

Modern Language Association, 9th Edition

Modern Language Association (MLA) is often used in history, arts & humanities, and physical, natural, and social sciences courses. Although occasionally professors might ask for footnotes, ST requires that essays are written with in-text citations. According to Owl Purdue, “MLA discourages extensive use of explanatory or digressive notes.” MLA style does allow authors to use endnotes or footnotes for bibliographic notes to refer to other publications readers might consult. For example, the author might write a bibliographic note such as “On the problems related to repressed memory recovery, see Wollens 120-35; for a contrasting view, see Pyle 43; Johnson, Hull, Snyder 21-35; Krieg 78-91.”

ST requires in-text citations. This guide provides examples of how to write in-text citations and proper references in the Works Cited page.

According to *Modern Language Association*, “A system of documentation directs readers to the source of a quotation, paraphrased idea, fact, or other borrowed material. References are formatted in a standard way so that they can be quickly understood by all, just like a common language. Think, for example, about mathematical symbols: the plus sign tells you to add numbers, and the minus sign tells you to subtract them. In the same way, the various elements in a documentation system tell you how to understand and use information (e.g., how to find the source or evaluate claims). A documentation system thus gives writers a comprehensible, verifiable means of referring to one another’s work. A documentation system also allows writers to seek out relevant publications in the course of research so that they can learn from and build on the work of others. By giving credit to the precursors whose ideas they work with, scholars allow future researchers interested in the history of a conversation to trace the line of inquiry back to its beginning” (136).

MLA 9: Abbreviated Months

Jan. – Feb. – Mar. – Apr. – May – June – July – Aug. – Sept. – Oct. – Nov. – Dec.

Books and eBooks

| Material Type | In-Text Citation | Works Cited Reference |
|---|-----------------------|--|
| Single Author | (Diamond 45) | Diamond, Jared M. <i>Guns, Germs, and Steel: The Fates of Human Societies</i> . W. W. Norton & Company, 1999. |
| Two authors | (Wykes and Gunter 99) | Wykes, Maggie, and Barrie Gunter. <i>The Media and Body Image: If Looks Could Kill</i> . Sage, 2005. |
| Three or more authors | (Barnard et al. 77) | Barnard, Sara, et al. <i>Floored: When Seven Lives Collide</i> . Pan Macmillan, 2018. |
| Author in languages that the surname appears before first name (e.g., | (Cho 56) | Cho Nam-Joo. <i>Kim Jiyoung, Born 1982: A Novel</i> . Translated by Jamie Chang, Liveright Publishing Corp., 2020. |

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| Chinese, Korean, etc.) | | |
| One volume from multi-volume works | (Damrosch et al. 47) | Damrosch, David, et al. <i>The Longman Anthology of World Literature</i> . 2nd ed., vol. C, Pearson Education, 2009. |
| Editor, translator, or compiler | (Salmons 334) | Salmons, Janet, editor. <i>Cases in Online Interview Research</i> . SAGE Publications, 2011. |
| Author(s) with editor(s) or translator(s) | (Marx 597) | Marx, Karl. <i>Capital: The Process of Capitalist Production</i> . Edited and translated by Frederick Engels et al. e-artnow, 2018. |
| Corporate or organization as author | (United Nations 76) | United Nations. <i>Consequences of Rapid Population Growth in Developing Countries</i> . Taylor and Francis, 1991. |
| Government publication | (United States, Congress, House, Committee on the Judiciary 14) | United States, Congress, House, Committee on the Judiciary. <i>Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure, December 1, 2015</i> . Government Printing Office, 2015. |
| Chapter of an edited book | (Rimm 121). | Rimm, Sylvia. "The Characteristics Approach: Identification and Beyond." <i>Identification of Students for Gifted and Talented Programs</i> , edited by Joseph S. Renzulli and Sally M. Reis, Corwin Press, 2004, pp. 117–130. |
| Introduction, Preface, Foreword, or Afterword | (Duncan xiii) | Duncan, Hugh Dalziel. Introduction. <i>Permanence and Change: An Anatomy of Purpose</i> , by Kenneth Burke, 1935, 3rd ed., U of California P, 1984, pp. xiii–xliv. |
| Edition other than the first | (Lester 128) | Lester, Paul Martin. <i>Visual Communication: Images with Messages</i> . 8th ed., Lex Publishing, 2020. |
| Reprint editions | (Hawthorne 51) | Hawthorne, Nathaniel. <i>The Scarlet Letter</i> . Ed. John Williams. 1850. London: Random House, 1999. |

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| eBook | (Calhoun 53) Note: When no page numbers are listed on an eBook, cite the chapter number instead in within the in-text citation. Example: (Smith ch. 2) | Calhoun, Craig. <i>Sociology in America: A History</i> . University of Chicago Press, 2008. ProQuest Ebook Central, ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/up/detail.action?docID=408466&pq-origsite=primo. |
| Dictionary | ("Ideology" 369) | "Ideology." <i>The American Heritage Dictionary</i> , 3rd ed., Dell, 1997, p. 369. |
| Encyclopedia or dictionary from library database: Known author | (Runggaldier) | Runggaldier, Astrid. "Holmul." Grove Art Online, Oxford UP, 12 July 2021. Oxford Art Online. https://doi.org/10.1093/oao/9781884446054.013.90000138574 . Note: While 'http://' and 'https://' should be omitted from webpage links, they must be included for DOIs. |
| Encyclopedia or dictionary from library database: Unknown author | ("Racism") | "Racism." <i>Britannica Academic</i> , 2013. <i>Encyclopædia Britannica</i> . |
| Encyclopedia or dictionary from a website: Known author | (McLean) | McLean, Steve. "The Tragically Hip." <i>The Canadian Encyclopedia</i> , 26 Mar. 2015, www.thecanadianencyclopedia.com/en/article/the-tragically-hip-emc . Accessed 27 June 2021. |
| Encyclopedia or dictionary from a website: Unknown author | ("Filibuster") | "Filibuster." <i>Oxford English Dictionary</i> , Oxford University Press, 2019, oed.com/view/Entry/70179?redirectedFrom=fillibuster#eid . Accessed 30 May 2022. |
| Wikipedia | "Body Image" | "Body Image." <i>Wikipedia: The Free Encyclopedia</i> , Wikimedia Foundation, 16 June 2016, 7:41 pm, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Body_image . Accessed 6 June 2022. |
| Bible | (Bible, Gen. 5.2) | <i>The Bible: Authorized King James Version</i> . Edited by Robert Carroll and Stephen Prickett, Oxford University Press, 2008. |

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| Bible (online version) | (<i>ESV Bible</i> , Matt. 1.2) | <i>The ESV Bible</i> . Crossway, 2001, www.esv.org/ . |
| Theses/ dissertations (e-copy) | (Dennis 78) | Dennis, Abigail Sophie. <i>Feasts, Friends, and Feminists: The Performance of Aberrant Female Appetite in Neo-Victorian Fiction</i> . 2008. U of Queensland, MPhil thesis. UQ eSpace, espace.library.uq.edu.au/view/UQ151848 . |
| Journal Articles | | |
| Material Type | In-Text Citation | Works Cited Reference |
| Journal article in print | (Goldswain 54) | Goldswain, Philip. "State and Theatre Centre." <i>Architecture Australia</i> , vol. 100, no. 2, 2011, pp. 49–57. |
| Online Journal article (with DOI) | (Denham and Spokes 740) | Denham, Jack, and Matthew Spokes, "Thinking Outside the 'Murder Box': Virtual Violence and Pro-social Action in Video Games." <i>The British Journal of Criminology</i> , vol. 59, no. 3, 2019, pp. 737–755. <i>Oxford Academic</i> , https://doi.org/10.1093/bjc/azy067 . |
| Online journal article (with a URL and access date) | (Read 779) | Note: MLA 9 requires the name of the Database Read, Richard. "Vico, Virginia Woolf and Adrian Stoke's Autobiographies: Fantasy, Providence and Isolation in Post War British Aesthetics." <i>Art History</i> , vol. 35, no. 4, 2012, pp. 778–795. www.academia.edu/9416288/_Vico_Virginia_Woolf_and_Adrian_Stokes_s_Autobiographies_Fantasy_Providence_and_Isolation_in_Post_War_British_Aesthetics_2010 . Accessed 4 June 2022. |
| Journal article with two authors | (Larr and Neidell 99) | Larr, Allison S., and Matthew Neidell. "Pollution and Climate Change." <i>The Future of Children</i> , vol. 26, no. 1, Spring 2016, pp. 93–113. <i>Academic Search Complete</i> . |

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| Articles with three or more authors | (Bay et al. 468) | Bay, Rachael A., et al. "Predicting Responses to Contemporary Environmental Change Using Evolutionary Response Architectures." <i>American Naturalist</i> , vol. 189, no. 5, 2017, pp. 463–73. <i>Chicago Journals</i> , https://doi.org/10.1086/691233 . |
| Conference proceeding paper: Print | (Mann 174) | Mann, Jill. "Chaucer and the 'Woman Question.'" <i>This Nobel Craft: Proceedings of the Tenth Research Symposium of the Dutch and Belgian University Teachers of Old and Middle English and Historical Linguistics</i> , Utrecht, 19-20 January 1989, edited by Erik Kooper, Rodopi, 1991, pp. 173–88. |
| Conference proceeding paper: Electronic copy | (Bay 176) | Bay, Philip H. "Social and Environmental Dimensions in Ecologically Sustainable Design: Towards a Methodology of Ranking Levels of Social Interactions in Semi-open and Open Spaces in Dense Residential Environments in Singapore." <i>Subtropical Cities 2011: Subtropical Urbanism Beyond Climate Change</i> , Florida Atlantic University, 8-11 March, 2011, pp. 162–176. www.subtropicalcities2011.com/pdf2/162%20Bay.pdf . |
| Newspapers, Magazines, Websites, Multimedia, Lectures | | |
| Material Type | In-Text Citation | Works Cited Reference |
| Newspaper/magazine article with one author (online) | (Newby para. 7) | Newby, Jake. "Anthony Bourdain Mural on Pensacola Business Promotes Suicide Prevention." <i>Pensacola News Journal</i> , 19 June 2018, www.pnj.com/story/news/local/2018/06/19/anthony-bourdain-mural-pensacola-promotes-suicide-awareness/710017002/ . Accessed 10 May 2022. |
| Newspaper/magazine article with two authors (online) | (Kochhar and Sechopoulous para. 11) | Kochhar, Rakesh, and Stella Sechopoulos. "Black and Hispanic Americans, Those with Less Education Are More Likely to Fall Out of The Middle Class Each Year." <i>Pew Research Center</i> , 10 May 2022, www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2022/05/10/black-and-hispanic-americans-those-with-less-education-are-more-likely-to-fall-out-of-the-middle-class-each-year/ . Accessed 4 June 2022. |
| Newspaper/magazine article with three or more authors (online) | (Pulver et al. para. 13) | Pulver, Dinah Voyles, et al. "Hundreds of U.S. Cities Adopted Climate Plans. Few Have Met the Goals, But It's Not Too Late." <i>USA Today</i> , 10 Aug. 2021, www.usatoday.com/story/news/investigations/2021/08/10/hundreds-u- |

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| | | s-cities-already-adopted-climate-plans-what-happened/5541049001/. Accessed 12 Sept. 2022. |
| Newspaper/ magazine with no author (online) | (“Russia Eyes Gas-for-Rubles” para. 3) | “Russia Eyes Gas-for-Rubles Template for Foreign Eurobond Payments.” <i>Reuters</i> , 31 May 2022, www.reuters.com/world/europe/russia-service-foreign-debt-using-gas-for-roubles-type-scheme-vedomosti-2022-05-30/. Accessed 11 Aug. 2022. |
| Webpage | (Al-Arshani para. 3) | Al-Arshani, Sarah. “A French Parkour Group is Combating Light Pollution by Using their Acrobatic Skills to Shut Off Street Lights.” <i>Insider</i> , 4 Jan. 2022, www.insider.com/french-parkour-group-uses-skills-to-turn-off-street-lights-2022-1. Accessed 1 July 2022. |
| Blog entry | (Willoughby para. 20) | Willoughby, Sara. “Why Teenagers Need Solitude (Even Extroverts).” <i>The Reb</i> , 27 May 2022, www.therebelution.com/blog/2022/05/why-teenagers-need-solitude-even-extroverts/. Accessed 5 June 2022. |
| Webpage with no author or date | (“Early Enlightenment” para. 5) | “Early Enlightenment 1650-1750.” <i>Environmental History</i> , environmentalhistory.org/enlightenment/early-enlightenment-1700-50/ Accessed 4 June 2022. |
| Government document from website: Author and publisher the same | (<i>Highlights</i> 4) | <i>Highlights from the Competition Bureau’s Workshop on Emerging Competition Issues</i> . Competition Bureau of Canada, 4 Mar. 2016, www.competitionbureau.gc.ca/eic/site/cb-bc.nsf/vwapj/cb-Workshop-Summary-Report-e.pdf/\$FILE/cb-Workshop-Summary-Report-e.pdf. Accessed 6 July 2016. |
| Government document from website: Author and publisher differ | (Select Standing Committee 15) | Select Standing Committee on Children and Youth. <i>Children and Youth with Neuro-Diverse Special Needs</i> . Legislative Assembly of British Columbia, Oct. 2019, https://www.leg.bc.ca/content/CommitteeDocuments/41st-parliament/4th-session/cay/Report_SSC-CY_41-4-1_Neuro-Diverse-Special-Needs.pdf. Accessed 1 Sept. 2021. |
| Facebook post | (World Wildlife Fund) | World Wildlife Fund. “Five Things to Know on Shark Awareness Day.” <i>Facebook</i> , 14 July 2020, www.facebook.com/worldwildlifefund/videos/745925785979440/. Note: Since Facebook posts can be lengthy, describe the post instead. |
| Twitter tweet | (Timberlake) | Timberlake, Justin [@jtimberlake]. “USA! USA!!!” <i>Twitter</i> , 16 June 2014, twitter.com/jtimberlake/status/478689830667186176. |

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| Online video (YouTube) when creator is known | (Hill 2:43) | Hill, Kyle. "Is Ant-Man Secretly the Most Powerful Avenger?" <i>YouTube</i> , uploaded by Because Science, 5 July 2018, www.youtube.com/watch?v=a7DryiA60nY . |
| Online video (YouTube) when creator unknown | ("Warning!" 11:03) | "Warning! Agenda 2030 is Being Accelerated..." <i>YouTube</i> , uploaded by Call For An Uprising, 13 May 2022, www.youtube.com/watch?v=U-fwfoPrhtU . |
| Film/documentary | (<i>Brazil</i> 29:45–32:37) | <i>Brazil</i> . Directed by Terry Gilliam, performances by Jonathan Pryce and Katherine Helmond, director's cut, Embassy International Pictures, 1985. |
| Movie or documentary from video-sharing platform | (<i>Night</i> 18:25–40) | <i>Night of the Living Dead</i> . Directed by George A. Romero, Image Ten, 1968. <i>YouTube</i> , uploaded by American Film Institute, 26 Aug. 2014, www.youtube.com/watch?v=vZy6P72Uu3Y . |
| Podcasts | (Poor and Woods) | Poor, Nigel and Earlonne Woods, hosts. "So Long." <i>Ear Hustle</i> , season 2, episode 19, Radiotopia, 20 June 2018, www.earhustlesq.com/episodes/2018/6/20/so-long . |
| Song recording (composer emphasis) | (Prokofiev 12:03) | Prokofiev, Sergey. <i>Symphony No. 1 in D, Op. 25 'Classical.'</i> Perf. Scottish National Orchestra, Cond. Neeme Järvi, Chandos, 1985. CD. |
| Song recording (emphasizing musician) | (Fripp 1:21-45) | Fripp, Robert, guitarist. "St. Elmo's Fire." <i>Another Green World</i> , by Brian Eno. Island Records, 1975. |
| Track from a sound recording | (Lamar 3:55) | Lamar, Kendrick. "Fear." <i>Damn</i> . Top Dawg Entertainment, 2017. CD. |
| Music recording (online) | (Dylan 1:14) | Dylan, Bob. "Blowin' in the Wind." <i>Spotify</i> . open.spotify.com/track/18GiV1BaXzPVYpp9rmOg0E . |
| Song lyrics found online | (Lennon) | Lennon, John. "Imagine." Genius, genius.com/John-lennon-imagine-lyrics . Accessed 4 June 2022. |
| Music scores | (Copeland 88) | Copeland, Aaron. <i>Concerto, Clarinet and String Orchestra (with Harp and Piano). Reduction for Clarinet and Piano</i> . Boosey & Hawkes, 1950. Musical Score. |

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| Lecture notes | (Ward) | Ward, William. "Emily Dickinson." ENG141 English Composition II, 9 Oct. 2018, Warren County Community College, Washington, NJ. Lecture. |
| Recorded speech | (Allende 7:08) | Allende, Isabel. "Tales of Passion." <i>TED: Ideas Worth Spreading</i> , Mar. 2007, www.ted.com/talks/isabel_allende_tales_of_passion . |
| Lecture or speech attended by student | (Smith) | Smith, John. "The Causes and Consequences of the Spanish Civil War." University of Chicago, Chicago, IL, 25 Apr. 2019. Lecture. |
| Image from book | (Van Gogh 666) | Van Gogh, Vincent. <i>Night Café</i> . 1889, Yale University Gallery, New Haven. <i>Gardener's Art Through the Ages</i> v. II, 13 ed., by Fred S. Kleiner, Wardsworth, 1994, p. 666. |
| Image found online | (Delacroix) | Delacroix, Eugène. <i>Liberty Leading the People (July 28, 1830)</i> . 1830. oil on canvas. Musée du Louvre, Paris, France. Artstor, library.artstor.org/asset/LESSING_ART_1039490420 . |
| Image caption (journal article) | Fig. 1. Cox, George C. "Walt Whitman, head-and-shoulders portrait, facing right, wearing hat." 1887, Library of Congress Prints & Photographs Division. By Christian Winman, <i>Atlantic</i> , vol. 298, no. 5, Dec. 2006, p. 75. | |
| Image caption (online source) | Fig. 2. Da Vinci, Leonardo. <i>Last Supper</i> . 1498, Santa Maria della Grazie, Milan. "The Last Supper," by Harris, Beth and Steven Zucker, <i>Khan Academy</i> , 2015, www.khanacademy.org/humanities/ap-art-history/early-europe-and-colonial-americas/renaissance-art-europe-ap/a/leonardo-last-supper . Accessed 14 July 2018. | |
| Painting | Ping, Luo. <i>Drinking in the Bamboo Garden</i> . 1773, Metropolitan Museum of Art, www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/49254 . | |

Painting caption example



Van Gogh, Vincent. *The Starry Night*. 1889, Museum of Modern Art, New York.

Visual figure

Fig. 1. Pedestrians walking by street art graffiti of the word love from “Pedestrian Street Art Protest,” 26 Dec. 2016, pxhere.com/en/photo/10722. Accessed 29 Nov. 2017.

Visual figure example



Fig. 1. Pedestrians walking by street art graffiti of the word love from “Pedestrian Street Art Protest,” 26 Dec. 2016, pxhere.com/en/photo/10722. Accessed 29 Nov. 2017.

Table (from journal)

Source: Mohr, Andrea. “Family Variables Associated with Peer Victimization.” *Swiss Journal of Psychology*, vol. 65, no. 2, 2006, pp. 107–116, Psychology Collection, <https://doi.org/10.1024/1421-0185.65.2.107>.

Table example

Table 1

Variables in determining victims and aggressors

| Variables | Non-aggressive victims | Aggressive victims | Non-victimized aggressors |
|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Mother's affection | $t = -2.69$ ($df = 80, p = .01$) | $t = -2.16$ ($df = 33, p = .04$) | $t = -1.94$ ($df = 71, p = .06$) |
| Father's affection | $t = -.97$ ($df = 73, p = .34$) | $t = -1.58$ ($df = 31, p = .13$) | $t = -3.16$ ($df = 69, p = .00$) |
| Family conflict | $t = 2.03$ ($df = 73, p = .05$) | $t = 2.12$ ($df = 31, p = .04$) | $t = 3.38$ ($df = 67, p = .00$) |
| Family violence | $t = 2.52$ ($df = 81, p = .01$) | $t = 2.97$ ($df = 33, p = .01$) | $t = 2.10$ ($df = 72, p = .04$) |
| Internal. problem behavior | $t = 4.87$ ($df = 81, p = .00$) | $t = 3.62$ ($df = 33, p = .00$) | $t = 3.08$ ($df = 72, p = .00$) |
| Aggressive reaction to peer aggression | $t = -.23$ ($df = 81, p = .82$) | $t = 1.57$ ($df = 33, p = .14$) | $t = 6.35$ ($df = 72, p = .00$) |
| Submissive reaction to peer aggression | $t = 3.06$ ($df = 81, p = .00$) | $t = .12$ ($df = 33, p = .91$) | $t = -.96$ ($df = 72, p = .34$) |

Source: Mohr, Andrea. "Family Variables Associated With Peer Victimization." *Swiss Journal of Psychology*, vol. 65, no. 2, 2006, pp. 107-116, *Psychology Collection*, <https://doi.org/10.1024/1421-0185.65.2.107>.

Table caption
(online)

Source: "Tuition costs of colleges and universities." *Fast Facts, U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics*, 2019, nces.ed.gov/fastfacts/display.asp?id=76.