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MLA STYLE – Electronic Media 7th Edition

The correct way to cite electronic resources is not yet set in stone. As technology evolves, so do the research tools that we must use. This guide explains how to format parenthetical documentation and how to write a “Work Cited” list for electronic media. The information in this guide is from the *MLA (Modern Language Association) Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, 7th Edition. Two copies of the manual are available to students; one is on general reserve and the other copy is located in the reference section. (R 808.027 M69).

Citing Article Databases

Parenthetical Documentation

For electronic sources follow the same example as with print periodicals, place authors’ name and page number in parentheses. For electronic sources that are available in PDF format follow the example for periodicals. (Author page)

Example: “Business forecasts for the fourth quarter tended to be optimistic.” (White 4).

For works with no page numbers, please review section 6.4.1 -6.4.2 (pages 219-221) of the MLA handbook. or consult with your professor.

Updated Changes in MLA Works Cited Format

- **URLs are now UNNECESSARY.** URLs of websites are now ONLY recommended if the citation information does not lead readers to easily find the source.
- **Medium of Publication.** MLA now recommends every entry include a medium of publication marker (Print, Web, Performance, DVD, TV, etc.). Follow entry guidelines on where to place marker in entry.
- **New Abbreviations.**
 - If the source omits the publisher’s name, type n.p. for no publisher given in place of where publisher name would have gone.
 - If no date of publication is given, type n.d. for no date.
 - If no pagination is provided, type n. pag. for no pagination.

Formatting Articles from Article Database for the Work Cited List

Author. “Title in Quotation Marks.” *Title of Journal in Italics*. volume. issue (year): pages. *Database name in Italics*. Web. Date.

Examples:

Ford, William J. “Smashing the Stereotypes on the Big Screen.” *Diverse: Issues in Higher*

Education. 26.13 (2009): 4. *Academic Search Premier*. Web. 28 August 2009.

Crawford, Alison. "Oh Yeah!: Family Guy as Magical Realism?" *Journal of Film and Video* 61.2

(2009): 52-69. *MLA International Bibliography*. Web. 16 Aug. 2010.

- **Place the title of article in quotation marks, capitalize all important words.**
- **Omit a, an or, the from the beginning of the title of periodical.**

Formatting Internet Sources for the Work Cited List

Check with your professor before including Internet sources in your work.

Author (or editor/organization). Article name in quotations. Title of Website, *project in italics*. Date of

publication, (if available). Medium of publication. Date you accessed the site.

Examples:

Organization/title- no article title:

Rock the Vote. *Rock the Vote*. 2009. Web. 28 August 2009.

Author/title:

Linder, Douglas. "Salem Witchcraft Trials." *Famous American Trials*. 2009. Web. 28 August 2009.

Online Newspaper:

Levenson, Michael, and Jenna Russell. "A Swell of Emotion." *Boston Globe*. NY Times Co. 28 August

2009. Web. 28 August 2009.

Online Newspaper/ no author:

"The Scientists Speak." Editorial. *New York Times*. New York Times, 20 Nov. 2007. Web. 15 May 2008.

Please note:

If no date of publication is listed, use **n.d.** in place of where date of publication would have gone.

If your professor requires a URL for Web sources, include in angle brackets at the end of the entry:

Example of URL listed in work cited list:

About-Face. *About-Face*. 2010. Web. 16. August 2010. < <http://about-face.org> >.

Citing a film or DVD:

Title. Director. Performers (not necessary). Distributer, date distributed . medium.

Examples:

Girl, Interrupted. Dir. James Mangold. Perf. Angelina Jolie and Winona Ryder. Columbia, 1999. DVD.

Include original release date when it is relevant:

Renoir, Jean, Dir. *Grand Illusion [La grande illusion]*. Perf. Jean Gabin and Erich von Stroheim. 1938.

Voyager, 1987. Laser disc.

It's a Wonderful Life. Dir. Frank Capra. Perf. James Stewart and Donna Reed. 1946. Republic, 2001. DVD.