

Citing Literary Resources (MLA Style)

In order to avoid plagiarism, you must cite all resources used in your research. The sample citations in this handout include print and electronic literary resources and follow the guidelines outlined in the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, 7th edition. Please refer to the *MLA Citation* handout for more citation examples.

Parenthetical References

Any sources listed in the works cited page of the research paper must first be acknowledged in the body of the research paper. A parenthetical reference briefly identifies the source without repeating the full information from the works cited page. Information about parenthetical references is included in the *MLA Handbook*, (ch. 6; 213-232).

Type of Citation	Example:
Citing entire works: mention in text	Waldron's central thesis explains that...
No signal phrase: (author's name not mentioned in the sentence) include author and page number in parentheses	Welty uses metaphor when describing her early childhood experiences (Waldron 38).
With signal phrase: (author's name mentioned in the sentence) only include the page number in parentheses	Waldron states that Welty uses metaphor when describing her early childhood experiences (38).
Two or more works by the same author: use author's last name, a comma, a shortened title, and the page number	(Krayling, <i>Author</i> 45) and (Krayling, <i>Understanding</i> 178).
Direct quote used by the author: use the abbreviation qtd. by in your parenthetical reference.	About her agent, Welty states, "If not for him, I don't know if I'd have been published" (qtd. by Waldron 100).]
A work with no author: use the first word of title and the page number (omit a, an, & the). Use quotes for articles, short stories, poems, etc. Italicize titles of books and periodicals.	Periodical article: ("Reducing" 25) Book title: (<i>Understanding</i> 178)
Web document with fixed page numbers: include them as you would for a print source	(Smith 28)
Web document with line, paragraph, section, or chapter numbers: Use the correct abbreviation in parentheses	Line(s), par.(s), sec.(s), or ch.(s) – ("Knight's Tale", lines 50-75); (Moulthrop, pars. 19-20); (Jones, sect. 1)
Web document with no fixed numbers: Omit numbers. Never cite a page, paragraph, or line number from a print out; these may vary depending on text size, paper size, or printers.	

Works Cited Page Guidelines

- Start your works cited page on a new sheet at the end of your paper, number it consecutively and use the same font style and size as for the rest of the paper.
- Center the title **Works Cited** an inch from the top of the page and double-space between the title and the first entry. **Double space the entire list.** Arrange entries alphabetically.
- Do not number the entries.
- Begin each entry flush with the left margin. Indent the following lines five spaces.
- The instructions for citing specific types of resources are listed below along with examples. The examples are single spaced in order save space.
- **Always verify this citation format with writer's handbook and with your instructor.**

Print Resources

- Use the last name of the author, a comma and then the first name. If the book is unsigned, begin with the title.
- Italicize the title of a book, magazine or journal. Enclose titles of poems, short stories, essays, and periodical articles within quotes. Place a period after the title.
- Give the city of publication followed by a colon. If the city is not well known, place a comma after the city and add the state or country of publication followed by a colon. Use the two-letter postal abbreviation.
- If the date of publication does not appear on a book's title page or verso, use the latest copyright date.
- When citing the date of a periodical, all months except May, June and July should be abbreviated.
- MLA now requires the medium of publication for every source. The most common are Print and Web.

Author's last name, First name. *Title of Book*. City of publication: Publisher, year published. Print.

Author's last name, First name. "Title of Article." *Title of Periodical* Issue information: page number(s). Print.

Book (section 5.6.1)

Sligh, Gary Lee. *A Study of Native American Women Novelists: Sophia Alice Callahan, Mourning Dove, and Ella Cara Deloria*. Lewiston, NY: Edwin Mellen Press, 2003. Print.

Holy Bible: New King James Version. Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1982. Print.

E-Book from LINCC Catalog

Toth, Emily. *Unveiling Kate Chopin*. Jackson, MS: UP of Mississippi, 1999. *NetLibrary*. Web. 19 Sept. 2001.

Periodical (section 5.7)

Ford, Douglas. "Crossroads and Cross-Currents in 'Invisible Man'." *MFS: Modern Fiction Studies* 45.4 (1999): 887-904. Print.

Anthologies and ENC 1102 Textbook (section 5.5.3, 5.5.6, 5.5.13, and 5.5.14)

Your textbook for ENC 1102 is an anthology, a collection of works usually compiled by an editor. The examples below illustrate a citation for the entire literature book, for a work within the book, for an explanation at the beginning of one of the chapters, for writings by critics, and for glossary entries, respectively (*MLA Handbook*, 157-160; 5.5.6).

Kennedy, X. J. and Dana Gioia, eds. *Literature: An Introduction to Fiction, Poetry, Drama and Writing*. 10th ed. New York: Pearson Longman, 2007. Print.

Mason, Bobbie Ann. "Shiloh." *Literature: An Introduction to Fiction, Poetry, Drama and Writing*. Vol. 1. 10th ed. Eds. X.J. Kennedy and Dana Gioia. 4 vols. New York: Pearson Longman, 2007. 604-612. Print.

Kennedy, X.J. and Dana Gioia eds. "Stresses and Pauses." *Literature: An Introduction to Fiction, Poetry, Drama and Writing*. Vol. 2. 10th ed. 4 vols. New York: Pearson Longman, 2007. 829-833. Print.

Kennedy, X. J. and Dana Gioia, eds. "The Background of a Midsummer Night's Dream." *Literature: An Introduction to Fiction, Poetry, Drama and Writing*. Vol. 4. 10th ed. 4 vols. New York: Pearson Longman, 2007. 1590-1591. Print.

West, Rebecca. "Hamlet and Ophelia." *Literature: An Introduction to Fiction, Poetry, Drama and Writing*. Vol. 4. 10th ed. Eds. X.J. Kennedy and Dana Gioia. 4 vols. 1660-1661. Print.

Your textbook collects the works of many authors, but an anthology can also be the collected works of a single author.

Angelou, Maya. "To a Freedom Fighter." *The Complete Collected Poems of Maya Angelou*. New York: Random House, 1994. 37. Print.

Shakespeare, William. *All's Well That Ends Well*. *The Norton Shakespeare*. Ed. Stephen Greenblatt, et.al. Based on the Oxford Ed. New York: W.W. Norton, 1997. Print.

Editions

An edition is a work prepared for publication by an editor. Listing the edition is important because changes may have been made to spelling or punctuation or explanatory notes may have been added (*MLA Handbook*, 162-164; 5.5.10).

Shakespeare, William. *All's Well That Ends Well*. Ed. Sylvan Barnet. New York: Signet, 1988. Print.

Multivolume Work (section 5.5.14)

Zaidman, Laura M. "Zora Neale Hurston." *Dictionary of Literary Biography: American Short-Story Writers, 1910-1945*. Ed. Bobby Ellen Kimbel. Vol. 86. Detroit: Gale, 1989. 159-171. Print.

Encyclopedias and Dictionaries (section 5.5.7)

When citing familiar works that are constantly updated full publication information is not necessary. If citing works that are less familiar or that only appear in one edition give complete publication information.

Dobie, J. Frank. "Houston, Sam." *The Encyclopedia Americana*. International Ed. 1994. Print.

"Noon." *The Oxford English Dictionary*. 2nd ed. 1989. Print.

Spears, Richard A. "Airhead." *NTC's Dictionary of American Slang and Colloquial Expressions*. Lincolnwood, IL: National Textbook Company, 1994. Print.

Literary or Religious Works (section 6.4.8)

Citing passages from classic literature, plays or religious works usually requires a parenthetical reference mentioning the specific section used. In the works cited, follow normal guidelines for citing the work.

- For novels, give the page number and the chapter or section within the work so readers using other editions can find the citation [e.g. In *Pride and Prejudice*, after Elizabeth and Mr. Darcy reveal their real feelings for one another, Elizabeth cannot bear to have her own words repeated to her (Austen 452; ch.58).].
- In plays, omit the page numbers and cite the act, scene and line numbers with periods separating each. Use Arabic numerals unless the instructor tells you otherwise. The citation in the example refers to **act 5, scene 3, lines 85-86** of *Romeo and Juliet* [e.g. To Romeo, Juliet is beautiful even in death. When he finds her, he says, "...her beauty makes this vault a feasting presence full of light" (*Romeo and Juliet* 5.3.85-86).].
- For biblical passages, cite the abbreviated title of the book, the chapter and the verse separated by periods [e.g. After the three kings found the baby Jesus, they presented him with gifts (Matt.1.9-11).].
- For acceptable abbreviations of literary and religious works see section 7.7 of the *MLA Handbook*.

Contemporary Authors Series

"Pinkney, Andrea Davis 1963-." *Contemporary Authors*. Ed. Scot Peacock. Vol. 185. Detroit: Gale, 2000. 334-336. Print.

Contemporary Literary Criticism, Drama Criticism, Nineteenth-Century Literature Criticism, Poetry Criticism, Short Story Criticism, and Twentieth-Century Literary Criticism (Gibaldi 160; 5.5.7; see also, 5.6.7 & 5.5.14)

The first three examples are for reprints of journal articles.

Kendall, Lyle H. "The Vampire Motif in 'The Fall of the House of Usher'." *College English* 24.4 (1963): 450-53. Rpt. in *Short Story Criticism*. Ed. Margaret Haerens. Vol. 22. Detroit: Gale, 1996. 308-311. Print.

Kohler, Dayton. "Carson McCullers: Variations on a Theme." *College English*. Oct. 1951: 1-8. Rpt. in *Contemporary Literary Criticism*. Ed. Dedria Bryfonski. Vol. 12. Detroit: Gale, 1980. 413-415. Print.

Hayman, Ronald. "Robert Graves." *Essays in Criticism* 5.1 (1955): 1955. 32-43. Rpt. in *Poetry Criticism*. Ed. Drew Kalasky. Vol. 6. Detroit: Gale, 1993. 134-138. Print.

These examples are for reprints of chapters from books.

Gallagher, D.P. "Jorge Luis Borges (Argentina, 1899-)." *Modern Latin American Literature*. Oxford University Press, 1973. 94-121. Rpt. in *Short Story Criticism*. Ed. Thomas Votteler. Vol. 4. Detroit: Gale, 1990. 20-27. Print.

Adams, Robert M. "Metaphysical Poets, Ancient and Modern." *Strains of Discord: Studies in Literary Openness*. Cornell UP, 1958. 105-145. Excerpted in *Poetry Criticism*. Ed. Robyn V. Young. Vol. 4. Detroit: Gale, 1992. 113. Print.

Dictionary of Literary Biography (*MLA Handbook*, 170-171; 5.5.15)

Hewitt, Rosalie. "Willa Cather." Bobby Ellen Kimbel and William E. Grant, eds. *Dictionary of Literary Biography: American Short Story Writers, 1880-1910*. 78. Detroit: Gale, 1989. Print. *Dictionary of Literary Biography*.

Literary Companion Series (5.6.7 & 5.5.15)

Jones, Michael P. "Heroism in 'The Secret Sharer'." Ed. Clarice Swisher. *Readings on Joseph Conrad*. San Diego, CA: Greenhaven Press, Inc., 1998. 85-93. *Literary Companion*. Excerpted from *Conrad's Heroism: A Paradise Lost*. Ann Arbor, MI: UMI, 1985. Print.

Lawson, Richard H. "The Father Son Relationship at the Heart of 'The Metamorphosis'." *Readings on "The Metamorphosis"*. San Diego, CA: Greenhaven Press, Inc. 2002. 84-92. *Literary Companion*. Excerpted from *Franz Kafka*. New York: The Continuum International Publishing Group, 1987. Print.

Modern Critical Interpretations Series (5.6.7 & 5.5.15)

Burnhans, Clinton S. "The Old Man and the Sea: Hemingway's Tragic Vision of Man." *American Literature* 31 (Jan. 1960): 446-55. Rpt. in *The Old Man and the Sea*. Ed. Harold Bloom. Philadelphia: Chelsea House, 1999. 45-52. Print. *Modern Critical Interpretations*.

Greenberg, Martin. "Gregor Samsa and Modern Spirituality." *The Terror of Art: Kafka and Modern Literature*. New York: Basic Books, 1965. Excerpted in *The Metamorphosis*. Ed. Harold Bloom. New York: Chelsea House, 1988. 19-35. Print. *Modern Critical Interpretations*.

Full-Text Electronic Resources from Subscription-Based Databases

- The instructions below apply to subscription databases delivered via the Internet.
- The publication data for the source's printed version must be cited. Leave out elements that are not given.
- MLA no longer requires the web address for database citations (examples in *MLA Handbook* 192-193, 5.6.4).

Author or editor's name (if given). "Title of Article." *Title of Periodical*. Date of publication: page number. *Title of Database*. Web. Date of access.

Author's name (if given). "Title of Reference Entry." *Title of Reference Source*. Editor's Name (if given). City of publication (if given): publisher, year of publication. *Title of Database*. Web. Date of access.

Academic Search Complete

Whitsitt, Sam. "In Spite of it All: Reading of Alice Walker's 'Everyday Use'." *African American Review* 34.3 (2000): 443+. *Academic Search Complete*. Web. 18 May 2009.

Critical Companions to Contemporary Literature

Roberts, Robin. "The Genre of Science Fiction: The Science Fiction World." Anne McCaffrey. *Critical Companions to Popular Contemporary Writers Online*. Web. 18 May 2009.

Granger's World Poetry

Dickinson, Emily. "Alter! When the Hills do—." *Granger's World of Poetry*. Web. 18 May 2009.

Greenwood E-Books

Roden, Molly. "Alice Walker." *Contemporary African American Novelists: A Bio-Bibliographical Critical Sourcebook*. Ed. Emmanuel S. Nelson. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1999. Web. 18 May 2009.

JSTOR

Lawrence, William Witherle. "Some Disputed Questions in Beowulf-Criticism." *PMLA* 24.2 (1909): 220-273. *JSTOR*. Web. 18 May 2009.

Humanities Full Text

McDonald, Hal. "Faulkner's 'Barn Burning'." *The Explicator* 61.1 (2002): 46-48. *Humanities Full Text*. Web. 18 May 2009.

Literary Reference Center

Brooks, Cleanth. "Eudora Welty and the Southern Idiom." *Bloom's Modern Critical Views: Eudora Welty*. Ed. Harold Bloom. Facts on File, 1987. 93-107. *Literary Reference Center*. Web. 18 May 2009.

Abell, Joy L. "African/American: Lorraine Hansberry's 'Les Blancs' and the American Civil Rights Movement." *African American Review* 35.3 (2001): 459+. *Literary Reference Center*. Web. 18 May 2009.

Literature Resource Center

Grumbach, Doris. "An Aborted Project." *American Scholar* 70.1 (1999): 133. *Literature Resource Center*. Web. 18 May 2009.

Howard, Lillie P. "Zora Neale Hurston." *Dictionary of Literary Biography, Volume 51: Afro-American Writers from the Harlem Renaissance to 1940*. Ed. Trudier Harris. Gale, 1987. 133-145. *Literature Resource Center*. Web. 18 May 2009.

LitFinder

Dickinson, Emily. "Faith is a Fine Invention." *LitFinder*. Web. 18 May 2009.

Magill OnLiterature Plus

"The Dharma Bums." *Masterplots II: American Fiction Series*, rev. ed. Salem Press, 2000. *Magill OnLiterature Plus*. Web. 18 May 2009.

Lewis, Leon. "The Chrysanthemums." *Masterplots II: Short Story Series*. Salem Press, 1986. *Magill OnLiterature Plus*. Web. 18 May 2009.

NetLibrary E-Books

Toth, Emily. *Unveiling Kate Chopin*. Jackson, MS: UP of Mississippi, 1999. *NetLibrary*. Web. 19 Sep. 2008.

Oxford English Dictionary

"Hubris." *Oxford English Dictionary*. 1989. *Oxford English Dictionary Online*. Web. 18 May 2009.

Oxford Reference Online: Premium Collection (Oxford University Press)

"Victoria." *World Encyclopedia*. Philip's, 2005. *Oxford Reference Online*. Web. 18 May 2009.

Virtual Reference Library

Chen, Victoria. "Chinese American Women, Language, and Moving Subjectivity." *Women and Language* 13.1 (1995): 3-9. Rpt. in *Feminism in Literature: A Gale Critical Companion*. Eds. Jessica Bomarito and Jeffrey Hunter. Vol. 6. Detroit: Gale, 2005. 437-452. *Gale Virtual Reference Library*. Web. 18 May 2009.

Websites (section 5.6.2b)

The basic citation for web resources can have as many as five divisions organized as in the example below.

Author's name. "Title of the Document." *Title of Website*. Date of website (if available). Sponsoring organization (if available). Web. Date of access..

MLA no longer requires that the URL of a website be included in the citation. However, if a simple web search for the title and author of the source does not immediately return you to the source you should include a URL.

This handout only includes a few examples most likely to be used in a literature class. For a longer explanation and more examples, see the general *MLA Citation* handout.

Examples

Many of the web pages you use in your research will be parts of larger websites. These sites are usually affiliated with larger entities such as scholarly, professional, charitable or advocacy organizations or government agencies.

"Manage Your Business from Start to Finish." *Small Business Administration*. Web. 22 Apr. 2009.

"Woman Who Pleaded to Obama Still Struggling." *CNN.com*. 23 Apr. 2009. Web. 24 Apr. 2009.

"Environmental Health: How to Recycle Used Computers." *YouTube*. Web. 22 Apr. 2009.

In some cases the webpage may be a part of an online project that is sponsored by an organization, government agency or association. List the sponsoring organization after the name of the website.

Kairis, Alexandra. "Pampinea." *Decameron Web*. Brown University. Web. 11 Sept. 2003.

Helms, Alan. "Whitman's 'Live Oak with Moss'." *The Whitman Archive: Criticism*. National Endowment for the Humanities. Web. 27 May 2004.

Although MLA Style no longer requires the URL for a website, adding the URL may be necessary if a simple web search does not get you back to the original website.

"Hellboy II DVD Review." *Monster SciFi Show Blog*. 19 Apr. 2009. Web. 22 Apr. 2009.
<<http://monsterscifishow.wordpress.com/2009/04/19/hellboy-ii-dvd-review/>>.

Obama, Barack H. "Remarks at the National Prayer Breakfast." *Compilation of Presidential Documents*. 5 Feb. 2009. Web. 22 Apr. 2009 <<http://fdsys.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/DCPD-200900060/pdf/DCPD-200900060.pdf>>.

Online Book (section 5.9.3) For a book from a subscription database see the entry for *NetLibrary* on page 9.

Tressell, Robert. *Ragged Trousered Philanthropists*. Project Gutenberg. Ed. Michael S. Hart. 10 Sept. 2003
<<http://www.ibiblio.org/gutenberg/etext03/rggdp10.txt>>.

Article from an Online Journal (section 5.9.4a)

Rist, Thomas. "Religion, Politics, Revenge: The Dead in Renaissance Drama." *Early Modern Literary Studies* 9.1 (2003): 20 pars. 10 Sept. 2003 <<http://www.shu.ac.uk/emls/09-1/ristdead.html>>.

Adapted from: Modern Language Association. *MLA Handbook for Writers*, 7th edition. New York: Modern Language Association, 2009.