This guide is a brief introduction to some of the most common types of citations using MLA style. The rules of citing materials using MLA style are developed by the Modern Language Association (MLA). For specific examples not included in this guide, please consult the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers, 7th edition, 2009. Copies of the MLA Handbook are available in the reference stacks at the Cypress College Library.

Citing Sources within the Text

You must indicate to your readers not only what sources you used in writing your paper, but also where in the work you found the material. You give this information by inserting a parenthetical citation in your paper wherever you incorporate someone else’s words, facts, or ideas. Usually, all you need is the author’s last name and a page number.

The proliferation of VCRs in people’s homes meant that “by the mid-1980s features shot directly on video were the standard” (Thomas 52).

List of Works Cited

- The list of works cited appears at the end of the paper, on a new page, continuing the page numbers of the text.
- Center the title, Works Cited, an inch from the top of the page.
- Use double spacing throughout.
- Begin each entry at the left margin.
- If an entry runs more than one line, indent the subsequent lines one-half inch from the margin.
- For titles of works, capitalize the first word and all principal words.
- Alphabetize entries by the author’s last name or, if no author, by the first main word in the title.

Common Print Sources

**Book with a Single Author (See Section 5.5.2)**

Author’s Last Name, First Name. Title of the Book. City of Publication: Name of Publisher, Year of Publication. Print.


**Book with Two Authors (See Section 5.5.4)**

Author’s Last Name, First Name, and Second Author’s First Name Last Name. Title of the Book. City of Publication: Name of Publisher, Year of Publication. Print.


**Book with Four or More Authors (See Section 5.5.4)**

First Author’s Last Name, First Name, et al. Title of the Book. City of Publication: Name of Publisher, Year of Publication. Print.

**Chapter, Essay, or Other Work that Appears in an Anthology (See Section 5.5.6)**

Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of the Work." Title of the Anthology or Book Collection. Ed. Editor's First Name Last Name. City of Publication: Name of Publisher, Year. Page Number - Page Number. Print.


**Article in a Well-Known General Encyclopedia (See Section 5.5.7)**

Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of the Article." Title of the Encyclopedia. Edition (if given) and the Year of Publication. Print.


**Article in a Specialized Encyclopedia or Dictionary (See Section 5.5.7)**

Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of the Article." Title of the Encyclopedia. Ed. Followed by the Name of the Editor. Edition (if given). Volume. City of Publication: Name of Publisher, Year of Publication. Print.


Note: Look for the name of the author at the beginning or end of each encyclopedia article. Sometimes only initials are given. You may have to check the list of contributors for the author's full name. If an author's name is not given, begin your citation with the name of the article.

**Article in a Scholarly Journal (See Section 5.4.2)**


**Article in a Magazine (See Section 5.4.6)**

Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of the Article." Title of the Magazine Day Month Year of Publication: Page Number-Page Number. Print.


**Article in a Newspaper (See Section 5.4.5)**

Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of the Article." Title of the Newspaper Day Month Year of Publication: First Page Number+. Print.


Note: Where a newspaper article continues on to non-consecutive pages, just list the first page number with a “+” after it, e.g., “A10+”.
## Electronic Sources

### Electronic Book Via NetLibrary (See Section 5.6.2)

Author’s Last Name, First Name. Title of the Book. City of Publication: Name of Publisher, Year of Publication. Name of the Electronic Book Provider. eBook. Day Month Year of Access.


### Article from a Website (See Section 5.6.2)

Author’s Last Name, First Name. “Title of the Document.” Title of the Website. Publisher of the Website, Day Month Year of Publication. Web. Day Month Year of Access. <URL>.


**Note:** With the 7th edition of the handbook, including URLs of given websites is now optional unless your instructor requires them.

### Article from a Scholarly Journal Published Online Only (5.6.3)


**Note:** Use “n. pag.” when the online scholarly journal does not have page numbers.

### Article from a Periodical Publication Accessed Via a Subscription Database (5.6.4)

**Database within EBSCOhost (e.g., Academic Search Premier)**


**Note:** The above example is for a scholarly journal article from the EBSCOhost database. For magazine and newspaper articles, see the format in examples below.

**CQ Researcher**


**NewsBank: America’s News Magazines**

## NewsBank: America's Newspapers


## ProQuest Newspapers


## CountryWatch


## Entry in a Non-periodical Publication Accessed Via an Online Subscription Database (Section 5.6.2)

Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of the Work." Title of the Publication. Ed. Editor's First Name Initial Last Name. City of Publication: Name of Publisher, Year. Page Number-Page Number. Name of Database. Web. Day Month Year of Access.

**Gale Virtual Reference Library**


**Gale Literature Resource Center**


**Opposing Viewpoints**


## Additional Help

Current Cypress College students have access to Noodlebib, a comprehensive tool for creating bibliographies in a variety of formats, including MLA. (See the library’s website: [http://old.cypresscollege.edu/~library/](http://old.cypresscollege.edu/~library/), then select “Articles”→“Noodlebib.” To set up an account, you will need a password, which you can get at the Reference Desk.

Billy Pashaie 8/20/09
Cypress College Library