." *Encyclopedia Britannica*. 2008. *Encyclopedia Britannica Online Academic Edition*.  
Web. 1 Oct. 2008.

### **Business Source Premier**

Nelson, Teresa and Laurie L. Levesque. "The Status of Women in Corporate Governance in High-Growth, High-Potential Firms." *Entrepreneurship: Theory & Practice* 31.2 (2007): 209-32. *Business Source Premier*. Web. 30 Sept. 2008.

### **CINAHL Plus with Full Text**

Traynor, K. "Stakeholders Seek to Prevent I.V. Medication Errors." *American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy* 65.16 (2008):1494+. *CINAHL Plus With Full Text*. Web. 1 Oct. 2008.

### **CountryWatch**

"Country Review: Australia." *CountryWatch*. 2005. Web. 5 Sept. 2005.

### **CQ Researcher**

Billitteri, Thomas J. "Afghanistan Dilemma." *CQ Researcher* 7 Aug. 2009: 669-692. *CQ Researcher Online*. Web. 2 Sept. 2009.

### **(EBSCOhost) Academic Search Premier**

Alkalay-Gut, Karen. "Literary Dialogues: Rock and Victorian Poetry." *Poetics Today* 21.1 (2000): 33-60. *Academic Search Premier*. Web. 9 Oct. 2008.

### **EBSCO Encyclopedia of Animals**

"Gray Wolf." *EBSCO Encyclopedia of Animals*. Web. 14 Oct. 2008.

### **(EBSCOhost) MasterFILE Premier**

Karlgard, Rich. "Our Health Care Crisis: Age, Obesity, Lawyers." *Forbes* 7 Sep. 2009: 19. *MasterFILE Premier*. Web. 2 Sept. 2009.

### **ERIC**

Corral, Will H. and Daphne Patai. "An End to Foreign Languages, An End to Liberal Arts." *Chronicle of Higher Education* June 2008: A30. *ERIC*. Web. 9 Oct. 2008.

### **Ethnic NewsWatch**

Chesanow, David. "Leading the Way: Asian American Artists of the Older Generation." *International Examiner* 15 May 2001: 22. *Ethnic NewsWatch*. Web. 11 Oct. 2001.

### **Funk & Wagnalls New World Encyclopedia**

"Sierra Nevada." *Funk & Wagnalls New World Encyclopedia*. Web. 14 Oct. 2008.

### **Gale Literary Databases**

"Gabriel (Jose) Garcia Marquez." *Contemporary Authors*. *Gale Literary Databases*. Web. 11 Oct. 2001.

### **GreenFILE**

Magdoff, Fred. "The Political Economy and Ecology of Biofuels." *Monthly Review: An Independent Socialist Magazine* Jul.-Aug. 2008:34-50. *GreenFILE*. Web. 8 Oct. 2008.

### **Health and Wellness Resource Center**

"Uterior Transactions." *Mosby's Medical, Nursing, & Allied Health Dictionary*. 5<sup>th</sup> ed. 1998. *Health and Wellness Resource Center*. Web. 14 Dec. 2001.

### **Health Reference Center: Academic**

Tenore, Josie L. "Challenges in Eating Disorders: Past and Present." *American Family Physician* 64 (2001): 367. *Health Reference Center*. Web. 17 Oct. 2002.

### **Health Source: Consumer Edition**

Weider, Joe. "Turning Back the Clock." *Joe Weider's Muscle & Fitness* June 2002: 22. *Health Source: Consumer Edition*. Web. 27 Sept. 2002.

### **Health Source: Nursing/Academic Edition**

Rubin, Peter. "When Medical Students Go Off The Rails." *BMJ: British Medical Journal* 325 (2002): 556. *Health Source: Nursing/Academic Edition*. Web. 4 Oct. 2002.

### **Issues and Controversies**

"Drug Legalization." *Issues and Controversies on File* 5 Jan. 2001. *Issues and Controversies*. Web. 11 Oct. 2001.

### **JSTOR Arts and Sciences**

Levine, George. "Frankenstein and the Tradition of Realism." *NOVEL: A Forum on Fiction* 7 (1973):14-30. *JSTOR*. Web. 2 Oct. 2008.

### **Literature Resource Center**

Cardwell, Sarah. "Jane Austen on Screen." *The Modern Language Review* 100.3 (2005):793. *Literature Resource Center*. Web. 7 Oct. 2008.

### **Newspaper Source**

Brand, Madeline. "How to Capture Sound on a Piece of Paper." *Day to Day(National Public Radio)* 27 Mar 2008. *Newspaper Source*. Web. 7 Oct. 2008.

### **Professional Development Collection**

Hiser, Krist. "Taking Faculty Development Online." *Diverse: Issues in Higher Education* 25.14 (2008):19. *Professional Development Collection*. Web. 7 Oct. 2008.

### **ProQuest National Newspapers Core**

Zernike, Kate. "School Puts a New Spin on Earth Day after Suit." *New York Times* 29 Apr. 2000, East Coast late ed.: B5+. *ProQuest National Newspapers Core*. Web. 1 May 2000.

### **Psychology and Behavioral Science Collection**

Schredl, Michael and Daniel Erlacher. "Self-Reported Effects of Dreams on Waking-Life Creativity: An Empirical Study." *Journal of Psychology* 141.1 (2007):35-46. *Psychology and Behavioral Science Collection*. Web. 7 Oct. 2008.

### **Regional Business News**

Cruz, Sherri. "Fashion Island Lands County's First Pinkberry Store." *Orange County Business Journal* 24 Sept. 2007:27. *Regional Business News*. Web. 19 Feb. 2009.

### **Religion and Philosophy Collection**

Shenk, Joshua Wolf. "America's Altered States." *Harper's Magazine* May 1999: 38+. *Religion and Philosophy Collection*. Web. 7 Oct. 2008.

### **Science Online**

Berardelli, Phil. "Most Planets May be Seeded with Life." *ScienceNow Daily News* 26 Nov. 2008. *Science Online Database*. Web. 1 Dec. 2008.

## **Today's Science**

"The Strange Chemistry of Jupiter's Moons." *Today's Science on File* Oct. 2001. *Today's Science*. Web. 21 Dec. 2001.

## **Vocational and Career Collection**

Dodson, Thomas A., and DiAnne L. Borders. "Men in Traditional and Nontraditional Careers: Gender Role Attitudes, Gender Role Conflict, and Job Satisfaction." *Career Development Quarterly* 54.4 (2006):293-296. *Vocational and Career Collection*. Web. 7 Oct. 2008.

## **Other Web Resources**

To cite a source from the Web, include as much of the following information as is available:

1. Name of the author/editor of a source such as a Web page or document, and if appropriate, followed by an abbreviation such as *ed.* for editor.
2. Title of the page or document in quotation marks; title of an online book or name of an entire Internet site in italics.
3. Title of the overall Web site in italics, if distinct from above.
4. Any version numbers available.
5. Publisher or sponsor of site. If this is not available, use *N.p.*
6. Date of publication. If nothing is available, use *n.d.*
7. Medium of publication. (Web).
8. The date of your visit to the site (day, month, year).
9. Include the URL in angle brackets only if the document cannot be found without it, or if your instructor requires it.

### **1) Basic format for a page on a Web site**

Last name, first name of author. "Title of document." *Name of Web site*. Date of posting.  
Name of organization associated with the site (sometimes found by clicking on a link leading to information on another page). Medium of publication (Web). Date you accessed the site.

#### **Example:**

Nails, Debra. "Socrates." *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*. 16 Sept. 2005. Center for the Study of Lang. and Info., Stanford U. Web. 27 May 2009.

### **2) Basic format for an entire Web site**

*Name of the site*. Editor if available. Date of posting. Name of organization associated with the site. Medium of publication. Date you accessed the site.

#### **Example:**

*Si, Spain*. Ed. Jose Felix Barrio. Vers. 3.0. May 2003. Embassy of Spain, Ottawa. Web. 27 May 2009.

### 3) Basic format for an online government publication

Name of the government. Name of government agency. *Publication title*. Name of the author if known, preceded by the word "By." Date of posting. Medium of publication. Date of access.

#### Example:

United States. Dept. of Justice. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. *Law Enforcement and Juvenile Crime*. By Howard N. Snyder. Dec. 2001. Web. 29 June 2002.

### 4) Basic format for an eBook accessed from the El Camino College Library Catalog

Author's last name, first name. *Title of the book*. Place of publication: publisher, date of publication. *NetLibrary*. Medium of publication. Date of access.

#### Example:

Mackell, Thomas J., Jr. *When the Good Pensions Go Away: Why Americans Need a New Deal for Pension and Health Care Reform*. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley and Sons, 2008. *NetLibrary*. Web. 12 May 2009.

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