Guide for References

The following are examples of Modern Language Association (MLA) formatting of print and online resources for a list of works cited. For complete explanations and more examples, see the MLA Handbook, shelved in the first floor reference area (call # PE1478.G52). All section numbers below refer to the 7th edition (2009) of the handbook.

The MLA documentation style uses in-text references, parenthetical citations in the text that refer to the alphabetical list of works cited at the end of the paper. The parenthetical citation appears within the text at the end of the section of cited text and includes the author’s last name, followed by a page number, where available: (Anderson 7). There are many variations on this format depending on the circumstances and type of source being cited. For more examples, see the MLA Handbook, 7th edition, Chapter 6.

A PERIODICAL PUBLICATION IN AN ONLINE DATABASE (Section 5.6.4)

Academic journal with no pagination:

Academic journal with pagination:

Newspaper

Magazine

A PERIODICAL PUBLICATION ACCESSED DIRECTLY FROM AN ONLINE PUBLISHER (Section 5.6.3)

Academic journal with no pagination:

A PRINT PERIODICAL PUBLICATION (Section 5.4)

Note: Print publications are cited much the same way as online publications except that you use “Print” as the medium and do not include an access date.


AN ONLINE NON-PERIODICAL RESOURCE (Section 5.6.2)

Note: include a URL if your instructor requires it or if your reader will need it to find the source you are citing. If you include a URL, give it immediately following the date of access, a period, and a space. Enclose the URL in angle brackets, and conclude with a period, as in <http://www.lib.montana.edu/>.

News Site

Web Encyclopedia Article

Web Site (with URL included)


Scanned Book Accessed on the Web

E-Book

A PRINT NON-PERIODICAL RESOURCE (Section 5.5)

Book by a Single Author (Section 5.5.2)

Book by Two or More Authors (Section 5.5.4)

Encyclopedia or Other Reference Book Article (Section 5.5.7)

Book Chapter (Section 5.5.6)

Introduction, Preface, Forward, or Afterward (Section 5.5.7)

xv-xvi. Print.

Unpublished Dissertation (Section 5.5.25)

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Rev. 8/4/09 (Zauha)