Using Modern Language Association (MLA) Format

Brought to you by the Purdue University Online Writing Lab.

MLA style also specifies guidelines for formatting manuscripts and using the English language in writing and also provides a writers with a system for cross-referencing their sources--from their parenthetical references to their works cited page. This cross-referencing system allows readers to locate the publication information of source material. This is of great value for researchers who may want to locate your sources for their own research projects. The proper use of MLA style also shows the credibility of writers; such writers show accountability to their source material. Most importantly, the use of MLA style can protect writers from accusations of plagiarism--the purposeful or accidental use of source material by other writers without giving appropriate credit.

If you are asked to use MLA format, the book to consult is The MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers (5th edition). Copies of this book are on the reference shelves in the Writing Lab (226 Heavilon Hall) and in the HSSE Library; it is also widely available in bookstores, libraries, and at the MLA web site at http://www.mla.org.Our additional resources section also has a list of other helpful books and resources on using MLA style. Included here is a brief summary of MLA style for the research paper.

Paper Format

The preparation of manuscripts in MLA style is covered in chapter four of the *MLA Style Manual*, as well as in chapter three of the *Handbook for Writing Research Papers*. Here are some basic guidelines for formatting a paper in MLA style. For additional help with formatting a document in MLA style, see our additional resources section.

General Guidelines

- Type your paper or write it on a computer and print it out on standard-sized paper (8.5 X 11 inches).
- Double-space your paper.
- Set the margins of your document to 1 inch on all sides.
- Create a header that numbers all pages consecutively in the upper right-hand corner, one-half inch from the top and flush with the right margin. (Note: Your instructor or whoever is reading the manuscript may ask that you omit the number on your first page. Always follow their guidelines.)
- Use either underlining or *italics* throughout your essay for highlighting the titles of longer works and providing emphasis.
- If you have any notes, include them on a page before your works cited page and format them the same way as your works cited list.

Formatting the first page of your paper

- Do not make a title page for your paper unless specifically requested.
- Provide a double-spaced entry in the top left corner of the first page that lists your

name, your instructor's name, the course, and the date.
- Create a header that numbers all pages consecutively in the upper right-hand corner, one-half inch from the top and flush with the right margin. (Note: Your instructor or whoever is reading the manuscript may ask that you omit the number on your first page. Always follow their guidelines.)
- Center your title on the line below the header with your name, and begin your paper immediately below the title.

Here is a sample first page of an essay in MLA style:

Purdue 1

Pete Purdue

Dr. B. Boilermaker

English 101

12 November 2000

Building a Dream: Reasons to Expand Ross-Aide Stadium

During the 2000 football season, the Purdue Boilermakers won the Big Ten Conference Title, earned their first trip to the Rose Bowl in thirty-four years, and played consistently to sold-out crowds. Looking ahead...

Formatting your works cited list

- Begin your works cited list on a separate page from the text of the essay.
- Label the works cited list Works Cited (do not underline the words Works Cited nor put them in quotation marks) and center the words Works Cited at the top of the page.
- Double space all entries and do not skip spaces between entries.

If you're looking for more help with MLA format, Diana Hacker provides an excellent guide to MLA Manuscript Format in Research and Documentation Online (available at http://www.dianahacker.com/resdoc/humanities/manuscript.html). Wright University provides MLA Research Paper Templates in Microsoft Word and Rich Text formats (available at http://www.wright.edu/~martin.maner/rptemp.htm)that you can download and use guides for writing your papers.

Making reference to works of others in your text

Referring to the works of others in your text by using MLA style is covered in chapter seven of the *MLA Style Manual*, and chapter five of the *Handbook for Writing Research Papers*. Both chapters include extensive examples, so it's a good idea to read them over if you want to become familiar with the guidelines or if you have a particular question.

In MLA style, referring to the works of others in your text is done in two ways. When you make reference to someone else's idea, either through paraphrasing or quoting them directly, you:

- provide the author's name (or the title of the work) and the page (or paragraph) number of the work in a **parenthetical citation**
- provide full citation information for the work in your **Works Cited list**

This allows people to know which sources you used in writing your essay and then be able to look them up themselves, so that they can use them in their scholarly work. Here are some basic guidelines for referring to the works of others in your text. For additional help with citing the works of others, see our additional resources section.

Parenthetical Citations

MLA format follows the author-page method of citation. This means that the author's last name and the page number(s) from which the quotation is taken must appear in the text, and a complete reference should appear in your works cited list (see Your Works Cited Page, below). The author's name may appear either in the sentence itself or in parentheses following the quotation or paraphrase, but the page number(s) should always appear in the parentheses, not in the text of your sentence.

For example:

```
    Wordsworth stated that Romantic poetry was marked by a "spontaneous

overflow of powerful feelings" (263).


    Romantic poetry is characterized by the "spontaneous overflow of powerful

feelings" (Wordsworth 263).


    Wordsworth extensively explored the role of emotion in the creative

process (263).
```

If the work you are making reference to has no author, use an abbreviated version of the work's title. For non-print sources, such as films, TV series, pictures, or other media, or electronic sources, include the name that begins the entry in the Works Cited page.

For example:

```
    An anonymous Wordsworth critic once argued that his poems were too

emotional ("Wordsworth Is A Loser" 100).
```

Sometimes you may have to use an indirect quotation. An indirect quotation is a quotation that you found in another source that was quoting from the original. For such indirect quotations, use "qtd. in" to indicate the source.

For example:

```
    Ravitch argues that high schools are pressured to act as "social service

centers, and they don't do that well" (qtd.in Weisman 259).
```

Sometimes more information is necessary to identify the source from which a quotation is

taken. For instance, if two or more authors have the same last name, provide both authors' first initials (or even her or his full name if different authors share initials) in your citation. If you cite more than one work by a particular author, include a shortened title for the particular work from which you are quoting to distinguish it from the other works by that same person.

For example:

Two authors with the same last name:

Although some medical ethicists claim that cloning will lead to designer children (R. Miller 12), others note that the advantages for medical research outweigh this consideration (A. Miller 46).

Two works by the same author:

Lightenor has argued that computers are not useful tools for small children ("Too Soon" 38), though he has acknowledged that early exposure to computer games does lead to better small motor skill development in a child's second and third year ("Hand-Eye Development" 17).

For more about using parenthetical citations, visit MLA In-Text Citations (at Research and Documentation Online, available at http://www.dianahacker.com/resdoc/humanities/intext.html) or MLA Documentation: Citations in Text (from the University of Wisconsin-Madison Writing Center, available at http://www.wisc.edu/writing/Handbook/DocMLACitation.html), or see our additional resources section.

Quotations

When you directly quote the works of others in your paper, you will format quotations differently depending on whether they are long or short quotations. Formatting quotations using MLA style is covered in section 3.9 of the *MLA Style Manual* (which begins on page 102), and section 2.7 of the of the *Handbook for Writing Research Papers* (which begins on page 80). Here are some basic guidelines for incorporating quotations into your paper.

Short Quotations

To indicate short quotations (fewer than four typed lines of prose or three lines of verse) in your text, enclose the quotation within double quotation marks and incorporate it into your text. Provide the author and specific page citation (in the case of verse, provide line numbers) in the text, and include a complete reference in the works-cited list. Punctuation marks such as periods, commas, and semicolons should appear <u>after</u> the parenthetical citation. Question marks and exclamation points should appear within the quotation marks if they are a part of the quoted passage but after the parenthetical citation if they are a part of your text.

For example:

```
    According to some, dreams express "profound aspects of
personality" (Foulkes 184), though others disagree.

    According to Foulkes's study, dreams may express "profound aspects of
personality" (184).

    Is it possible that dreams may express "profound aspects of
personality" (Foulkes 184)?

    Cullen concludes, "Of all the things that happened there/ That's all I
remember" (11-12).
```

Long Quotations

Place quotations longer than four typed lines in a free-standing block of typewritten lines, and omit quotation marks. Start the quotation on a new line, indented one inch from the left margin, and maintain double-spacing. Your parenthetical citation should come after the closing punctuation mark. When quoting verse, maintain original line breaks. (**You should maintain double-spacing throughout your essay.**)

For example:

```
    Nelly Dean treats Heathcliff poorly and dehumanizes him throughout her
narration:

            They entirely refused to have it in bed with them,

            or even in their room, and I had no more sense, so,

            I put it on the landing of the stairs, hoping it

            would be gone on the morrow. By chance, or else

            attracted by hearing his voice, it crept to Mr.

            Earnshaw's door, and there he found it on quitting

            his chamber. Inquiries were made as to how it got

            there; I was obliged to confess, and in recompense

            for my cowardice and inhumanity was sent out of the

            house. (Brontë 78)

    In her poem "Sources," Adrienne Rich explores the roles of women in
shaping their world:

            The faithful drudging child
```

```
              the child at the oak desk whose penmanship,

              hard work, style will win her prizes

              becomes the woman with a mission, not to win prizes

              but to change the laws of history. (23)
```

Adding or Omitting Words In Quotations

If you add a word or words in a quotation, you should put brackets around the words to indicate that they are not part of the original text.

For example:

```
    Jan Harold Brunvand, in an essay on urban legends, states: "some

individuals [who retell urban legends] make a point of learning every rumor

or tale" (78).
```

If you omit a word or words from a quotation, you should indicate the deleted word or word by using ellipsis marks surrounded by brackets.

For example:

```
    In an essay on urban legends, Jan Harold Brunvand notes that "some

individuals make a point of learning every recent rumor or tale [...] and in

a short time a lively exchange of details occurs" (78).
```

If there are ellipsis marks in the quoted author's work, do not put brackets around them; only use brackets around ellipsis marks to distinguish them from ellipsis marks in the quoted author's work.

Citing the Bible

In your first parenthetical citation, you want to make clear which Bible you're using (and italicize or underline the title), as each version varies in its translation, followed by book (do not italicize or underline), chapter and verse. For example:

```
    Ezekiel saw "what seemed to be four living creatures," each with faces of

a man, a lion, an ox, and an eagle (New Jerusalem Bible, Ezek. 1.5-10).
```

All future references can then just cite book, chapter, and verse, since you've established which edition of the Bible you will be using.

For more about formatting quotations, check out the links to guides for formatting in our

additional resources section.

Your Works Cited List

The works cited list should appear at the end of your essay. It provides the information necessary for a reader to locate and be able to read any sources you cite in the essay. Each source you cite in the essay must appear in your works-cited list; likewise, each entry in the works-cited list must be cited in your text. Preparing your works cited list using MLA style is covered in chapter six of the *MLA Style Manual*, and chapter four of the *Handbook for Writing Research Papers.* Here are some guidelines for preparing your works cited list.

List Format

- Begin your works cited list on a separate page from the text of the essay under the label Works Cited (with no quotation marks, underlining, etc.), which should be centered at the top of the page.
- Make the first line of each entry in your list flush left with the margin. Subsequent lines in each entry should be indented one-half inch. This is known as a hanging indent.
- Double space all entries, with no skipped spaces between entries.
- Keep in mind that underlining and *italics* are equivalent; you should select one or the other to use throughout your essay.
- Alphabetize the list of works cited by the first word in each entry (usually the author's last name),

Basic Rules for Citations

- Authors' names are inverted (last name first); if a work has more than one author, invert only the first author's name, follow it with a comma, then continue listing the rest of the authors.
- If you have cited more than one work by a particular author, order them alphabetically by title, and use three hyphens in place of the author's name for every entry after the first.
- When an author appears both as the sole author of a text and as the first author of a group, list solo-author entries first.
- If no author is given for a particular work, alphabetize by the title of the piece and use a shortened version of the title for parenthetical citations.
- Capitalize each word in the titles of articles, books, etc. This rule does not apply to articles, short prepositions, or conjunctions unless one is the first word of the title or subtitle.
- Underline or italicize titles of books, journals, magazines, newspapers, and films.
- Use quotation marks around the titles of articles in journals, magazines, and newspapers. Also use quotation marks for the titles of short stories, book chapters, poems, and songs.
- List page numbers efficiently, when needed. If you refer to a journal article that appeared on pages 225 through 250, list the page numbers on your Works Cited page as 225-50.
- If you're citing an article or a publication that was originally issued in print form but that you retrieved from an online database, you should provide enough information so that the reader can locate the article either in its original print form or retrieve it from the online database (if they have access). For more about this, see our discussion of electronic sources.

For more about formatting your works cited page, visit MLA List of Works Cited (from Research and Documentation Online, available at

http://www.dianahacker.com/resdoc/humanities/list.html), view a Sample Works Cited Page (from A Research Guide for Students, available at http://www.aresearchguide.com/10works.html#sampleworks), or visit some of the links in our additional resources section.

Basic Forms for Sources in Print

The MLA Style Manual provides extensive examples of print source citations in chapter six; *The MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers* provides extensive examples covering a wide variety of potential sources in chapter six. If your particular case is not covered here, use the basic forms to determine the correct format, consult the *MLA Handbook*, visit the links in our additional resources section, talk to your instructor, or call the Writing Lab (765-494-3723) for help.

Books

Author(s). <u>Title of Book</u>. Place of Publication: Publisher, Year of

    Publication.

Book with one author

Henley, Patricia. <u>The Hummingbird House</u>. Denver: MacMurray, 1999.

Two books by the same author

(After the first listing of the author's name, use three hyphens and a period for the author's name. List books alphabetically.)

Palmer, William J. <u>Dickens and New Historicism</u>. New York: St. Martin's, 1997.

---. <u>The Films of the Eighties: A Social History</u>. Carbondale: Southern

    Illinois UP, 1993.

Book with more than one author

Gillespie, Paula, and Neal Lerner. <u>The Allyn and Bacon Guide to Peer Tutoring</u>.

    Boston: Allyn, 2000.

If there are more than three authors, you may list only the first author followed by the phrase <u>et al.</u> (the abbreviation for the Latin phrase "and others") in place of the other authors' names, or you may list all the authors in the order in which their names appear on the title page.

Book with a corporate author

American Allergy Association. <u>Allergies in Children</u>. New York: Random, 1998.

Book or article with no author named

<u>Encyclopedia of Indiana</u>. New York: Somerset, 1993.

"Cigarette Sales Fall 30% as California Tax Rises." <u>New York Times</u> 14 Sept.

    1999: A17.

For parenthetical citations of sources with no author named, use a shortened version of the title instead of an author's name. Use quotation marks and underlining as appropriate. For example, parenthetical citations of the two sources above would appear as follows: (<u>Encyclopedia</u> 235) and ("Cigarette" A17).

Anthology or collection

Peterson, Nancy J., ed. <u>Toni Morrison: Critical and Theoretical Approaches</u>.

    Baltimore: Johns Hopkins UP, 1997.

A part of a book (such as an essay in a collection)

Author(s). "Title of Article." <u>Title of Collection</u>. Ed. Editor's Name(s).

    Place of Publication: Publisher, Year. Pages.

Essay in a collection

Harris, Muriel. "Talk to Me: Engaging Reluctant Writers." <u>A Tutor's Guide:</u>

    <u>Helping Writers One to One</u>. Ed. Ben Rafoth. Portsmouth, NH: Heinemann,

    2000. 24-34.

Cross-referencing: If you cite more than one essay from the same edited collection, you should cross-reference within your works cited list in order to avoid writing out the publishing information for each separate essay. To do so, include a separate entry for the entire collection listed by the editor's name. For individual essays from that collection, simply list the author's name, the title of the essay, the editor's last name, and the page numbers. For example:

L'Eplattenier, Barbara. "Finding Ourselves in the Past: An Argument for

    Historical Work on WPAs." Rose and Weiser 131-40.

Peeples, Tim. "'Seeing' the WPA With/Through Postmodern Mapping." Rose and

    Weiser 153-167.

Rose, Shirley K., and Irwin Weiser, eds. <u>The Writing Program Administrator as</u>

    <u>Researcher</u>. Portsmouth, NH: Heinemann, 1999.

Article from a reference book

"Jamaica." <u>Encyclopedia Britannica</u>. 1999 ed.

An article in a periodical (such as a newspaper or magazine)

`Author(s). "Title of Article." Title of Source Day Month Year: pages.`

When citing the date, list day before month; use a three-letter abbreviation of the month (e.g. Jan., Mar., Aug.). If there is more than one edition available for that date (as in an early and late edition of a newspaper), identify the edition following the date (e.g. 17 May 1987, late ed.).

Magazine or newspaper article

`Poniewozik, James. "TV Makes a Too-Close Call." Time 20 Nov. 2000: 70-71.`

`Trembacki, Paul. "Brees Hopes to Win Heisman for Team." Purdue Exponent 5 Dec.`
`    2000: 20.`

An article in a scholarly journal

`Author(s). "Title of Article." Title of Journal Vol (Year): pages.`

"Vol" indicates the volume number of the journal. If the journal uses continuous pagination throughout a particular volume, only volume and year are needed, e.g. Modern Fiction Studies 40 (1998): 251-81. If each issue of the journal begins on page 1, however, you must also provide the issue number following the volume, e.g. Mosaic 19.3 (1986): 33-49.

Essay in a journal with continuous pagination

`Allen, Emily. "Staging Identity: Frances Burney's Allegory of Genre."`
`    Eighteenth-Century Studies 31 (1998): 433-51.`

Essay in a journal that pages each issue separately

`Duvall, John N. "The (Super)Marketplace of Images: Television as Unmediated`
`    Mediation in DeLillo's White Noise." Arizona Quarterly 50.3 (1994): 127-53.`

The Bible (specific editions)

`The New Jerusalem Bible. Susan Jones, gen. ed. New York: Doubleday, 1985.`

For more about citing print sources in your works cited page, visit Works Cited in MLA Style (from A Research Guide for Students, available at http://www.aresearchguide.com/12biblio.html), an MLA List of Works Cited (from Research and Documentation Online, available at http://www.dianahacker.com/resdoc/humanities/list.html), view a Sample Works Cited Page (from A Research Guide for Students, available at http://www.aresearchguide.com/10works.html#sampleworks), or visit some of the links in our additional resources section.

Basic Forms for Electronic Sources

The MLA Style Manual provides extensive examples of electronic source citations in chapter six; *The MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers* provides extensive examples covering a wide variety of potential sources in chapter six. If your particular case is not covered here, use the basic forms to determine the correct format, consult the *MLA Handbook*, visit the links in our additional resources section, talk to your instructor, or call the Writing Lab (765-494-3723) for help.

If no author is given for a web page or electronic source, start with and alphabetize by the title of the piece and use a shortened version of the title for parenthetical citations.

A web site

Author(s). Name of Page. Date of Posting/Revision. Name of

institution/organization affiliated with the site. Date of Access

<electronic address>.

It is necessary to list your date of access because web postings are often updated, and information available at one date may no longer be available later. Be sure to include the complete address for the site. Also, note the use of angled brackets around the electronic address; MLA requires them for clarity.

Web site examples

Felluga, Dino. <u>Undergraduate Guide to Literary Theory</u>. 17 Dec. 1999. Purdue

University. 15 Nov. 2000 <http://omni.cc.purdue.edu%

7Efelluga/theory2.html>.

<u>Purdue Online Writing Lab</u>. 2003. Purdue University. 10 Feb. 2003

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu>.

An article on a web site

It is necessary to list your date of access because web postings are often updated, and information available at one date may no longer be available later. Be sure to include the <u>complete</u> address for the site. Also, note the use of angled brackets around the electronic address; MLA requires them for clarity.

Author(s)."Article Title." <u>Name of web site</u>. Date of posting/revision. Name of

institution/organization affiliated with site. Date of access <electronic

address>.

Article on a web site

Poland, Dave. "The Hot Button." <u>Roughcut</u>. 26 Oct. 1998. Turner Network

Television. 28 Oct. 1998 <http://www.roughcut.com>.

"Using Modern Language Association (MLA) Format." <u>Purdue Online Writing Lab</u>.

    2003. Purdue University. 6 Feb. 2003

    <http://owl.english.purdue.eduhandouts/research/r_mla.html>.

An article in an online journal or magazine

Author(s). "Title of Article." <u>Title of Journal</u> Volume. Issue (Year):

    Pages/Paragraphs. Date of Access <electronic address>.

Some electronic journals and magazines provide paragraph or page numbers; include them if available. This format is also appropriate to online magazines; as with a print version, you should provide a complete publication date rather than volume and issue number.

Online journal article

Wheelis, Mark. "Investigating Disease Outbreaks Under a Protocol to the

    Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention." <u>Emerging Infectious Diseases</u> 6.6

    (2000): 33 pars. 5 Dec. 2000

    <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/eid/vol6no6/wheelis.htm>.

An Online Image or Series of Images

Artist if available. "Description or title of image." Date of image. Online

    image. <u>Title of larger site</u>. Date of download. <electronic address>.

Smith, Greg. "Rhesus Monkeys in the Zoo." No date. Online image. <u>Monkey</u>

    <u>Picture Gallery.</u> 3 May 2003. <http://monkeys.online.org/rhesus.jpg>.

E-mail (or other personal communications)

Author. "Title of the message (if any)" E-mail to person's name. Date of the

    message.

This same format may be used for personal interviews or personal letters. These do not have titles, and the description should be appropriate. Instead of "Email to John Smith," you would have "Personal interview."

E-mail to you

Kunka, Andrew. "Re: Modernist Literature." E-mail to the author. 15 Nov. 2000.

Email communication between two parties, not including the author

Neyhart, David. "Re: Online Tutoring." E-mail to Joe Barbato. 1 Dec. 2000.

A listserv posting

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Author. "Title of Posting." Online posting. Date when material was posted (for
     example: 18 Mar. 1998). Name of listserv. Date of access <electronic
     address for retrieval>.
```

Online Posting

```
Karper, Erin. "Welcome!" Online posting. 23 Oct. 2000. Professional Writing
     Bulletin Board. 12 Nov. 2000
     <http://linnell.english.purdue.edu/ubb/Forum2/HTML/000001.html>.
```

An article or publication retrieved from an electronic database

If you're citing an article or a publication that was originally issued in print form but that you
retrieved from an online database that your library subscribes to, you should provide enough
information so that the reader can locate the article either in its original print form or
retrieve it from the online database (if they have access).

Provide the following information in your citation:

- Author's name (if not available, use the article title as the first part of the citation)
- Article Title
- Publication Name
- Publication Date
- Page Number/Range
- Database Name
- Service Name
- Name of the library where service was accessed
- Name of the town/city where service was accessed
- Date of Access
- URL of the service (but not the whole URL for the article, since those are very long and
  won't be able to be re-used by someone trying to retrieve the information)

The generic citation form would look like this:

```
Author. "Title of Article." Publication Name Volume Number (if necessary)
     Publication Date: page number-page number. Database name. Service name.
     Library Name, City, State. Date of access <electronic address of the
     database>.
```

Here's an example:

```
Smith, Martin. "World Domination for Dummies." Journal of Despotry Feb. 2000:
     66-72. Expanded Academic ASAP. Gale Group Databases. Purdue University
     Libraries, West Lafayette, IN. 19 February 2003
     <http://www.infotrac.galegroup.com>.
```

Article in a reference database on CD-ROM

"   World War II." <u>Encarta</u>. CD-ROM. Seattle: Microsoft, 1999.

Article from a periodically published database on CD-ROM

Reed, William. "Whites and the Entertainment Industry." <u>Tennessee Tribune</u> 25

    Dec. 1996: 28. <u>Ethnic NewsWatch</u>. CD-ROM. Data Technologies. Feb. 1997.

For more about citing electronic sources, check out MLA Documentation: Citing Electronic Sources (from the University of Wisconsin-Madison Writing Center, available at http://www.wisc.edu/writing/Handbook/elecmla.html), Using MLA Style to Cite and Document Internet Sources (from Bedford St. Martin's *Online,* available at http://www.bedfordstmartins.com/online/cite5.html), MLA Style: Electronic Formats (from Dr. Mary Ellen Guffey, available at http://www.westwords.com/guffey/mla.html), and Citing Electronic Sources-- MLA (from Middlebury College, available at http://www.middlebury.edu/~lib/citing.mla.html). The Gale Group also has a page about how to cite publications retrieved from their databases in MLA format (available at http://www.galegroup.com/customer_service/technical_information/citing.htm) that includes examples of different kinds of publications.

Other Types of Sources

The MLA Style Manual provides extensive examples of other source citations in chapter six; *The MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers* provides extensive examples covering a wide variety of potential sources in chapter six. If your particular case is not covered here, use the basic forms to determine the correct format, consult the *MLA Handbook***,** visit the links in our additional resources section, talk to your instructor, or call the Writing Lab (765-494-3723) for help.

Government publication

United States Dept. of Health and Human Services. <u>Healthy People 2010:</u>

    <u>Understanding and Improving Health</u>. Washington: GPO, 2000.

Pamphlet

Office of the Dean of Students. <u>Resources for Success: Learning Disabilities</u>

    <u>and Attention Deficit Disorders</u>. West Lafayette, IN: Purdue University,

    2000.

Interview that you conducted

Purdue, Pete. Personal Interview. 1 Dec. 2000.

A lecture or a speech

To cite a lecture or a speech, "give the speaker's name, the title of the lecture or speech (if

known) in quotation marks, the meeting and the sponsoring organization (if applicable), the location [including place and city, if available], and the date. If there is no title, use an appropriate descriptive label (e.g., Lecture, Address, Keynote speech), neither underlined nor enclosed in quotation marks" (*MLA Handbook*, 206).

```
Harris, Muriel. "Writing Labs: A Short History." 2003 Writing Center

    Conference. National Writing Centers Association. La Swank Hotel, Seattle.

    28 March 2003.
```

Advertisement

```
Lufthansa. Advertisement. Time 20 Nov. 2000: 151.
```

Television or radio program

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"The Blessing Way." The X-Files. Fox. WXIA, Atlanta. 19 Jul. 1998.
```

Sound recording

```
U2. All That You Can't Leave Behind. Interscope, 2000.
```

Film

```
The Usual Suspects. Dir. Bryan Singer. Perf. Kevin Spacey, Gabriel Byrne,

    Chazz Palminteri, Stephen Baldwin, and Benecio del Toro. Polygram, 1995.
```

TV Advertisement

```
Staples. Advertisement. CBS. 3 Dec. 2000.
```

A Note on Footnotes and Endnotes

1. evaluative bibliographic comments, for example:

[1] See Blackmur, especially chapters three and four, for an insightful analysis of this trend.

[2] On the problems related to repressed memory recovery, see Wollens pp. 120- 35; for a contrasting view, see Pyle.

2. occasional explanatory notes or other brief additional information that would seem digressive if included in the main text but might be interesting to readers, for example:

[3] In a 1998 interview, she reiterated this point even more strongly: "I am an artist, not a politician!" (Weller 124).

Footnotes in MLA format are indicated by consecutive superscript arabic numbers in the text. The notes themselves are listed by consecutive superscript arabic numbers and appear double-spaced in regular paragraph format (a new paragraph for each note) on a separate page under the word *Notes* (centered, in plain text without quotation marks).

Additional Resources

It's always best to consult the *MLA Style Manual* or the *Handbook for Writing Research Papers* first for any MLA question. If you are using MLA style for a class assignment, it's a good idea to consult your professor, advisor, TA, or other campus resources for help -- they're the ones who can tell you how the style should apply in your particular case. For extraordinary questions that aren't covered clearly in the style manual or haven't been answered by your teacher or advisor, contact the Writing Lab for help at (765) 494-3723 or email us at [this form](#).
Here are some other resources for using MLA style and writing research papers that might also help answer your questions.

Print Resources

Here are some print resources for using MLA style. Most of these books are probably available in your local library. The Writing Lab also has some of them available for use in the Lab.

From the Modern Language Association

- *MLA Manual and Guide to Scholarly Publishing* (ISBN: 0-87352-977-4)
- *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers* (ISBN: 0-87352-975-8)

From other presses

- *The World's Easiest Guide to Using the MLA : A User-Friendly Manual for Formatting Research Papers According to the Modern Language Association Style Guide* (ISBN: 0964385376)
- *The Essentials of MLA Style: A Guide to Documentation for Writers of Research Papers* (ISBN: 0395883164)
- *A Guide to MLA Documentation: With an Appendix on APA Style* (ISBN: 0395938511)

Online and Electronic Resources

From the Modern Language Association:

- Frequently Asked Questions about MLA Style
  http://www.mla.org/www_mla_org/style/style_main.asp?area=§ion=sty51800124510&mode=sub&level=1

Formatting your paper and writing in MLA style

- **MLA Manuscript Format (from Research and Documentation Online)**
  http://www.dianahacker.com/resdoc/humanities/manuscript.html
- **A Guide for Writing Research Papers Based on MLA Documentation (from Capital Community College Library)**
  http://webster.commnet.edu/mla/index.shtml
- **MLA Guidelines Summary (from Pleasant Valley Library)**
  http://webpages.pvbears.org/hslibrary/mla.htm

- **MLA Format for Annotated Bibliographies (from Lesley University)**
  http://www.lesley.edu/library/guides/citation/mla_annotated.html
- **Format for Annotated Bibliography (from Colorado State's Writing Center)**
  http://writing.colostate.edu/references/teaching/co300man/pop16c.cfm

MLA style templates and sample papers

- **MLA Research Paper Templates in Microsoft Word and Rich Text formats (from Wright University)**
  http://www.wright.edu/~martin.maner/rptemp.htm
- **Microsoft Word Templates for MLA Works Cited Pages and Annotated Bibliographies (from Spokane Falls Community College)**
  http://library.sfcc.spokane.cc.wa.us/CitingSources.stm
- **Research Paper Template in MLA Format (from Microsoft's templates site)**
  http://officeupdate.microsoft.com/TemplateGallery/templates/5/tp1190.asp?i=0
- **How to create an MLA Style Template in Microsoft Word (PC Version) (from Ohio State University):**
  http://ccl.english.ohio-state.edu/handouts/miscellaneous/word/Advanced_Formatting_PC.htm
- **How to create an MLA Style Template in Microsoft Word (Mac Version) (from Ohio State University):**
  http://ccl.english.ohio-state.edu/handouts/miscellaneous/word/Advanced_Formatting_Mac.htm
- **Instructions to Format a Manuscript following Modern Language Association (MLA) Style in Microsoft Word (by Janice Walker)**
  http://www2.gasou.edu/facstaff/jwalker/tutorials/mlaword.html
- **Instructions to Format a Manuscript following Modern Language Association (MLA) Style in Corel Word Perfect (by Janice Walker)**
  http://www2.gasou.edu/facstaff/jwalker/tutorials/mlawp.html
- **Sample MLA Paper (from Research and Documentation Online)**
  http://www.dianahacker.com/resdoc/humanities/sample.html
- **Sample Paper: MLA Style (from Hacker Handbook Resources)**
  http://www.bedfordstmartins.com/hacker/papers.htm
- **Research Paper Sample with MLA documentation (from Tidewater Community College)**
  http://www.tc.cc.va.us/writcent/handouts/writing/RES98mla/
- **Sample Annotated Bibliography: MLA Format (from Miracosta College Library)**
  http://www.miracosta.edu/home/jmegill/Sabbatical/mla/annobib.html

Documenting and referencing sources

- **MLA Citation Style (from the Long Island University Library):**
  http://www.liunet.edu/cwis/cwp/library/workshop/citmla.htm
- **MLA In-Text Citations (from Research and Documentation Online)**
  http://www.dianahacker.com/resdoc/humanities/intext.html
- **MLA Documentation: Citations in Text (from the University of Wisconsin-Madison Writing Center)**
  http://www.wisc.edu/writing/Handbook/DocMLACitation.html
- **MLA parenthetical Documentation (from LEO at St. Cloud University)**
  http://leo.stcloudstate.edu/research/mlaparen.html
- **Parenthetical References in MLA Style (from A Research Guide for Students)**
  http://www.aresearchguide.com/9parenth.html
- **Sample parenthetical References Page (from A Research Guide for Students)**
  http://www.aresearchguide.com/sampleparenth.html
- **MLA List of Works Cited (from Research and Documentation Online)**

http://www.dianahacker.com/resdoc/humanities/list.html
- **MLA Documentation: Works Cited Page (from the University of Wisconsin-Madison Writing Center)**
  http://www.wisc.edu/writing/Handbook/DocMLAWorksCited.html
- **Works Cited in MLA Style (from A Research Guide for Students)**
  http://www.aresearchguide.com/12biblio.html
- **Sample Works Cited Page (from A Research Guide for Students)**
  http://www.aresearchguide.com/10works.html#sampleworks
- **MLA Documentation: Citing Electronic Sources (from the University of Wisconsin-Madison Writing Center)**
  http://www.wisc.edu/writing/Handbook/elecmla.html#mlaparen
- **Using MLA Style to Cite and Document Internet Sources (from Bedford St. Martin's *Online!*)**
  http://www.bedfordstmartins.com/online/cite5.html
- **MLA Style: Electronic Formats (from Dr. Mary Ellen Guffey)**
  http://www.westwords.com/guffey/mla.html
- **Citing Electronic Sources-- MLA (from Middlebury College)**
  http://www.middlebury.edu/~lib/citing.mla.html
- **How to Cite InfoTrac and GaleNet sources (from GaleNet)**
  http://www.galegroup.com/customer_service/technical_information/citing.htm

General resources for writing and research

On Purdue's OWL:

- **Annotated bibliographies**
  http://owl.english.purdue.edu/general/gl_annotatedbib.html
- **Research Paper workshop**
  http://owl.english.purdue.edu/workshops/hypertext/ResearchW/index.html
- **Research Report workshop**
  http://owl.english.purdue.edu/workshops/hypertext/reportW/
- **Research and Documenting Sources handouts**
  http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/research/index.html
- **Research and documenting sources PowerPoint presentations**
  http://owl.english.purdue.edu/workshops/pp/index.html#research
- **Evaluating Sources workshop**
  http://owl.english.purdue.edu/workshops/hypertext/EvalSrcW/
- **Searching the Web workshop**
  http://owl.english.purdue.edu/internet/search/
- **Starting points for Internet research**
  http://owl.english.purdue.edu/internet/resources/sourceofinfo.html

Other online resources

- **Paradigm Online Writing Assistant**
  http://www.powa.org/
- **Research and Documentation Online** (by Diana Hacker)
  http://www.dianahacker.com/resdoc/
- **A Research Guide for Student**s (by I. Lee)
  http://www.aresearchguide.com/

Other citation styles

Purdue's OWL also offers information about other citation methods and electronic sources. We have the following handouts:

- **Using APA Format**
  http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/research/r_apa.html
- **Formatting in Sociology**
  http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/research/r_docsocio.html
- **Resources for Documenting Sources**
  http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/research/r_docsources.html
- **Citing Electronic Sources**
  http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/research/r_docelectric.html

Revised by Jennifer Liethen Kunka and Joe Barbato, Purdue University, December 2000. Additional revisions and resources added by Erin Karper, January 2003, February 2003, December 2003.

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