MLA Style Guide (7th Edition)

The following are examples and explanations that follow the **MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers** Seventh Edition. This handout is intended as a guide. If you have specific questions, always check with your instructor. **Note: Examples in this handout may be single-spaced to conserve paper. ALWAYS double-space between ALL lines.**

IN-TEXT CITATION

In addition to providing a works cited list at the end of your paper, you must also cite your sources within your paper by using **in-text citations**. You must cite direct quotes, paraphrases or summaries of someone else's words, as well as facts, figures and ideas that are someone else's works.

1. Single author

Include the author's last name and the page number when your text does not include this information.	"Straightedge quickly migrated beyond D.C. to become a movement all over the United States" (Moore 61).
When your text names the author, put only the page number in parentheses.	Moore observes that it "quickly migrated beyond D.C. to become a movement all over the United States" (61).

2. Two or three authors

Give the last name of each author, and the page number in the citation.	"Copyright ownership arises from and begins upon creation of a work" (Moser and Slay 48).
Name both authors in the text, and put only the page number in parentheses.	Moser and Slay point out that "copyright ownership arises from and begins upon creation of a work" (48).
If you have three authors in the parentheses, separate their names with commas.	"Within this framework, significant shifts took place in the character of modernity" (Levin, Forgan, and Hessler 15).

3. Four or more authors

Either name all authors OR include only the first author's name followed by "et al." The format you choose should match the format in your works cited.	"This therefore represents a system which avoids the need to label probes or analytes" (Marmiroli et al. 379).

4. Author unknown

If the author's name is not available, use the title of the work and page or paragraph. Note: Titles of books are italicized, titles of articles are put in quotation marks.	"Over the past 30 years, the size of the U.S. workforce has grown from about 75 million to over 115 million workers, with women representing an increasingly larger share" ("Gender Pay" 8).

5. Page number unknown

If a work has no page numbers, such as website articles that are in printed in "full text" or "html" format, count the paragraphs and use "par." (single) or "pars." (plural) followed by the paragraph number. Note: If the author's name is in the citation, place a comma after the name.	Powell states that struggle of "gender justice is complex" and cannot be solved by a "quick fix" (pars. 1-3). "Women activists are attempting to incorporate traditional and cultural values without compromising the goal of women's empowerment" (Powell, par. 6).

6. Indirect sources

When you paraphrase or quote information that has already been quoted from another source, you must put "qtd. in" before the indirect source.	Ellen Bialystok explains, "People talk more slowly and clearly to children in short, simple sentences" (qtd. in Robson 33).

7. Encyclopedia or dictionary entry

If the dictionary or encyclopedia entry does not have an author, use the word or entry in your quotation marks in your citation.	"In practice, however, the location of sovereignty remained controversial" ("Federalism").

8. Selection in an anthology

When using a selection from an anthology, use the name of the author of the selection, not the editor of the anthology, in the in-text citation. Note: On the works cited page, you will alphabetize this entry by the author of the selection.	In fact, in the essay "What If Shakespeare Had a Sister?" she says, "to have a room of her own, let alone a quiet room or a sound-proof room, was out of the question…" (Woolf 1140).

WORKS CITED

At the end of your paper, you will have a separate works cited page. In the list of **works cited**, you will alphabetically list all of the sources that you quoted, paraphrased, or summarized throughout your paper. Each entry that you used in-text citations for will have a corresponding entry on your works cited page.

Books

Basic format	Last name, First name of author. *Title of book*. Place of publication: Publisher, Year of publication. Medium of publication.
One author	Stearns, Peter N. *The Industrial Revolution in World History*. Boulder: Westview, 2013. Print.
Two or three authors	Walker, Samuel, Cassia Spohn, and Miriam Delone. *The Color of Justice: Race, Ethnicity, and Crime in America*. Belmont: Wadsworth, 2012. Print.
Four or more authors	Leech, Geoffrey, et al. *Change in Contemporary English*. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2009. Print. Note**:** Either enter all authors OR first author followed by "et al." The format must match your in-text citations.
Electronic book from a database	Moore, Ryan. *Sells Like Teen Spirit : Music, Youth Culture, and Social Crisis*. New York: New York University Press, 2009. *ProQuest ebrary*. Web. 5 May 2015. Note: For electronic books, include the title of the database, (*ProQuest ebrary* in the example above) and the date of access in this format: day month year.
Selection in an anthology	Woolf, Virginia. "What If Shakespeare Had a Sister?" *Literature for Life*. Ed. X.J. Kennedy, Dana Gioia, and Nina Revoyr. Boston: Pearson, 2013. 1136-1140. Print. Note: On the works cited page, you will alphabetize the entry by the author of the selection used, not the editor of the anthology.
Encyclopedia or dictionary entry	"Federalism." *The Concise Princeton Encyclopedia of American Political History*. Ed. Michael Kazin, Rebecca Edwards, and Adam Rothman. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2011. Print. Note: If there is no author, alphabetize on the dictionary word or encyclopedia entry. Page numbers not necessary because the entries are arranged alphabetically in the source.

Articles in Print

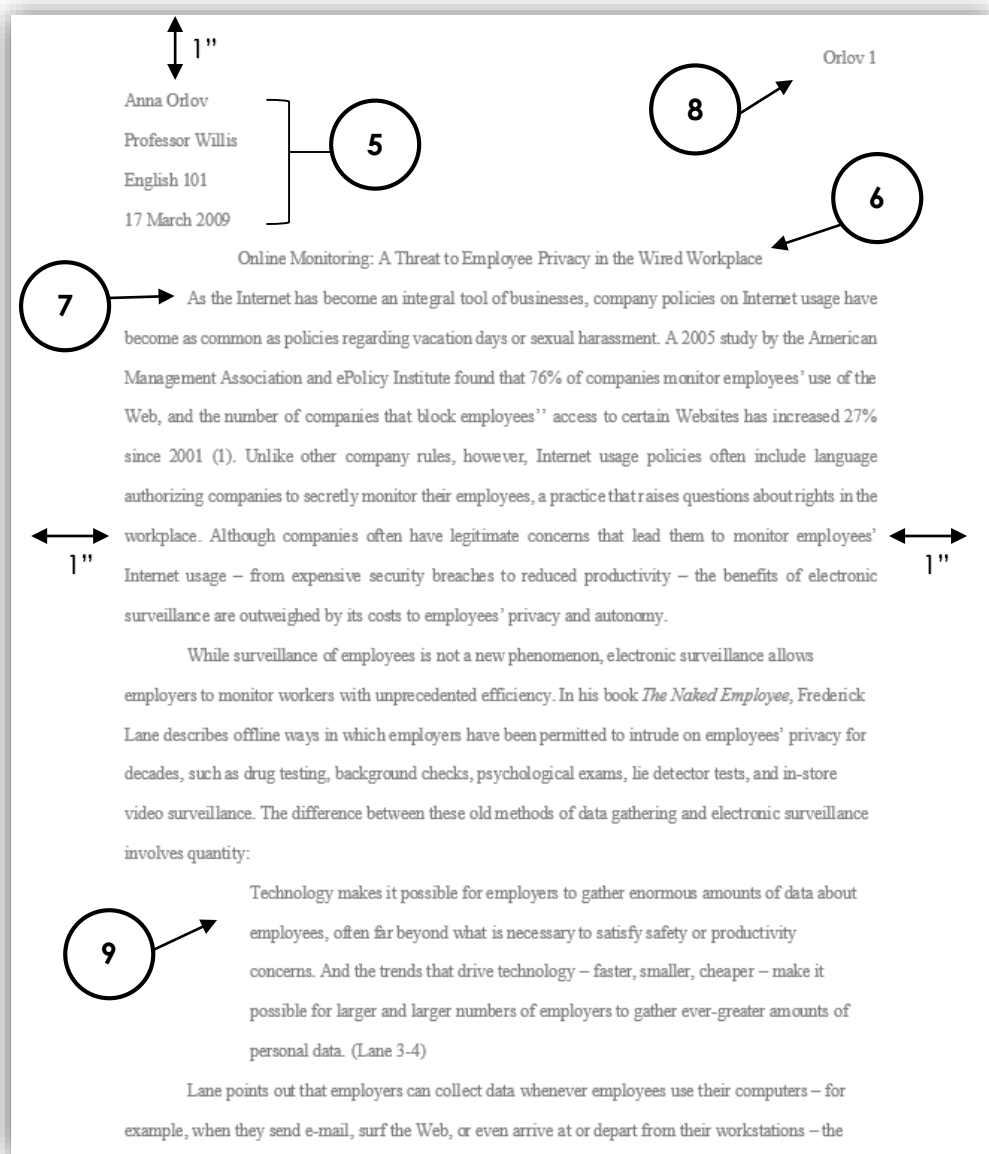| Basic format	Last name, First name of author. "Title of article" *Title of journal* Volume.Issue (Year): Page numbers. Medium.
Journal article in print	Bezuidenhout, Louise, and Chandre Gould. "Winning the Battle against Emerging Pathogens: A South African Response." *Bulletin Of The Atomic Scientists* 70.4 (2014): 10-13. Print.
Magazine article in print	Bremmer, Ian. "Trading Block." *Time* 185.17 (2015): 14. Print.

Electronic Sources

Journal article from a database	Lombard, Kara-Jane. "Art Crimes: The Governance Of Hip Hop Graffiti." *Journal For Cultural Research* 17.3 (2013): 255-278. *Academic Search Premier*. Web. 6 May 2015. Note: For electronic articles from databases, include the title of the database, (*Academic Search Premier, Academic OneFile, History Reference Center,* etc.) and the date of access in this format: day month year. Abbreviate all months except May, June, and July.
Newspaper article from a database	Marshall, Ryan. "Cracking tech code with GRRL power." *The Washington Post*. 26 March 2015: T23. *LexisNexis Academic*. Web. 25 April 2015.
Magazine article online	Jennings, Christian. "Mosquitoes Really Do Prefer Some People to Others, Say Scientists." *Newsweek*. Newsweek, 28 April 2015. Web. 2 May 2015. Note: After the *title of magazine website*, include the publisher or site sponsor. Use "N.p." (for "No publisher") if not available.
Website article with no date	"About Alzheimer's Disease: Treatment." *National Institute on Aging*. U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, n.d. Web. 06 May 2015. Note: If there is no date of publication use "n.d." (for "no date").
Website article with no author	"Collection Women of Protest: Photographs from the Records of the National Woman's Party." *Women of Protest: Photographs from the Records of the National Woman's Party*. Library of Congress, n.d. Web. 14 Dec 2014. Note: If there is no author, start the entry with the title of the webpage.
Website article with URL	"Children's Mental Health." *Child Development*. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 12 Feb. 2015. Web. 26 April 2015. <http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/childdevelopment/ mentalhealth.html>. Note: The *MLA Handbook* does not require a URL in citations for online sources. However, if your instructor requires it, place the URL between two <angle brackets>.

MLA Paper Format

A paper in MLA format should follow these formatting guidelines:

1. Do not make a title page unless your instructor specifically requests one.
2. Use 1" margins on the top, bottom, and sides of your text. Do not justify to the right margin.
3. Use a readable font (e.g. Arial or Times New Roman) and type size (e.g. 12 point).
4. **Double-space the entire paper.**
5. In the upper left hand corner of the first page, type your name, the instructor's name, course number, and the date (be sure to double space between these lines).
6. Center the title. Do not underline, italicize, or put quotations around your title.
7. Indent the first word of each paragraph ½" (or five spaces from the left margin).
8. Type your last name and page number in the upper right hand corner, flush with the right margin and ½" from the top.
9. If a quotation has more than four typed lines, set if off from the text. Begin the block quote on a new line and indent each line 10 spaces from the margin. Double-space the entire quotation. Do not add quotation marks. A colon usually introduces the quote and the parenthetical citation is given at the end, after the final period.

Source: Diana Hacker (Boston: Bedford/St. Martins, 2014).

MLA Works Cited Format

A Works Cited page in MLA format should follow these formatting guidelines:

1. Center the title – Works Cited – one inch from the top of the page. Do not underline, type in all capital letters or use quotation marks.
2. Your last name and page number should continue in the upper right hand corner.
3. Alphabetically list all of the sources you used in your research paper by author. If there is no author, alphabetize by the title.
4. Double space the entire page.
5. The first line of each entry is even with the left margin. Extra lines should be indented ½" (or five spaces from the left margin).

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1 → Works Cited

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"About Alzheimer's Disease: Treatment." *National Institute on Aging.* U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, n.d. Web. 06 May 2015.

Bezuidenhout, Louise, and Chandre Gould. "Winning the Battle against Emerging Pathogens: A South African Response." *Bulletin Of The Atomic Scientists* 70.4 (2014): 10-13. Print.

Bremmer, Ian. "Trading Block." *Time* 185.17 (2015): 14. Print.

"Children's Mental Health." *Child Development.* Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 12 Feb. 2015. Web. 26 April 2015. <http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/childdevelopment/mentalhealth.html>.

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"Collection Women of Protest: Photographs from the Records of the National Woman's Party." *Women of Protest: Photographs from the Records of the National Woman's Party.* Library of Congress, n.d. Web. 14 Dec 2014.

"Federalism." *The Concise Princeton Encyclopedia of American Political History.* Ed. Michael Kazin, Rebecca Edwards, and Adam Rothman. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2011. Print.

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Jennings, Christian. "Mosquitoes Really Do Prefer Some People to Others, Say Scientists." *Newsweek.* Newsweek, 28 April 2015. Web. 2 May 2015.

Leech, Geoffrey, et al. *Change in Contemporary English.* Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2009. Print.

Lombard, Kara-Jane. "Art Crimes: The Governance Of Hip Hop Graffiti." *Journal For Cultural Research* 17.3 (2013): 255-278. *Academic Search Premier.* Web. 6 May 2015.

Marshall, Ryan. "Cracking tech code with GRRL power." *The Washington Post.* 26 March 2015: T23. *LexisNexis Academic.* Web. 25 April 2015.

Moore, Ryan. *Sells Like Teen Spirit : Music, Youth Culture, and Social Crisis.* New York: New York University Press, 2009. *ProQuest ebrary.* Web. 5 May 2015.

Steams, Peter N. *The Industrial Revolution in World History.* Boulder: Westview, 2013. Print.

Walker, Samuel, Cassia Spohn, and Miriam Delone. *The Color of Justice:Race, Ethnicity, and Crime in America.* Belmont: Wadsworth, 2012. Print.

Woolf, Virginia. "What If Shakespeare Had a Sister?" *Literature for Life.* Ed. X.J. Kennedy, Dana Gioia, and Nina Revoyr. Boston: Pearson, 2013. 1136-1140. Print.