MLA Style

IN-TEXT CITATION

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/

BASIC FORMAT AUTHOR PAGE STYLE

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In addition to having a works cited list at the end of your paper, you must give credit to sources that you use within your paper. Usually the author's last name and page number are enough for the reader to identify the complete reference in the works cited. See the examples that follow for variations of this general rule.

Author's name in text

If you cite the author's name in your paper, cite only page numbers in parentheses at the end of the sentence:

Smith has compared these authors (203-05).

Author's name in reference

If you do not cite the author's name in your paper, then include both the author's name and page numbers in parentheses at the end of the sentence:

These authors have been compared elsewhere (Smith 203-05).

No author listed (cite by title)

When there is no author listed for a work, include the first few words of the title followed by page numbers, if available, in parentheses at the end of the sentence. Italicize longer works, such as book titles, plays, or entire websites. Put shorter works in quotation marks.

Although NBC will not air liquor ads until after 9 p.m. to reduce impact on young viewers, the American Medical Association believes this advertising will affect young people (“Liquor Advertising”).

Works Cited


Citing Part of a Work (with and without page numbers)

Research databases provide access to articles in two different formats:

- **PDF** is an exact copy of the article as it appears in the print journal and includes page numbers.
- **HTML** is a format for online reading and does not include page numbers.

If available, use the PDF version because it includes page numbers.

**Page Numbers**

When you quote or paraphrase a specific part of a print or online source with page numbers, give the relevant page numbers in parentheses at the end of the sentence:

Brown wrote, “Time management is an important survival skill” (27).

**Without Page Numbers**

When you quote or paraphrase a specific passage in an online source without page numbers, no page numbers are needed:

According to Jones, binge drinking is a serious problem.

**Citing an Entire Work**

When citing an entire work rather than part of a work, include the author’s name in the text, not in a parenthetical reference:

Freeman Patterson provides a good example of a professional photographer’s website.

Fuller’s *Julius Caesar* examines the famous Roman’s roles as soldier, scholar, and tyrant.