

MLA Bibliographic Style MLibrary

Examples of preparing reference citations and the list of works cited are taken from chapters 5 and 6 of *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers* by Joseph Gibaldi, 7th Edition (available in reference shelves of the Hatcher Graduate Library and the Shapiro Undergraduate Library [where one copy is always held on reserve at the circulation desk], call number PE 1478.G43 2009).

The List of Works Cited

Alphabetize entries in the list of works cited by the author's last name. If the author is anonymous, alphabetize by title, ignoring initial articles (like "The," "An," etc.).

Journals and other periodicals:

The general format for periodicals (items published on a regular basis, like newspapers, magazine, and journals):

Author, A. A., Author, B. B., and C. C. Author. "Title of Article." *Title of Periodical* xx (year): pp-pp. *Database name*. Medium. Retrieval day, Retrieval month, retrieval year.

Note: items from this general format should be omitted in not applicable (e.g., print sources do not require "database name," or retrieval dates. Likewise, materials accessed directly from a publisher website, rather than a database, do not require database name but do require "Web" to account for the medium of access, as well as retrieval dates. (See manual section 5.6).

A Periodical Publication in an Online Database (Manual, section 5.6.4):

Chan, Evans. "Postmodernism and Hong Kong Cinema." *Postmodern Culture* 10.3 (2000): n. pag. *Project Muse*. Web. 5 June 2008.

Miller, Steven and Sarah Guyer, eds. *Literature and the Right to Marriage*. Spec. issue of *Diacritics* 35.4 (2005): 1-124. *Project Muse*. Web. 5 June 2008.

Richardson, Lynda. "Minority Students Languish in Special Education System." *New York Times* 6 April 1994, late ed.: A1+. Pt. 1 of a series, A Class Apart: Special Education in New York City. *LexisNexis*. Web. 5 June 2008.

An Online Scholarly Journal accessed directly (Manual, section 5.6.3):

Landauer, Michelle. "Images of Virtue: Reading, Reformation and the Visualization of Culture in Rousseau's *La nouvelle Héloïse*." *Romanticism on the Net* 46 (2007): n. pag. Web. 8 Nov. 2007.

Ouellette, Marc. "Theories, Memories, Bodies, and Artists." Editorial. *Reconstruction* 7.4 (2007): n. pag. Web. 5 June 2008.

Print Journal Articles (Manual, section 5.4.2):

From a Journal with Continuous pagination:

Trumpener, Katie. "Memories Carved in Granite: Great War Memories and Everyday Life." *PMLA* 115 (2000): 1096-1103. Print.

From a Journal that numbers pages in each issue separately:

Barthelme, Frederick. "Architecture." *Kansas Quarterly* 13.3-4 (1981): 77-80. Print.

From a Newspaper:

Jeromack, Paul. "This Once, a David of the Art World Does Goliath a Favor." *New York Times* 13 July 2002, late ed.: B7+. Print.

From a Magazine (signed):

Weintraub, Arlene, and Laura Cohen. "A Thousand-Year Plan for Nuclear Waste." *Business Week* 6 May. 1993: 94-96. Print.

From a Magazine (anonymous):

"Dubious Venture." *Time* 3 Jan. 1994: 64-65. Print.

Nonperiodical Digital Materials (Manual, section 5.6.2):

A Work Cited Only on the Web:

Eaves, Morris, Robert Essick, and Joseph Viscomi, eds. *The William Blake Archive*. Lib. of Cong., 8 May 2008. Web. 15 May 2008.

A Work on the Web Cited with Print Publication Data:

Bierce, Ambrose. "Academy." *The Devil's Dictionary. The Collected Works of Ambrose Bierce*. Vol. 7. New York: Neale, 1911. N. pag. *The Ambrose Bierce Project*. Web. 15 May 2008.

Nonperiodical Print Materials (Manual, section 5.5):

By a single author:

Franke, Damon. *Modernist Heresies: British Library History, 1883-1924*. Columbus:

Ohio State UP, 2008. Print.

By Two or More authors:

Booth, Wayne C., Gregory G. Colomb, and Joseph M. Williams. *The Craft of Research*. 2nd ed. Chicago: U of Chicago P, 2003. Print.

By a Corporate Author:

Urban Land Institute. *Cities Post-9/11*. Washington: Urban Land Inst., 2002. Print.

An Anthology:

Kepner, Susan Fulop, ed. and trans. *The Lioness in Bloom: Modern Thai Fiction about Women*. Berkeley: U of California P, 1996. Print.

A Work in an Anthology:

Allende, Isabel. "Toad's Mouth." Trans. Margaret Sayers Peden. *A Hammock between the Mangoes: Stories from Latin America*. Ed. Thomas Colchie. New York: Plume, 1992. 83-88. Print.

An Article in a Reference Book:

"Ginsburg, Ruth Bader." *Who's Who in America*. 62nd ed. 2008. Print.

A Multivolume Work:

Blanco, Richard L., ed. *The American Revolution, 1775-1783: An Encyclopedia*. 2 vols. Hamden: Garland, 1993. Print.

A Government Publication (manual, section 5.5.20):

United States. Cong. *A Descriptive Catalogue of the Government Publications of the United States, September 5, 1774-March 4, 1881*. Comp. Benjamin Perley Poore. 48th Cong., 2nd sess. Misc. Doc. 67. Washington: GPO, 1885. Print.

Citing Additional Common Sources (manual, section 5.7):

Television or Radio Broadcast:

"Death and Society." Narr. Joan Silberner. *Weekend Edition Sunday*. Natl. Public Radio. WUWM, Milwaukee, 25 Jan. 1990. Radio.

Don Giovanni. By Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. Perf. James Morris, Bryn Terfel, and Carol Vaness. Lyric Opera of Chicago. Cond. Yakov Kreizberg. Nuveen-Lyric Opera of Chicago Radio Network. WFMT, Chicago, 8 June 1996. Radio.

"The Phantom of Corleone." Narr. Steve Kroft. *Sixty Minutes*. CBS. WCBS, New York, 10 Dec. 2006. Television.

A Sound Recording:

Camper Van Beethoven. "Ambiguity Song."

Ellington, Duke, cond. *First Carnegie Hall Concert*. Duke Ellington Orch. Rec. 23 Jan. 1943. Prestige, 1977. LP.

A Film of a Video Recording:

It's a Wonderful Life. Dir. Frank Capra. Perf. James Stewart, Donna Reed, Lionel Barrymore, and Thomas Mitchell. RKO, 1946. Film.

A Video on the Web:

Hilary Clinton Sopranos Parody. 19 June 2007. *YouTube*. Web. 25 June 2009.

Wikis (*Because the entries may change, date of last update and retrieval date are very important*):

"Hip Hop Music." Wikipedia. Wikimedia Foundation, 2 Mar. 2006. Web. 18 Mar. 2009.

"Negation in Languages." UniLang.org. UniLang, 22 Apr. 2006. Web. 9 June 2009.

Citing References in Text (*Manual*, section 6)

Parenthetical notes are used instead of footnotes. References in the text must clearly point to specific sources in the list of the works cited. Keep parenthetical references as brief, and as few, as clarity and accuracy permit. Usually the **author's last name and a page reference** are enough to identify the sources and the specific location: **(Townsend, 10)**.

If **two or three names** begin the entry, give the last name of each person: **(Rabkin, Greenberg, and Olander vii)**.

If the work has **more than three authors**, follow the form in the bibliographic entry: either give the first author's last name followed by *et al.*, without any punctuation **(Lauter et al. 2425-33)** or give all the last names.

If you include the **author's name in a sentence**, you need not repeat the name in the parenthetical page citation that follows, provided that the reference is clearly to the work of the author you mention: **Tannen has argued this point (178-85)**.

If you wish to cite an **entire work** rather than part of the work, it is usually preferable to include the author's name in the text instead of in a parenthetical reference. **But Peter Scotto has offered another view.**

When citing a **volume number** as well as a page reference for a multi-volume work, separate the two by a colon and a space: **(Wellek 2: 1-10)**.

In a parenthetical reference of **one of two or more works by the same author**, put a comma after the author's last name and add the title of the work (if brief) or a shortened version and the relevant page reference. (**Durant and Durant, *Age* 214-48**).