

KYLE BISHOP

MLA-STYLE WORKS CITED PAGE

MLA style provides a flexible, modular works cited page, which is a detailed and alphabetized list of all secondary sources quoted or paraphrased in an essay, article, or research paper.

Works Cited Page Format

- The works cited page is the last page (or pages) in a document and begins on a new page.
- The page is numbered sequentially as part of the document.
- The title “Works Cited” appears centered at the top of the page; this title is **not** presented in quotes, bolded, underlined, italicized, or rendered in a different or larger font.
- All entries are double spaced and formatted with a hanging indent (the first line is not indented; all other lines are indented ½ inch).
- The format of the entries is determined by the *MLA Handbook* (the most common entries are explained and illustrated below).
- Entries must be alphabetized by author’s last name; if no author is listed, the source is alphabetized by title (ignoring the articles *A*, *An*, and *The*).

General Entry Format

- Each portion of a works cited entry must be followed by a period.
- Single author names appear with the last name first, followed by a comma, the author’s first name, and any initial(s); professional or courtesy titles are not used.
- When citing two or more works by the same author, the author’s full name appears in the first entry only; thereafter, three hyphens are used.
- If a work has multiple authors, only the first listed author name appears with the last name first; the other authors are listed normally.
- Article and Web page titles are capitalized and appear inside quotation marks.
- Book, journal, magazine, film, and Web site titles are capitalized and appear in italics.
- Each entry must also include the medium of publication.
- Unusual or problematic entries should be looked up in the *MLA Handbook*; when in doubt, writers should make an educated guess and follow the guide’s models.

Periodical Print Sources

- The basic format requires the author(s); the article title; the journal, its publication information, and the inclusive page numbers; and the medium of publication.
- For scholarly journals, publication information includes the volume and issue numbers (two digits separated by a period), the year in parentheses, and the inclusive page numbers after a colon; i.e., 28.3 (2009): 23–25.
- For all other periodicals, publication information includes just the date (rendered consistently and with the month abbreviated), a colon, and the inclusive page numbers; i.e., 28 Jan. 2008: 3–4.

Nonperiodical Print Sources

- The basic format requires the author(s); the title of the work; the city, name of publisher, and year of publication; and the medium of publication.
- Publication information includes the first listed city of publication, a colon, the publisher's name (with "University" and "Press" abbreviated as "U" and "P"), a comma, and the most recent copyright year; i.e., Chicago: U of Chicago P, 2008.
- Books may also include editor and edition information (immediately following the title).

Web Publications

- The basic format for a Web-only source requires the name of the author, compiler, or editor (if available); the title of the Web page; the title of the Web site (if different); the publisher or sponsor of the site (or "N.p." if none), a comma, and the date of publication (or "n.d." if none); the medium of publication; and the date of access.
- The basic format for print publications appearing on a Web site, an online journal, or a periodical article in a Web database follows those for print sources (as described above), but instead of listing "Print" as the medium of publication, the entry includes the name of the database or Web site, the medium of publication, and the date of access.
- If the original source included page numbers, but the Web version does not, the entry must include "n. pag." where the inclusive page numbers would have appeared.

For other kinds of sources, particularly non-text sources, one should consult the *MLA Handbook*.

Example Works Cited Page

The next page illustrates an MLA-style works cited page with the following types of sources: a book, a reference entry, a print article on a Web site, an article from a scholarly journal, a Web page, an online journal article, a newspaper article, a magazine article, a periodical article from a database, a work in an anthology, a DVD, a corporate author, and an interview.

Works Cited

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