MLA 8 Citation Samples

This handout explains core elements of MLA 8 citations and how to format a Works Cited page; and provides full citation examples of commonly cited sources.

List of Core Elements

MLA 8 requires researchers to locate all “core elements” provided for a source and list them in the following order with the accompanying punctuation:

1. **Author**
   - The person or organization that created the source

2. **Title of Source**
   - The specific name of the source. Book titles are in italics but article titles, chapter titles, episode titles, etc. are in quotation marks.

3. **Title of Container**
   - When the source forms a part of a larger whole, the larger whole can be thought of as a container that holds the source.

4. **Other Contributors**
   - Editors, directors, translators, narrators, performers

5. **Version**
   - Edition [updated, expanded, 7th, etc.], cut [film], version [King James]

6. **Number**
   - Volume, number – vol. 1, no.5

7. **Publisher**
   - Organization responsible for producing the source

8. **Publication Date**
   - Date that the source/container was published

9. **Location**
   - Page number, chapter, section, DOI, website URL or permalink
   - Note: Access dates are optional, check with your instructor.

Works Cited Page Format

MLA citations are listed in a bibliography called the Works Cited page. List citations alphabetically by the last name of the first author, or if no author then by the letter of the
first word in a title. The font should be 12 pt Times New Roman. For more formatting information see the graph below. For a screen-reader friendly version of a sample Works Cited page, visit the “MLA Sample Works Cited Page” on the Purdue Online Writing Lab (OWL): https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/12/

If you need an audio/video description of how to format an Works Cited page see this YouTube video from Purdue OWL: https://youtu.be/EaFcJ3f4fJk

Citation Examples

**Article (Web Page) on a Web Site**


**Website (Whole site)**

*The Purdue OWL Family of Sites*. The Writing Lab and OWL at Purdue and Purdue U, 2008, owl.english.purdue.edu/owl.
**Article in an Online Library Database**  

**Video**  

**Book, Single Author**  

**Book, Two Authors**  

**NOTE:** Authors should be listed in the order they are listed on the title page.

**Book, Three or More Authors**  

**Book, with Translator or other contributors**  

**Other common descriptions:** Adapted by, Directed by, Edited by, Illustrated by, Introduction by, Narrated by, Performance by.
A work (e.g., essay, short story) in an anthology or compilation.


Personal Interview

Smith, Jane. Personal interview. 19 May 2014

More information on citations can be found at pcc.edu/library

Information and examples from Purdue Online Writing Lab and University of West Florida

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