

## MLA Style for Citing Print and Database Sources

Here are selected examples from the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers (Sixth Edition), published by the Modern Language Association of America. Call number: **Ref LB 2369.G53 2003**

### Book:

Gilbert, Sandra M., and Susan Gubar. The Madwoman in the Attic: The Woman Writer and the Nineteenth-Century Literary Imaginagion. New Haven: Yale UP, 1979.

### Journal article (in a scholarly journal with continuous pagination):

Trunpener, Katie. "Memories Carved in Granite: Great War Memorials and Everyday Life." PMLA 115 (2000): 1096-103.

### Journal article (in a scholarly journal that pages each issue separately):

Hallin, Daniel C. "Sound Bite News: Television Coverage of Elections, 1968-1988." Journal of Communication 42.2 (1992): 5-24. Note: "42.2" signifies volume 42, issue 2.

### Magazine article:

Murphy, Cullen. "Women and the Bible." Atlantic Monthly Aug. 1993: 39-64.

Marano, Hara Estroff. "Domestic Violence." Psychology Today Nov.-Dec. 1993: 48+.

- Do not give the volume and issue numbers even if they are listed.
- If the article is not printed on consecutive pages, write only the first page number and a plus sign.

### Daily newspaper article:

Chang, Kenneth. "The Melting (Freezing) of Antarctica." New York Times 2 Apr. 2002, late ed.: F1+.

### Entry in an encyclopedia:

"Mandarin." The Encyclopedia Americana. 1994 ed.

- When citing familiar reference books, especially those that frequently appear in new editions, do not give full publication information. When citing less familiar reference books, however, give full publication information.

Allen, Anita L. "Privacy in Health Care." Encyclopedia of Bioethics. Ed. Warren T. Reich. Rev. ed. 5 vols. New York: Macmillan-Simon, 1995.

### Full Text Articles from an Online Subscription Database

Many of the articles you will find first appeared in print in magazines, journals, or newspapers. The basic rule to follow is to cite the article as you would if you were looking at the original publication, then give information for getting it online (name of the database used, underlined), the library that subscribes to it (Penn State U.), and the date of your access to it. URL of database home page is optional. However since Penn State subscribers must reach the database through the Libraries pages, any URL will not be helpful. See section 5.9.7.a in the MLA Handbook.

#### Example 1: An anonymous newspaper editorial from Lexis Nexis Academic:

"Electric Shock." Editorial. Washington Post 2 Sept. 2003, final ed.: A20. Lexis Nexis Academic. Penn State U. 5 Sept. 2003.

#### Example 2: An anonymous magazine article from ProQuest Direct:

"Cooling Trend in Antarctica." Futurist May-June 2002: 15. ProQuest Direct. Penn State U. 5 Sept. 2003.

#### Example 3: A scholarly journal article from JSTOR:

Moses, Cat. "The Blues Aesthetic in Toni Morrison's the Bluest Eye." African American Review 33 (1999): 623-637. JSTOR. Penn State U. 5 Sept. 2003.

**Note: ONLY add the database information if you got the FULL TEXT of the article online, not just the citation.**

## Citing Web Sources in MLA Style

### A Complete Web Site

Begin with the title of the Web site (underlined), name of the editor of the project (if given), electronic publication information (version number if relevant, date of publication or latest update, and name of any sponsoring institution or organization), date of access, and network address.

#### Examples:

Thomas: Legislative Information on the Internet. 2003. Lib. of Congress, Washington. 5 Sept. 2003  
<<http://thomas.loc.gov/>>.

Postmodern Culture. Ed. Lisa Brawley and James F. English. 2002. 1 Oct. 2002  
<<http://www.iath.virginia.edu/pmc/>>.

### A Document within a Larger Web Site

Begin with the author's name and, in quotation marks, the title of the work. If no author is given, begin with the title of the material, in quotation marks. Continue with the relevant information for the Web site as a whole, the date of access and the URL. If needed, break long URLs at a slash for more than one line.

#### Examples:

"Escape to an Australian Oasis." CNN.com. 2003. Cable News Network. 5 Sept. 2003  
<<http://www.cnn.com/2003/TRAVEL/DESTINATIONS/09/05/australia.bakers.creek.ap/index.html>>.

"This Day in History: July 26." HistoryChannel.com. 2003. History Channel. 5 Sept. 2003  
<<http://www.historychannel.com/>>. Path: This Day in History.

"Alcoholism." Medlineplus Health Information. 2003. U.S. National Library of Medicine and National Institutes of Health. 5 Sept. 2003 <<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/alcoholism.html>>.

Ross, Don. "Game Theory." Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy. Ed. Edward N. Zalta. Summer 2003 ed. Center for the Study of Language and Information, Stanford U. 5 Sept. 2003  
<<http://plato.stanford.edu/archives/sum2003/entries/game-theory/>>.

Stowe, Harriet Beecher. "Sojourner Truth, the Libyan Sibyl." Atlantic Monthly April 1863: 473-481.  
Electronic Text Center. Ed. David Seaman. Alderman Library, U. of Virginia. 19 June 2002.  
<<http://etext.lib.virginia.edu/toc/modeng/public/StoSojo.html>>

### An Article in a Free Online Scholarly Journal (NOT from a subscription database – see other side for that)

Butler, Darrell L., and Martin Sellbom. "Barriers to Adopting Technology for Teaching and Learning." Educause Quarterly 25.2 (2002): 22-28. Educause. 3 Aug. 2002 <<http://www.educause.edu/ir/library/pdf/eqm0223.pdf>>.

#### Additional hints:

- ◆ You are expected to **look at the full page and any links** from the page to a home page or other explanatory material in order to determine the date and any author information available for the page you are citing. If no date is found, use n.d. (for no date).
- ◆ More bibliography examples can be found in the **MLA Handbook, section 5.9**
- ◆ To use **parenthetical references** in a paper, MLA recommends author and page number, e.g., (Smith 42). If no author, use the first significant word in the title. If no pages (such as in Web sites) leave out the paging. For more parenthetical documentation examples see **section 6 of the MLA Handbook**.