

MLA System- The Most Frequent And The Most Important Stuff

1. FIRST PAGE

- **Do not make** a title page for your paper unless specifically requested.
- In the upper left-hand corner of the first page, **list your name, your instructor's name, the course, and the date**. Again, be sure to use double-spaced text.
- Double space again and center the title. **Do not underline, italicize, or place your title in quotation marks; write the title in Title Case (standard capitalization), not in all capital letters.** (see example)

2. HEADINGS

- Up to the student - any format - has to be consistent

3. IN TEXT CITATION

EVERY SOURCE IN THE TEXT MUST CORRESPOND WITH WORKS CITED PAGE

Author known

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).

Author unknown

We see so many global warming hotspots in North America likely because this region has "more readily accessible climatic data and more comprehensive programs to monitor and study environmental change . . ." ("Impact of Global Warming" 6).

"The Impact of Global Warming in North America." *GLOBAL WARMING: Early Signs*. 1999. Web. 23 Mar. 2009.

Citing a Work by Multiple Authors

For a source with three or fewer authors, list the authors' last names in the text or in the parenthetical citation:

Smith, Yang, and Moore argue that tougher gun control is not needed in the United States (76).

The authors state "Tighter gun control in the United States erodes Second Amendment rights" (Smith, Yang, and Moore 76).

Citing Indirect Sources

Sometimes you may have to use an indirect source. An indirect source is a source cited in another source. For such indirect quotations, use "qtd. in" to indicate the source you actually consulted. 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).

Internet

do not include URLs in-text. Only provide partial URLs such as when the name of the site includes, for example, a domain name, like *CNN.com* or *Forbes.com* as opposed to writing out <http://www.cnn.com> or <http://www.forbes.com>.

4. ENDNOTES/FOOTNOTES

Endnotes and footnotes in MLA format are indicated in-text by superscript Arabic numbers after the punctuation of the phrase or clause to which the note refers:

Some have argued that such an investigation would be fruitless.⁶

5. WORKS CITED PAGE

- Works Cited page on a separate page at the end of your research paper
- For every entry, you must determine the Medium of Publication-PRINT, WEB,CD ROM, ...
- Entries are listed alphabetically by the author's last name
- The author's name or a book with a single author's name appears in last name, first name format. The basic form for a book citation is:

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

PRINT SOURCES

Book with One Author

Gleick, James. *Chaos: Making a New Science*. New York: Penguin, 1987. Print.

Book with More Than One Author

The first given name appears in last name, first name format; subsequent author names appear in first name last name format.

Gillespie, Paula, and Neal Lerner. *The Allyn and Bacon Guide to Peer Tutoring*. Boston: Allyn, 2000. Print.

Book with No Author

Encyclopedia of Indiana. New York: Somerset, 1993. Print.

A Translated Book

Add "Trans."—the abbreviation for translated by—and follow with the name(s) of the translator(s).

Foucault, Michel. *Madness and Civilization: A History of Insanity in the Age of Reason*. Trans. Richard Howard. New York: Vintage-Random House, 1988. Print.

Article in a Magazine

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

ELECTRONIC SOURCES

Here are some common features you should try and find before citing electronic sources in MLA style. Not every Web page will provide all of the following information.

- Author and/or editor names (if available)
- Article name in quotation marks (if applicable)
- Title of the Website, project, or book in italics. Any version numbers available, including revisions, posting dates, volumes, or issue numbers.
- Publisher information, including the publisher name and publishing date.
- Take note of any page numbers (if available).
- Medium of publication.
- Date you accessed the material.
- URL (if required, or for your own personal reference; MLA does not require a URL).

Entire web site

The Purdue OWL Family of Sites. The Writing Lab and OWL at Purdue and Purdue U, 2008. Web. 23 Apr. 2008.

A Page on a Web Site

"How to Make Vegetarian Chili." *eHow*. Demand Media, Inc., n.d. Web. 24 Feb. 2009.

An Image (Including a Painting, Sculpture, or Photograph)

Goya, Francisco. *The Family of Charles IV*. 1800. Museo Nacional del Prado, Madrid. *Museo Nacional del Prado*. Web. 22 May 2006.

E-mail (including E-mail Interviews)

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

A Tweet

Brokaw, Tom (tombrokaw). "SC demonstrated why all the debates are the engines of this campaign." 22 Jan. 2012, 3:06 a.m. Tweet.

OTHER COMMON SOURCES

Personal Interviews

Personal interviews refer to those interviews that you conduct yourself. List the interview by the name of the interviewee. Include the descriptor Personal interview and the date of the interview.

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

A Painting, Sculpture, or Photograph

Include the artist's name. Give the title of the artwork in italics. Provide the date of composition. If the date of composition is unknown, place the abbreviation *n.d.* in place of the date. Finally, provide the name of the institution that houses the artwork followed by the location of the institution.

Goya, Francisco. *The Family of Charles IV*. 1800. Museo del Prado, Madrid.

Films or Movies

List films (in theaters or not yet on DVD or video) by their title. Include the name of the director, the film studio or distributor, and the release year. If relevant, list performer names after the director's name. Use the abbreviation *perf.* to head the list. List film as the medium of publication. To cite a DVD or other video recording, see "Recorded Films and Movies" below.

The Usual Suspects. Dir. Bryan Singer. Perf. Kevin Spacey, Gabriel Byrne, Chazz Palminteri, Stephen Baldwin, and Benecio del Toro. Polygram, 1995. Film.

MLA Sample Works Cited

"Blueprint Lays Out Clear Path for Climate Action." *Environmental Defense Fund*. Environmental Defense Fund, 8 May 2007. Web. 24 May 2009.

Clinton, Bill. Interview by Andrew C. Revkin. "Clinton on Climate Change." *New York Times*. New York Times, May 2007. Web. 25 May 2009.

Dean, Cornelia. "Executive on a Mission: Saving the Planet." *New York Times*. New York Times, 22 May 2007. Web. 25 May 2009.

Ebert, Roger. "An Inconvenient Truth." Rev. of *An Inconvenient Truth*, dir. Davis Guggenheim. *rogerebert.com*. Sun-Times News Group, 2 June 2006. Web. 24 May 2009.

GlobalWarming.org. Cooler Heads Coalition, 2007. Web. 24 May 2009.

Gowdy, John. "Avoiding Self-organized Extinction: Toward a Co-evolutionary Economics of Sustainability." *International Journal of Sustainable Development and World Ecology* 14.1 (2007): 27-36. Print.

An Inconvenient Truth. Dir. Davis Guggenheim. Perf. Al Gore, Billy West. Paramount, 2006. DVD.

Leroux, Marcel. *Global Warming: Myth Or Reality?: The Erring Ways of Climatology*. New York: Springer, 2005. Print.

Milken, Michael, Gary Becker, Myron Scholes, and Daniel Kahneman. "On Global Warming and Financial Imbalances." *New Perspectives Quarterly* 23.4 (2006): 63. Print.

Nordhaus, William D. "After Kyoto: Alternative Mechanisms to Control Global Warming." *American Economic Review* 96.2 (2006): 31-34. Print.

---. "Global Warming Economics." *Science* 9 Nov. 2001: 1283-84. *Science Online*. Web. 24 May 2009.

Shulte, Bret. "Putting a Price on Pollution." *Usnews.com. US News & World Rept.*, 6 May 2007. Web. 24 May 2009.

Uzawa, Hirofumi. *Economic Theory and Global Warming*. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2003. Print.