

RBC Library
MLA Style Guide
Revised 11/18/2008

The following guide was developed to assist students with the MLA style guide. The [MLA Handbook](#) is available on Reserve. Please consult the handbook for more information and examples.

Creating a Works Cited List

The list of works cited appears at the end of a research paper and includes full bibliographic entries for sources referred to within a paper. The list of works cited should appear in alphabetical order and be double-spaced with the heading Works Cited centered at the top of the page.

Sample Citations

BOOKS — Basic Format:

Author. <u>Title of Book</u> . City of Publication: Publisher, Year.

BOOK BY ONE AUTHOR: [See section 5.6.1 of the MLA Handbook]

Paglia, Camille. Sexual Personae: Art and Decadence from Nefertiti to Emily Dickinson. New Haven: Yale UP, 1990.

BOOK BY TWO OR MORE AUTHORS: [5.6.4]

Kerrigan, William, and Gordon Braden. The Idea of the Renaissance. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins UP, 1989.

If there are 3 or more authors (or editors), you have two options: (1) list all names in the order in which they appear on the title page, or (2) use the name of first author/editor followed by et al.

Roark, James L., Michael P. Johnson, Sarah Stage, and Alan Lawson. The American Promise: A History of the United States to 1877. Boston: Bedford, 1998.

OR

Roark, James L., et al. The American Promise: A History of the United States to 1877. Boston: Bedford, 1998.

BOOK WITH AN EDITOR: [5.6.2]

Diamond, Arlyn, ed. The Authority of Experience: Essays in Feminist Criticism. Amherst: U of Massachusetts P, 1977.

BOOK WITH AN AUTHOR & EDITOR: [5.6.12]

Shakespeare, William. Hamlet. Ed. Barbara A. Mowat and Paul Werstine. New York: Washington

Square-Pocket, 1992.

BOOK WITH NO AUTHOR OR EDITOR'S NAME ON THE TITLE PAGE: [5.6.11]

New York Public Library Student's Desk Reference. New York: Prentice, 1993.

DEFINITION OR ESSAY FROM A REFERENCE BOOK: (e.g., dictionary, biography, encyclopedia):
[5.6.8]

(Note that there are three examples in this citation guide—two under this section and one under the next—which refer to Novels for Students and other such Gale ...for Students series.)

"Jabberwocky." Poetry for Students. Ed. Elizabeth Thomasan. Vol. 11. Detroit: Gale, 1998. 90-100.

Use the above model when citing text in the Novels for Students or Poetry for Students series which is not attributed to a particular author such as information from the "Themes" section.

Miller, Tyrus. "Winesburg, Ohio." Novels for Students. Ed. Marie Rose Napierkowski. Vol.4. Detroit: Gale, 1998. 235-39.

A reference citation should contain the author's name when the reference book entry is attributed to a specific author. Place the title of the reference book entry in quotation marks, but don't forget to underline titles of books and plays.

"Plagiarism." Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary. 10th ed. 1993.

When citing an article from a familiar reference book, do not include full publication information—only list edition number (if given) and publication date. (In other words, when citing from a well-known reference source, exclude editor, publication place, publisher, and number of volumes.)

REPRINTED WORK IN AN ANTHOLOGY OR BOOK COLLECTION: [5.6.7]

Booth, David. "The Role of the Storyteller — Sholem Aleichem and Elie Wiesel." Judaism 42 (1993): 298-312. Rpt. in Contemporary Literary Criticism. Ed. Janet Witalec. Vol. 165. Detroit: Gale, 2003. 318-25.

Castille, Philip Dubuisson. "Dilsey's Easter Conversion in Faulkner's The Sound and the Fury." Studies in the Novel 24 (1992): 423-33. Rpt. in Novels for Students. Ed. Marie Rose Napierkowski. Vol. 4. Detroit: Gale, 1998. 313-17.

King, Martin Luther, Jr. "Letter from Birmingham Jail." The Norton Anthology of African American Literature. Ed. Henry Louis Gates, Jr. and Nellie Y. McKay. New York: Norton, 1997. 1854-66.

ARTICLES — Basic Format:

Author. "Title of the Article." Name of the Periodical. Publication Information.

ARTICLE FROM A SCHOLARLY JOURNAL: [5.7.1-2]

Barthelme, Frederick. "Architecture." Kansas Quarterly 13.3-4 (1981): 77-80.

Scotto, Peter. "Censorship, Reading, and Interpretation: A Case Study from the Soviet Union." PMLA 109 (1994): 61-70.

If each issue of the journal is paged separately, be sure to include volume & issue numbers as in the first example.

ARTICLE FROM A NEWSPAPER: [5.7.5]

Feder, Barnady J. "For Job Seekers, a Toll-Free Gift of Expert Advice." New York Times 30 Dec. 1993, late ed.: D1+.

Abbreviate all months but May, June and July in article citations.

ARTICLE FROM A MAGAZINE: [5.7.6]

Hafner, Katie. "Making Sense of the Internet." Newsweek 24 Oct. 1994: 46-48.

If pagination is not printed on consecutive pages, simply list the first page number followed by a plus sign (see "Article from a Newspaper"). Even if listed, do not give volume and issue numbers.

VIDEO RECORDING: [5.8.3]

A Room of One's Own. By Virginia Woolf. Dir. Patrick Garland. Perf. Eileen Atkins. 1990.

Videocassette. Films for the Humanities, 1995.

Sense and Sensibility. By Jane Austen. Dir. Ang Lee. Perf. Emma Thompson, Kate Winslet, Hugh

Grant and Alan Rickman. 1995. DVD. Columbia TriStar, 1996.

A video entry generally begins with the title (underlined) and includes the director, distributor, original release date (if relevant), medium (videocassette, DVD, laser disc, etc.) and date of distribution. If deemed pertinent, data such as the names of the writer, performers and producers may be included between the title and the distributor.

SOUND RECORDING: [5.8.2]

Holiday, Billie. "God Bless the Child." Rec. 9 May 1941. The Essence of Billie Holiday. Columbia, 1991.

Simon, Paul. The Rhythm of the Saints. Warner Bros., 1990.

INTERVIEW: [5.8.7]

Blackmun, Harry. Interview with Ted Koppel and Nina Totenberg. Nightline. ABC. WABC, New York. 5 Apr. 1994.

LECTURE, SPEECH, ADDRESS OR READING: [5.8.11]

Atwood, Margaret. "Silencing the Scream." Boundaries of the Imagination Forum. MLA Convention.

Royal York Hotel, Toronto. 29 Dec. 1993.

CITING ELECTRONIC PUBLICATIONS

COMPLETE ONLINE SCHOLARLY PROJECT OR INFORMATION DATABASE:

[See section 5.9.2 of the MLA Handbook]

Music History 102: A Guide to Western Composers and Their Music from the Middle Age to the

Present. Ed. Robert Sherrane. 14 Dec. 1997. Internet Public Library. 29 Nov. 1999

<<http://www.ipl.org/exhibit/mushist/index.html>>.

DOCUMENT WITHIN A SCHOLARLY PROJECT OR INFORMATION DATABASE:

[5.9.1]

"Gregorian Chant." Music History 102: A Guide to Western Composers and Their Music from the Middle

Age to the Present. Ed. Robert Sherrane. 14 Dec. 1997. Internet Public Library. 3 Dec. 1999

<<http://www.ipl.org/exhibit/mushist/middle/index.htm#chant>>.

"This Day in Technology History: August 20." History Channel.com. 2002. History Channel. 14 May

2002 <<http://historychannel.com/>>. Path: Technology History; This Day in Technology

History.

ONLINE BOOK AVAILABLE INDEPENDENTLY: [5.9.3.a]

Rawlins, Gregory J. E. Moths to the Flame: The Seductions of Computer Technology. Cambridge: MIT

P, 1996. MIT Press. 29 Nov. 1999 <<http://mitpress.mit.edu/e-books.mother>>.

Whitley, Bernard E., and Patricia Keith-Spiegel. Academic Dishonesty: An Educator's Guide. Mahwah,

NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum, 1998. netLibrary. 2004. 15 Nov. 2004 <[http://www.netlibrary.com/](http://www.netlibrary.com/AccessProduct.aspx?ProductId=66177)

[AccessProduct.aspx?ProductId=66177](http://www.netlibrary.com/AccessProduct.aspx?ProductId=66177)>.

If available, list the editor's name (e.g., Ed. Jane Doe) after the title of the work.

ONLINE BOOK WITHIN A SCHOLARLY PROJECT: [5.9.3.a]

Cather, Willa. My Antonia. 1918. InforM@Maryland. July 1999. U of Maryland. 29 Nov. 1999 <[http://](http://www.inform.edu/EdRes/ReadingRoom/Fiction/Cather/MyAntonia)

www.inform.edu/EdRes/ReadingRoom/Fiction/Cather/MyAntonia>.

If available, list the editor's name (e.g., Ed. John Smith) after the name of the scholarly project.

ARTICLE IN AN ONLINE SCHOLARLY JOURNAL: [5.9.4.a]

Calabrese, Michael. "Between Despair and Ecstasy: Marco Polo's Life of the Buddha." Exemplaria 9.1

(1997). 22 June 1998 <<http://web.english.ufl.edu/english/exemplaria/calax.htm>>.

If pages or paragraphs are numbered, add this information after the date of publication: (1997): 11 pp. or (1997): 34 pars.

ARTICLE IN AN ONLINE NEWSPAPER OR FROM AN ONLINE NEWSWIRE: [5.9.4.b]

Kisor, Henry. "Making E-books." Chicago Sun-Times 2 Jan. 2000. 3 Feb. 2000 <<http://www.suntimes.com/output/kisor/kisor02.html>>.

ARTICLE IN AN ONLINE MAGAZINE: [5.9.4.c]

Potter, Jerry O. "A Tragic Postscript." American History Nov. 1996. 25 Jan. 2000.<http://www.thehistorynet.com/AmericanHistory/articles/1999/08992_text.htm>.

WORK FROM A LIBRARY-PROVIDED ONLINE DATABASE: [5.9.7]

The citations for works accessed through your library's subscription databases are composed of two parts: the first component is a citation for the actual article or document accessed online and the second part is a reference to the online database used. Richard Bland College students should use this format when citing from VIVA databases. If the online database provides only the starting page number of an article's original print publication, give the number followed by a hyphen, a space, and a period.

Hafner, Katie. "Making Sense of the Internet." Newsweek 24 Oct. 1994: 46- . Academic Search Complete. EBSCO. Richard Bland Coll. Lib., Petersburg, VA. 2 Sep. 2008 <<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?profile=ehost&defaultdb=a9h>>.

Append the following information to your article/document citation if you used the online database Academic Search Complete:

Academic Search Complete. EBSCO. Richard Bland Coll. Lib., Petersburg, VA. 4 Sep. 2008 <<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?profile=ehost&defaultdb=a9h>>.

Append the following information to your article/document citation if you used the online database America: History & Life:

America: History & Life. EBSCO. Richard Bland Coll. Lib., Petersburg, VA. 4 Sep. 2008 <<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?profile=ehost&defaultdb=ahl>>.

Append the following information to your article/document citation if you used the online database Alt HealthWatch:

Alt HealthWatch. EBSCO. Richard Bland Coll. Lib., Petersburg, VA. 4 Sep. 2008 <<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?profile=ehost&defaultdb=awh>>.

Append the following information to your article/document citation if you used the online database Associates Programs Source:

Associates Programs Source. EBSCO. Richard Bland Coll. Lib., Petersburg, VA. 4 Sep. 2008 <<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?profile=ehost&defaultdb=oih>>.

Append the following information to your article/document citation if you used the online database Business Source Complete:

Business Source Complete. EBSCO. Richard Bland Coll. Lib., Petersburg, VA. 4 Sep. 2008 <<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?profile=ehost&defaultdb=bth>>.

Append the following information to your article/document citation if you used the online database CINAHL:

CINAHL. EBSCO. Richard Bland Coll. Lib., Petersburg, VA. 4 Sep. 2008 <<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?profile=ehost&defaultdb=cin20>>.

Append the following information to your article/document citation if you used the online database Communication & Mass Media Complete:

Communication & Mass Media Complete. EBSCO. Richard Bland Coll. Lib., Petersburg, VA. 4 Sep. 2008 <<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?profile=ehost&defaultdb=ufh>>.

Append the following information to your article/document citation if you used the online database Computers & Applied Science Complete:

Computers & Applied Science Complete. EBSCO. Richard Bland Coll. Lib., Petersburg, VA. 4 Sep. 2008 <<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?profile=ehost&defaultdb=iih>>.

Append the following information to your article/document citation if you used the online database Consumer Health Complete:

Consumer Health Complete. EBSCO. Richard Bland Coll. Lib., Petersburg, VA. 4 Sep. 2008 <<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?profile=chc>>.

Append the following information to your article/document citation if you used the online database Education Research Complete:

Education Research Complete. EBSCO. Richard Bland Coll. Lib., Petersburg, VA. 4 Sep. 2008 <<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?profile=ehost&defaultdb=ehh>>.

Append the following information to your article/document citation if you used the online database Encyclopedia Britannica:

Encyclopedia Britannica Online. Encyclopedia Britannica. Richard Bland Coll. Lib., Petersburg, VA. 9 Mar. 2005 <<http://search.eb.com>>.

Append the following information to your article/document citation if you used the online database Environment Complete:

Environment Complete. EBSCO. Richard Bland Coll. Lib., Petersburg, VA. 4 Sep. 2008 <<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?profile=ehost&defaultdb=eih>>.

Append the following information to your article/document citation if you used the online database ERIC:

ERIC. EBSCO. Richard Bland Coll. Lib., Petersburg, VA. 4 Sep. 2008 <<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?profile=ehost&defaultdb=eric>>.

Append the following information to your article/document citation if you used the online database Factiva:

Factiva. Dow Jones & Reuters. Richard Bland Coll. Lib., Petersburg, VA. 9 Mar. 2005 <<http://global.factiva.com>>.

Append the following information to your article/document citation if you used the online database Health Source—Consumer Edition:

Health Source—Consumer Edition. EBSCO. Richard Bland Coll. Lib., Petersburg, VA. 4 Sep. 2008 <<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?profile=ehost&defaultdb=hxh>>.

Append the following information to your article/document citation if you used the online database Health Source: Nursing/Academic Edition:

Health Source: Nursing/Academic Edition. EBSCO. Richard Bland Coll. Lib., Petersburg, VA. 4 Sep. 2008 <<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?profile=ehost&defaultdb=hch>>.

Append the following information to your article/document citation if you used the online database Hospitality & Tourism Complete:

Hospitality & Tourism Complete. EBSCO. Richard Bland Coll. Lib., Petersburg, VA. 4 Sep. 2008 <<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?profile=ehost&defaultdb=hjh>>.

Append the following information to your article/document citation if you used the online database Historical Abstracts:

Historical Abstracts. EBSCO. Richard Bland Coll. Lib., Petersburg, VA. 4 Sep. 2008 <<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?profile=ehost&defaultdb=hia>>.

Append the following information to your article/document citation if you used the online database Humanities International Complete:

Humanities International Complete. EBSCO. Richard Bland Coll. Lib., Petersburg, VA. 4 Sep. 2008 <<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?profile=ehost&defaultdb=hlh>>.

Append the following information to your article/document citation if you used the online database Legal Collection:

Legal Collection. EBSCO. Richard Bland Coll. Lib., Petersburg, VA. 4 Sep. 2008 <<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?profile=ehost&defaultdb=lgh>>.

Append the following information to your article/document citation if you used the online VIVA database Literature Resources from Gale:

Literature Resources from Gale. Gale. Richard Bland Coll. Lib., Petersburg, VA. 9 Mar. 2005 <<http://find.galegroup.com/menu/start?prod=LITRG>>.

Append the following information to your article/document citation if you used the online database MasterFILE Premier:

MasterFILE Premier. EBSCO. Richard Bland Coll. Lib., Petersburg, VA. 4 Sep. 2008 <<http://>>

search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?profile=ehost&defaultdb=f5h>.

Append the following information to your article/document citation if you used the online database
Medline:

Medline. EBSCO. Richard Bland Coll. Lib., Petersburg, VA. 13 Sep. 2008 <[http://](http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?profile=ehost&defaultdb=f5h)

search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?profile=ehost&defaultdb=f5h>.

Append the following information to your article/document citation if you used the online database
Military & Government Collection:

Military & Government Collection. EBSCO. Richard Bland Coll. Lib., Petersburg, VA. 4 Sep.

2008 <<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?profile=ehost&defaultdb=mth>>.

Append the following information to your article/document citation if you used the online database
Newspaper Source Plus:

Newspaper Source Plus. EBSCO. Richard Bland Coll. Lib., Petersburg, VA. 4 Sep. 2008

<<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?profile=ehost&defaultdb=n5h>>.

Append the following information to your article/document citation if you used the online database
Oxford English Dictionary:

Oxford English Dictionary. Oxford UP. Richard Bland Coll. Lib., Petersburg, VA. 3 Sep. 2008

<<http://dictionary.oed.com/entrance.dtl>>.

Append the following information to your article/document citation if you used the online database
Oxford Reference Online:

Oxford Reference Online. Oxford UP. Richard Bland Coll. Lib., Petersburg, VA. 3 Sep. 2008 <

<http://www.oxfordreference.com>>.

Append the following information to your article/document citation if you used the online database
Project Muse:

Project Muse. Johns Hopkins. Richard Bland Coll. Lib., Petersburg, VA. 9 Mar. 2005 <[http://](http://muse.jhu.edu)

muse.jhu.edu>.

Append the following information to your article/document citation if you used the online database
PsycARTICLES:

PsycARTICLES. EBSCO. Richard Bland Coll. Lib., Petersburg, VA. 13 Sep. 2005 <[http://](http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?profile=ehost&defaultdb=pdh)

search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?profile=ehost&defaultdb=pdh>.

Append the following information to your article/document citation if you used the online database
Psychology and Behavioral Sciences Collection:

Psychology and Behavioral Sciences Collection. EBSCO. Richard Bland Coll. Lib., Petersburg,

VA. 13 Sep. 2008 <<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?profile=ehost&defaultdb=pbh>>.

Append the following information to your article/document citation if you used the online database PsycINFO:

PsycINFO. EBSCO. Richard Bland Coll. Lib., Petersburg, VA. 13 Sep. 2005 <<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?profile=ehost&defaultdb=psyh>>.

Append the following information to your article/document citation if you used the online database Religion and Philosophy Collection:

Religion and Philosophy Collection. EBSCO. Richard Bland Coll. Lib., Petersburg, VA. 13 Sep. 2008 <<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?profile=ehost&defaultdb=rlh>>.

Append the following information to your article/document citation if you used the online database Women's Studies International:

Women's Studies International. EBSCO. Richard Bland Coll. Lib., Petersburg, VA. 13 Sep. 2008 <<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?profile=ehost&defaultdb=fyh>>.

PARENTHETICAL DOCUMENTATION

Parenthetical documentation refers to the brief acknowledgement of sources within a research paper. Generally, parenthetical documentation includes the author's last name followed by a page reference.

Sample Citations

[See section 6.2-3 of the MLA Handbook]

Direct Quote – Author's name in reference:

"Miss Emily turns out to be not a Southern lady; she is a Clytemnestra, a figure out of tragedy" (Brooks 161).

Direct Quote — Author's name in text:

Brooks explains that "Miss Emily turns out to be not a Southern lady; instead, she is a Clytemnestra, a figure out of tragedy" (161).

Paraphrasing – Author's name in reference:

Miss Emily and her madness are likened to the tragic character of Clytemnestra (Brooks 161).

Paraphrasing – Author's name in text:

Brooks likens Miss Emily and her madness to the tragic character of Clytemnestra (161).

Corresponding Works Cited listing:

Brooks, Cleanth. William Faulkner: Toward Yoknapatawpha and Beyond. New Haven: Yale UP, 1978.

Miscellaneous Guidelines for Parenthetical References

If you are citing a work with no author or editor, you need to incorporate the title of the work into the reference. Use the complete title if brief; otherwise, use an abbreviated version. Give enough of the title so that it can be easily located in the works cited. [6.4.4]

ex: ("Death") for "Death of a Writer." Editorial. New York Times.

Sample parenthetical reference — A New York Times editorial referred to Ralph Ellison as "a writer of universal reach" ("Death").

If your works cited page includes two or more works by the same author, you must include the title (or part of the title) in the parenthetical reference. [6.4.6]

ex: (Dickens, Oliver Twist 30) and (Dickens, David Copperfield 47).

What happens when the work you are citing references another work? If you are quoting or paraphrasing a quotation from a secondhand (or indirect) source, put the abbreviation *qtd. in* ("quoted in") before the indirect source you cite in your parenthetical reference. The corresponding works cited entry is for the actual source you used. [6.4.7]

ex: In an interview with Cynthia Grenier, Faulkner refers to himself as a "failed poet" (qtd. in Brooks 55).

Brooks, Cleanth. William Faulkner: Toward Yoknapatawpha and Beyond. New Haven: Yale UP, 1978.

When eliminating words in a direct quote, use an ellipsis [...]. An ellipsis that completes a sentence should contain four periods [....]. [3.7.5]

When a quotation runs to more than four typed lines, set it off from the text by beginning the quotation on a new line and by indenting the entire quotation one inch (or ten spaces) from the left margin. The quotation should be double-spaced. Do not add quotation marks. Place the page reference after the period of the last sentence of the quotation; leave a space between the period and the page reference. [3.7.2]

When citing a play, you need to use act, scene & line numbers (in that order and separated by periods) rather than page numbers. [6.4.8]

ex: (Ham. 5.4.27-32) for Hamlet, Act 5, Scene 4, Lines 27-32

If your works cited page has two authors with the same last name, use their first initials. Write out full first names if initials are identical. [6.2]

ex: (C. Bronte 20) and (E. Bronte 99-100)

You may abbreviate the titles of literary and religious works. It is usually best to introduce an abbreviation in parentheses immediately after the first use of the full title in the text. [7.7]

ex: " In All's Well That Ends Well (AWW), Shakespeare"

For abbreviations commonly used, see:

Bible – 7.7.1

Shakespeare – 7.7.2

Chaucer – 7.7.3

Other literary works – 7.7.4