MLA Style  A brief guide for citing your sources

This MLA style guide has been designed for Marymount California University students who are writing for the Liberal Arts and Humanities. A variety of reference examples by type are listed below to assist you with citing your sources.

Always begin your Works Cited page on a separate page at the end of your research paper. The words Works Cited should appear in upper-case and lowercase letters, centered at the top of your paper. Double-space all citation entries. Your citations should be in a hanging indent format, meaning that the first line of each citation is set flush left and subsequent lines are indented. Don’t forget to alphabetize your citation list. The citation list provides the necessary information for your readers to locate and retrieve any source you cited in your paper.

Remember: Each entry included in the Works Cited page must be cited in your work. It is suggested that you consult with your instructor for the style preferred by your department. Be consistent and don’t mix styles. Inquire at the Help Desk with one of the librarians for style manuals available at Marymount California University.

Book with One Author

Citation Formula:

Last name, First name. Title of Book. City of Publication: Publisher, Year of Publication. Medium of Publication.

Sample Citation:


Book with More Than One Author

Citation Formula:

Last name, First name, and First name Last name. Title of Book. City of Publication: Publisher, Year of Publication. Medium of Publication.

Sample Citation:

A Page on a Website

Citation Formula:

“Article title.” Website title. Publisher, Electronically Published Date. Medium of Publication. Date Accessed.

Sample Citation:


Sample Citation for Author’s Work on a Website:


An Article in a Scholarly Journal (Online MCU Databases)

Citation Formula:


Sample Citation:


Sample Citation for Article with More than One Author:


Credit: Purdue University. "Welcome to the Purdue OWL." Purdue OWL. Purdue University, 2016. Web. 09 Mar. 2016.