MLA Style

CORE ELEMENTS

MLA style is a set of guidelines established by the Modern Language Association for presenting written research. See: MLA Handbook. 8th ed., MLA, 2016.

Copies of this handbook are available at the LCC Library and are located on the 2nd floor (REF LB 2369.G53 2016) and 4th floor (LB 2369.G53 2016). Information is also available at:

- style.mla.org/
- lcc.edu/library/help/citation/

Author.
Format: Last Name, First Name (MLA 21-22).
Example: Beethoven, Ludwig V.

Title of Source.
Title of the journal article, book, collection of essays. The title is put in quotation marks if it is part of a larger work, it is italicized if it is independent (i.e. title of a book) (MLA 25-29).
Example: “Symphony No. 3 in E-Flat Major, Op. 55, “Eroica”.”

Title of Container,
What the source was found in. Example: the title of the periodical, the name of a CD, the name of a television series, the title of a book that is a collections of essays (MLA 30-36).
Example: Beethoven: Symphony No. 3 / Sibelius: Symphony No. 7,

Other Contributors,
Other people credited with creating the source. Include the description of the role. Example: edited by, translated by, directed by (MLA 37-38).
Example: conducted by Georg Tintner,

Version,
Example: Tintner ed.,

Number,
Volume and/or issue number (if available). Could also be a TV episode or comic book number (MLA 39-40).
Example: vol. 6,

Publisher,
The organization responsible for making the source public (MLA 40-42).
Example: Naxos,

Publication Date,
Write the most recent, full date, as you find it (MLA 42-46).
Example: 9 Oct. 2003,

Location,
Where the source is. Can be a page number, DOI, or URL, name of a museum, city, or a street name. Use p. for a single page and pp. for a page range (MLA 46-50).
Example: Naxos Music Library,

Location of container 2.
Completed Citation

Scholarly Abbreviations
Source: “MLA Abbreviations.” *Purdue Online Writing Lab*, 2018, owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/11/

List common scholarly abbreviations as they appear below:

- **anon.** for anonymous
- **p.** for page, **pp.** for pages
- **c. or ca.** for circa
- **par.** for paragraph when page numbers are unavailable
- **ch.** for chapter
- **qtd. in** for quoted in
- **dept.** for department
- **rev.** for revised
- **ed.** for edition
- **sec. or sect.** for section
- **et al.** for multiple names (translates to “and others”)
- **ser.** for series
- **fwd.** for foreword
- **trans.** for translation
- **jour.** for journal
- **U** for University (for example, Purdue U)
- **lib.** for library
- **UP** for University Press (for example, Yale UP or U of California P)
- **no.** for number
- **var.** for variant
- **P** for Press (used for academic presses)
- **vol.** for volume

Publisher Names
Cite publishers’ names in full as they appear on title or copyright pages. For example, cite the entire name for a publisher (e.g. W. W. Norton or Liveright Publishing).

Exceptions are listed below:
- **Omit articles and business abbreviations** (like Corp., Inc., Co., and Ltd.).
- **Use the acronym of the publisher if the company is commonly known by that abbreviation** (e.g. MLA, ERIC, GPO). For publishers who are not known by an abbreviation, write the entire name.
- **Use only U and P when referring to university presses** (e.g. Cambridge UP or U of Chicago P)

Time Designations
Remember to follow common trends in abbreviating time and location within citations. Month names longer than four letters used in journal and magazine citations:

- **Jan.**, **Feb.**, **Mar.**, **Apr.**, **May**, **June**, **July**, **Aug.**, **Sept.**, **Oct.**, **Nov.**, **Dec.**

Geographic Names
Use geographic names of states and countries. Abbreviate country, province, and state names.

- **Logan, UT; Manchester, Eng.; Sherbrooke, QC**