The guide contains citation examples for frequently cited sources types. Examples are adapted from the *MLA Handbook*, 9th edition, 2021. Refer to the handbook to view additional examples, find explanations of in-text documentations, and study other characteristics of MLA style.

Copies are available in the Main Stacks and Reference at the Library: LB2369 .M52 2021

This guide is not a substitute for reading and understanding the *MLA Handbook*, nor is it a substitute for what your instructor requires. You can also find the guide online in Research & Writing Help on the JSCC Library webpage (http://jscc.edu/library).

Get MLA Style Center Help (https://style.mla.org/category/ask-the-mla/)

**URL Note:**
Always include a URL, DOI or web address to help readers locate your sources. It is encouraged that you use citing containers such as YouTube, JSTOR, Spotify, EBSCO, or Netflix to provide easy access and verification of sources. Only the www. address is required, therefore eliminate all https:// when citing. When a DOI is provided always use that. Therefore, provide the best URL possible, and the rest of the information you provided in your works-cited entry will help your readers find the source.

General guideline:

Author. “Title of Source.” *Title of Container*, Other Contributors (translators or editors), Version (edition), Number (vol. and/or no.), Publisher, Publication Date (as specific as possible), Location (pages, paragraphs, and/or URL, DOI or permalink). *2nd container’s title*, Other contributors, Version, Number, Publisher, Publication date, Location, Date of Access (if applicable).

*Note:* If the source is a smaller work inside of a bigger work, such as an article in a journal, follow the above format, where the article is “title of source” and the journal is “title of container.” If the source is a big work, such as a book, the source functions as both the “title of source” and “title of container.” Set the title in italics and place a period after it. Always pay special attention to the punctuation needed. Each entry is formatted as a hanging indent.

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Print Materials

Book by a single author:


*Note:* This is the basic MLA works cited entry. Include the author’s name (last, first), followed by the title of the book (in italics), the name of the publisher, and the year of publication. The publication information is on the title page of the book. The medium such as print or web, and the city of publication, which were both required in previous editions of MLA, are no longer needed in the 8th edition. Also, MLA now only uses italics for titles of large works such as books, whereas in previous editions it has allowed the use of underlining.

Book by a single editor:


*Note:* “UP” is the abbreviation for “University Press” and “ed.” is the abbreviation for “edition.”

Book by two or three authors:


*Note:* Common terms in a works cited entry like “edited by,” “translator,” and “review of” are not abbreviated in the 9th edition of MLA.

Book by more than three authors:


*Note:* “et al” means “and others.”

Book by a corporate author:

Work in a textbook that contains many different works:


*Note:* When small works, such as a short story or journal article, reside inside a bigger work, such as a textbook or a journal, the bigger work is referred to as the container. In some cases, there may be two containers, such as when an article in a journal was found in a database (the journal would be the first container and the database would be the second container). A container should always be followed by the container (title of the book that contains that work, given in italics). In addition, when citing a work such as a short story in a larger collection, a page range for where the short story is located in the book is given at the end. Use “p,” if it is a single page and use “pp,” if it is a page range.

Encyclopedia article:


Scholarly article from a journal with only an issue number:


*Note:* 42 is the issue number.

Scholarly article from a journal with both a volume and issue number:


*Note:* The volume is 81 and the issue number is 4. Also, MLA 9th edition requires that the dates in your works cited list are given as fully as they are provided in your sources. If your sources provide a month, day, and year, use the example above for formatting.

Newspaper article:


*Note:* A is the section; 1 is the page number. Newspapers are typically arranged by sections.
newspapers not published nationally, you must give the city of publication in square brackets if it is not already included in the title.

Magazine article:


Anonymous article in a magazine:


Film or Movie:


*Note:* List films by their title. Include the name of the director, the film studio or distributor, and the release year. If relevant, list performer names after the director’s name. To emphasize specific performers or directors, begin the citation with the name of the desired performer or director, followed by the appropriate title for that person.
**Electronic Books and Electronic Databases**

**Electronic book (ebook):**


**Chapter from an eBook in a Database:**


*Literary Reference Center Plus*,


*Note:* MLA considers the term “e-book” to refer to publications formatted specifically for reading with an e-book reader device (e.g., a Kindle) or a corresponding web application. These e-books will not have URLs or DOIs. If you are citing a book content from an ordinary webpage with a URL, use the “A Page on a Web Site” format above.

**Scholarly article accessed in an electronic database with DOI:**


doi:10.1038/pedia1170.

*Note:* The rule for this entry is similar to a journal article found in print. When accessing a work online, the location where you found it (the URL) is given at the very end. The above example has two containers: the title of the journal that contains the article (*Pediatrics*) and the name of the database that contains the journal (*Academic Search Elite*). Finally, notice that the URL begins with “doi.” If available, use the DOI link because this link will not change if the URL does.
Controversial issue article with anonymous author accessed in an electronic database:


Note: This article only appears in this website’s database, not a journal. Therefore, it has no volume or issue number.

Newspaper article accessed in an electronic database:


Magazine article accessed in an electronic database:


MasterFILE Premier,


Journal Article with a URL not a DOI:


Gale General OneFile,

Internet Sources

Newspaper or magazine article on the web with an author or authors:


Newspaper or magazine article on the web (anonymous):


Entire web site:


Note: The title of the website (in this case, The MLA Style Center) and the name of the website’s sponsor or publisher (Modern Language Association) may be somewhat different. When this is the case, both must be included, with the website in italics and the name of the organization listed after. Also, if the information is available, provide the date range for how long the website has held its copyright (in this case, from 1961 to 2017).

Web page with author:

Web page with no author:


Web page with corporate author:


*Note:* When a work is written by a corporate author (in this case, Center for the Disease Control), the corporate author is often also the publisher. When this is the case, skip the author part and start with the title of the work and list it only as the publisher. However, like in the above example, sometimes the corporate author and publisher can also be the name of the website itself, and when this is the case, only include the name of the website (in italics) and do not include the name of the organization in the author or publisher field.

Web page with no date given:


*Note:* The MLA 9th edition states that when information is missing (in this case, the date), do not include a placeholder for the unknown information.

Personal site:


*Note:* In the case, the author of the website and the name of the website are the same person.

Email:


*Note:* The subject line of the email is considered the title and placed within quotation marks.
An Image (including a Painting, Sculpture, or Photograph):


*Note:* Provide the artist’s name, the work of italicized, the date of creation, the institution and city where the work is housed. Follow this initial entry with the name of the Website in italics, and the date of access.


*Note:* If the work cited is available on the web only, then provide the name of the artist, the title of the work, and then follow the citation format for a website. If the work is posted via a username, use that username for the author.

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**Reviews, Plays, and Performances**

**A Review:**

Review Author. “Title of Review (if there is one).” Review of Performance Title, by Author/Director/Artist. *Title of Periodical*, Day Month Year, page.

**Examples – Book Reviews:**


**Example – Play:**


Performance Examples – Plays & Concert:


*Sing Me the Universal: A Walt Whitman Bicentennial*. Conducted by Mark Shapiro, performed by Cecilia Chorus of New York, 2 Mar. 2019, Church of Saint Frances Xavier, New York City.

*Note:* To cite a review, include the title of the review (if available), then the phrase, “Review of” and provide the title of the work (in italics for books, plays, and films; in quotation marks for articles, poems, and short stories). Finally, provide performance and/or publication information.
**Miscellaneous Sources**

**Post in an online forum:**


*Note:* The author is the username of the creator of the post.

**Twitter:**

@tombrokaw. “SC demonstrated why all the debates are the engines of this campaign.” *Twitter*, 22 Jan. 2012, 3:06 a.m., twitter.com/tombrokaw/status/16099686897174320.

*Note:* The author field will contain the username. Put the entire tweet exactly as it appears in quotation marks in place of a title. Because tweets provide an exact time, also include that information right after the date.

**YouTube:**

“Oh Which BBQ Sauce is the Best? Bless Your Rank.” *YouTube*, uploaded by It’s a Southern Thing. 8 Nov. 2020, www.youtube.com/watch?v=YvSWe641fqY.


*Note:* If the author’s name is the same as the uploader, only cite the author once. If the author is different from the uploader, cite the author’s name before the title.

**Recorded song:**


*Spotify,*

open.spotify.com/user/spotify/playlist/37i9dQZF1E8Jg749LUwafa?si=7y8xbo3RnGXckIXa2eONg

*Note:* The name of the musician is placed first, and the song title is put in quotes, the album title
is in italics, followed by the record label, the date the album was released, the container of the album, and finally, the URL where the song can be found online.

**Personal Interview:**


*Note:* The name of the person being interviewed is first.

**Published Interviews (Print or Broadcast):**


*Note:* List the interview by the full name of the interviewee. If the name of the interview is part of a larger work like a book, a television program, or a film series, place the title of the interview in quotation marks and place the title of the larger work in italics. If the interview appears as an independent title, italicize it. For books, include the author or editor name after the book title. If the interview from which you quote does not feature a title, add the descriptor, Interview by (unformatted) after the interviewee’s name and before the interviewer’s name.

**Online-only Published Interviews:**


**Speeches, Lectures, Oral Presentations, or Conference Presentations:**


*Note:* Start with speaker’s name. Then, give the title of the speech (if any) in quotation marks. Follow with the title of the conference or meeting and then the name of the organization. Name the venue and its city (if the name of the city is not listed in the venue’s name). Use the descriptor that appropriately expresses the type of presentation (e.g., Address, Lecture, Reading, Keynote Speech, Guest Lecture, Conference Presentation).