Modern Language Association (MLA) Basics

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This handout is based on the Modern Language Association handbook: *MLA Handbook, Ninth Edition*. It is not meant to serve as a substitute for the handbook but as an overview of the most common formatting guidelines.

MLA format is a system that specifies the way academic papers should be set up and how sources within the paper should be cited. This format is used most frequently in the fields of English and other Humanities. It is always recommended, however, that students ask their professors which format they would prefer that their students use.

The purpose of MLA format is to give appropriate credit to originators of work, enable readers to find original sources, provide a model for writing conventions, and preserve academic integrity. The ninth edition of the *MLA Handbook* was developed to streamline the citation process and make citing new types of documents easier. The Modern Language Association realized that since there are many ways to correctly cite the same source, citations should be formatted in a way that is most useful to both the writer and the reader.

**Academic Integrity**

If appropriate credit is not given, plagiarism is a concern. The College of Saint Rose Catalog of Undergraduate Studies defines plagiarism as: including but not limited to “Purchasing, copying, down-loading, printing, or paraphrasing another’s book, article, paper, speech, exam, portfolio, creative work, argument, or any other work and presenting it as one’s own, either in whole or in part” or “Incorporating portions of another’s work without proper acknowledgement and documentation” (strose.edu/academics/academic-resources/academic-integrity/plagiarism-policy/). Plagiarizing can result in failure of the assignment, failure of the course, and/or expulsion from the college. Professionally, plagiarism could result in being fired and/or sued.

**General MLA Format:**

- Typed, double-spaced
- Standard-sized paper (8.5 x 11), 1-inch margins on all sides
- Times New Roman 12 pt. font is recommended
- Header in the upper right-hand corner: last name and the page number
- A title page is **not** required, though a heading is: your name, the professor’s name, the course number, and the due date in the upper left-hand corner (see example)
- The title of the paper follows on the next line, centered. This should be capitalized, but have no other emphasis (no bold, italics, quotation marks, larger font, etc.)
- The body of the paper follows the title on the next line
- Capitalize major words in the titles of sources: verbs, nouns, adjectives, adverbs, pronouns
- Titles of long works (books, journals, plays, movies, CDs, paintings, etc.) are *italicized*
- Titles of short works (articles, essays, poems, short stories, songs, etc.) are placed in “quotation marks.”
- Research papers consist of a works cited page at the end of the document to properly document the research presented in the paper
Cite sources whenever you:

- quote from a text (use the exact wording of the original text)
- paraphrase from a text (put a section of text into your own words)
- summarize a text (present a condensed version of a text)
- use facts, statistics, or data from a text
- refer to an idea or source in passing
- use a photograph, painting, chart, table, graph, or other visual from a source.

A safe guideline to use is: ANY time you use ANY idea, from ANYONE or ANYWHERE else, it is necessary to document it.

**In-Text Citations**—a brief mention of each source found in the body of the paper

Form 1- Author’s name and page number in parentheses after the idea:
One of the great stories of our generation begins, “Mr. and Mrs. Dursley, of number four, Privet Drive, were proud to say that they were perfectly normal, thank you very much” (Rowling 1).

Form 2- Author’s name in the sentence and the page number in parentheses after the idea:
J. K. Rowling’s famous first book begins, “Mr. and Mrs. Dursley, of number four, Privet Drive, were proud to say that they were perfectly normal, thank you very much” (1).

Notice: No comma between the author’s name and page number, no “p.” or “page” before the page number.
The first time that you mention an author, use the author’s full name. After that, use her/his last name only. For special cases, see page 6.

**Quoting**
Quoting involves presenting the exact wording of a text, signified by use of quotation marks to bracket the used material. The author’s last name must be provided for most sources, along with page numbers (websites being a notable exception). A quote cannot stand on its own but must be introduced by and followed up with your own words.

- Introduce-the author and/or quote
- Cite-the quote
- Explain-how the quote relates and/or supports your main idea

**Short Quotes**
- Four or fewer typed lines
- Begin and end with “quotation marks”
- Author’s last name and page number in the in-text citation
- Introduced, cited, and explained
- Punctuation:
  - A period is placed after the citation
  - A comma is placed before the first quotation marks, following words like the author states, writes, argues, asserts, etc.
  - A semicolon, question mark, or exclamation point is placed within the quotation marks when it is part of the quote or after the quotation marks when it is not part of the quoted material
  - An ellipsis (…) is used to indicate where you omit words within a quote
  - Brackets [ ] are placed around words that you have added to the quote or altered, for readability
  - Quoted words within a quote are marked by ‘single quotation marks.’

**Example of a short quote:**

In *Song of Solomon*, one character says to another, “And if [your life] means so little to you that you can just give it away...then why should it mean any more to him? He can’t value you more than you value yourself” (Morrison 331). As the character cautions his friend, he is also making a broader statement about the impact of self-worth on relationships.

**Long Quotes:**
- More than four typed lines
- Introduced by a colon
- Printed in a block, tabbed in ½ inch from the left margin
- No quotation marks used (the block is doing the same work as the quotation marks)
- End punctuation comes before the citation, the only time it does
- Introduced, cited, and explained.
Example of a long quote: The first instance of Blanca’s complicated relationship with religion is shown when Isabel Allende writes:

Kneeling in her pew, Blanca would inhale the intense smell of the virgin’s incense and lilies, suffering the combined torment of nausea, guilt, and boredom. It was the only thing she disliked about school. She loved the high-vaulted stone corridors, the immaculate cleanliness of the marble floors, the naked white walls, and the iron Christ who stood watch in the vestibule. (142)

Allende mixes positive words like “immaculate,” “cleanliness,” and “white” with “nausea,” “guilt,” “boredom,” “naked,” and “iron” to show both positive and negative aspects of Blanca’s Catholic school.

**Quoting Poetry**

Poetry is cited by line number, not page number.

When referencing a line or part of a line, follow guidelines for short quotes, citing by line number.

Example: In Edgar Allan Poe’s “The Raven,” the repetition of “nevermore” (1) contributes to the poem’s iconic tone of melancholy.

For two or three lines of poetry, be sure to maintain the punctuation and line breaks (end of a line) of the original. Line breaks are marked with a /.

Example: In “Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening,” Robert Frost’s final lines “But I have promises to keep, / And miles to go before I sleep, / And miles to go before I sleep.” (14-16) challenge the reader’s expectations. The repetition disturbs the reader, promoting further contemplation.

For four or more lines, the lines should be set up like a long quote: tabbed in, punctuation comes before the citation, etc.
Example: In Edgar Allan Poe’s poem “Alone,” the speaker of the poem’s fixation on the single cloud in an otherwise clear sky hints at his state of mind:

From the thunder, and the storm—

And the cloud that took the form

(When the rest of Heaven was blue)

Of a demon in my view—. (19-22)

This focus on the negative aspects—thunder, storm, and cloud—surrounded by positivity (“the rest of” the sky was blue) may indicate the speaker’s depressed or negative mental state.

**Quoting Drama**

When referencing dialogue in drama, the names of speakers should appear in ALL CAPS. Lines that wrap on the page are half-tabbed in (approximately five spaces). The text is otherwise set in a block like a long quote.

Example: One of the most famous misquoted lines in cinema history is from *Star Wars: Episode V - The Empire Strikes Back*:

VADER: Obi-wan never told you what happened to your father.

LUKE: He told me enough! He told me you killed him.

VADER: No. I am your father.

Notice that Darth Vader does not say, “Luke, I am your father,” as many people seem to believe.

**Summarizing**

Summarizing involves taking information from a long passage and condensing it, then putting it into your own words (like a book report). The author’s name and page number or range are necessary.

Original text: These excerpts explain the very important role of emotions in sanctioning or promoting violence. First, the inability to experience empathy and thus the complete lack of self-restraint in the use of violence relies on one emotion: fear, or more precisely, the fear of death. For much of human history, the fear of death has pushed people to extreme behavior (Lacassagne 324).

Summary example: Throughout history, the fear of mortality has often been the driving force behind individuals resorting to violence (Lacassagne 324).
Extreme summary example: In William Shakespeare’s *Romeo and Juliet*, two teens fall in love, and six people die (1-96).

**Paraphrasing**
Paraphrasing involves presenting in your own words an interpretation of the author’s idea (usually a small section of text). The author’s last name and relevant page number(s) must be provided for most sources. For a paraphrase to be successful, it is important to use **not only** different wording **but also** different sentence structure. Check the paraphrase against the original for wording, structure, and accuracy.

**Example:**
Original text: “Violence is depicted in multifaceted ways in the series in accordance with the varied perspectives of the characters” (Lacassagne 320).

**Incorrect paraphrase:**

```
Brutality shown many novels
Violence is depicted in multifaceted ways in the series in accordance viewpoints
with the varied perspectives of the characters” (Lacassagne 320).
```

The **incorrect paraphrase above would read**: Brutality is shown in many ways in the novels in accordance with the varied viewpoints of the characters (Lacassagne 320).

**Example of a correct paraphrase**: Throughout the series, it is the characters’ differing viewpoints that depict violence in a variety of ways (Lacassagne 320).

**In-text Citation Special Cases**

**Authors with the same last name**: for in-text citations, add the first initial of each author’s name (N. Smith 76).

**Two authors**: Smith and Jones state… (76).

**Three or more authors**: Use the first author’s last name followed by et al. (Smith et al. 76).

**More than one work by the same author**: Use the author’s last name and the first important word from the title (Smith, “Strategizing” 76) and (Smith, “Failing” 92).

**No author**: Cite by the first important word in the title (“Youth” 47).

**Two or more works in the same citation**: Separate multiple citations with semicolons (Smith 76; Jones 100).

**Citing the same source multiple times in one citation**: Separate multiple citations within the same text with commas (Smith 76, 80, 100-102).

**Indirect source**: When using information that is cited in the text (the author is quoting, summarizing, or paraphrasing someone else), it is preferable to find and cite the original material. If that is not possible, use qtd. in ____ in your citation.

Example: According to Elias, literature allows scholars to study “the structures of the human psyche, the structures of human society, and the structures of human history” (qtd. in Lacassagne 321).

**Works Cited Page**
The works cited page (or work cited page, if only one source is referenced) is a complete list of every source referenced in a paper. It provides the information needed for a reader to locate the sources used. Each source on the works cited page should appear in the paper, and each source in the paper should appear on the works cited page.

Format:
- The words “Works Cited” appear centered at the top of the page—no bold, underline, large font, or any other emphasis
- Header continues to appear
- Double-spaced throughout
- Sources are arranged alphabetically according to the first word in each entry
- Hanging indent—the first line is left-aligned, and any subsequent lines are tabbed in.
  - Hit “Enter” at the end of the first line and “Tab” at the beginning of the next line
- *Italicize* titles of long works (books, journals, plays, movies, CDs, paintings, etc.).
- Use “quotation marks” with the titles of short works (articles, essays, poems, short stories, , etc.).

Example:

```
Works Cited


```
How to Create Works Cited Entries
Fill in the information based on the chart provided (a blank version of this chart is available on the last page for copying and reuse).

- For more complex citations, it may be necessary to repeat 3-9. Irrelevant elements are omitted.
- When the source is part of a larger whole, the larger whole can be thought of as a container that holds the source.
- For online sources, copy the website address or URL exactly.

**Punctuation** is streamlined. No angle brackets, colons, dashes, etc. 
**Periods** after: author, title, abbreviations (pp., vol., no., etc.), each 3-9 block. 
**Commas** after all other entries.

**Optional Elements**
- Date of original publication
- City of publication
- Other facts about the source
- Date of access (not necessary for print materials but essential for online sources.)

Note: Sources should be cited based on the information most relevant to the paper. For example, when citing a movie that is referenced for the acting, cite it by the actor’s name. If the paper is focused on the directing, cite it by the director’s name.

**For special cases, see page 10.**

**Explanation of citation elements:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Element</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Author</td>
<td>Last name, first name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title of source</td>
<td>Long works in italics, short works in quotation marks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title of container</td>
<td>Source of the text (journal, anthology, website (YouTube), etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other contributors</td>
<td>Editors, translators, interviewer, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Version,</td>
<td>Edition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number,</td>
<td>For volume, use vol. # For issue number, use no. #</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publisher,</td>
<td>Name of publisher. If unknown, use N.p.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publication date</td>
<td>Year. If date is unknown, use n.d.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location.</td>
<td>Page number(s). For one page, use p. For a page range, use pp. Paragraph numbers when listed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title of container</td>
<td>Database (JSTOR), website (Netflix)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other contributors</td>
<td>General editor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Version,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publisher,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publication date</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location.</td>
<td>URL, website copied exactly (no angle brackets)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional Elements</td>
<td>Date of access</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Author.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Title of source.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Title of container,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Other contributors,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Version,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Number,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Publisher,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Publication date,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Location.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Example of a citation for a book:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Rowling, J. K.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Title of source</td>
<td><em>Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title of container</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other contributors</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Version</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publisher</td>
<td>Scholastic Inc.,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publication date</td>
<td>1999,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Note: While a comma is placed after the publication date when filling out the chart, it becomes a period in the citation because it is the last entry in a 3-9 block.

**Example of a citation for an article from a library database:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Lacassagne, Auré.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Title of source</td>
<td>“War and Peace in the Harry Potter Series.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title of container</td>
<td><em>European Journal of Cultural Studies,</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other contributors</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Version</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number</td>
<td>vol. 19, no. 4,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publisher</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publication date</td>
<td>2016,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>pp. 318-334.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title of container</td>
<td><em>Academic Search Premier,</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other contributors</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Version</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publisher</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publication date</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>ecs.sagepub.com/content/19/4/318.full.pdf+html.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Examples of Common Works Cited Entries*

MLA Works Cited Examples: Books

**Basic Book Format**
The basic form for a book citation is:
Last Name, First Name. *Title of Book*. City of Publication, Publisher, Publication Date.
*Note: the City of Publication should only be used if the book was published before 1900, if the publisher has offices in more than one country, or if the publisher is unknown outside North America.

**Book with One Author**

**Book with More Than One Author**
When a book has multiple authors, order the authors in the same way they are presented in the book. The first given name appears in “last name, first name” format; subsequent author names appear in “first name, last name” format.
If there are three or more authors, list only the first author followed by the phrase et al. (Latin for "and others") in place of the subsequent authors' names. (Note that there is a period after “al” in “et al.” Also note that there is never a period after the “et” in “et al.”).

**Two or More Books by the Same Author**
List works alphabetically by title. (Remember to ignore articles like A, An, and The.) Provide the author’s name in last name, first name format for the first entry only. For each subsequent entry by the same author, use three hyphens and a period.


**A Translated Book**
If you want to emphasize the work rather than the translator, cite as you would any other book. Add “translated by” and follow with the name(s) of the translator(s).
If you want to focus on the translation, list the translator as the author. In place of the author’s name, the translator’s name appears. His or her name is followed by the label, “translator.” If the author of the book does not appear in the title of the book, include the name, with a “By” after
the title of the book and before the publisher. Note that this type of citation is less common and should only be used for papers or writing in which translation plays a central role.

An Edition of a Book
There are two types of editions in book publishing: a book that has been published more than once in different editions and a book that is prepared by someone other than the author (typically an editor).

A Subsequent Edition
Cite the book as you normally would but add the number of the edition after the title.

A Work Prepared by an Editor
Cite the book as you normally would, but add the editor after the title with the label, "Edited by"

A Work in an Anthology, Reference, or Collection
Works may include an essay in an edited collection or anthology, or a chapter of a book. The basic form is for this sort of citation is as follows:

Last name, First name. "Title of Essay." *Title of Collection*, edited by Editor's Name(s), Publisher, Year, Page range of entry.

Some examples:

Poem or Short Story Examples:
If the specific literary work is part of the author's own collection (all of the works have the same author), then there will be no editor to reference:

An Introduction, Preface, Foreword, or Afterword
When citing an introduction, a preface, a foreword, or an afterword, write the name of the author(s) of the piece you are citing. Then give the name of the part being cited, which should not be italicized or enclosed in quotation marks; in italics, provide the name of the work and the
name of the author of the introduction/preface/foreword/afterword. Finish the citation with the
details of publication and page range.

> If the writer of the piece is different from the author of the complete work, then write the full
name of the principal work's author after the word "By." For example, if you were to cite Hugh
Dalziel Duncan’s introduction of Kenneth Burke’s book *Permanence and Change*, you would
write the entry as follows:

**MLA Works Cited Examples: Periodicals**
Periodicals include magazines, newspapers, and scholarly journals. Works cited entries for
periodical sources include three main elements—the author of the article, the title of the article,
and information about the magazine, newspaper, or journal. MLA uses the generic term
“container” to refer to any print or digital venue (a website or print journal, for example) in
which an essay or article may be included.
Use the following format for all citations:

Author. Title. Title of container (self-contained if book), Other contributors (translators or editors),
Version (edition), Number (vol. and/or no.), Publisher, Publisher Date, Location (pp.).
2nd container’s title, Other contributors, Version, Number, Publisher, Pub date, Location.

**Article in a Magazine**
Cite by listing the article's author, putting the title of the article in quotations marks, and
italicizing the periodical title. Follow with the date of publication. Remember to abbreviate the
month. The basic format is as follows:
Author(s). "Title of Article." *Title of Periodical*, Day Month Year, pages.

**Article in a Newspaper**
Cite a newspaper article as you would a magazine article but note the different pagination in
most newspapers. If there is more than one edition available for that date (as in an early and late
dition of a newspaper), identify the edition after the newspaper title.
2007, p. LZ01.
If the newspaper is a less well-known or local publication, include the city name in brackets after
the title of the newspaper.
Trembacki, Paul. "Brees Hopes to Win Heisman for Team." *Purdue Exponent* [West Lafayette, IN],
A Review
To cite a review, include the title of the review (if available), then the phrase, “Review of” and provide the title of the work (in italics for books, plays, and films; in quotation marks for articles, poems, and short stories). Finally, provide performance and/or publication information.
Review Author. "Title of Review (if there is one)." Review of Performance Title, by Author/Director/Artist. Title of Periodical, Day Month Year, page.

An Article in a Scholarly Journal
A scholarly journal can be thought of as a container, as are collections of short stories or poems, a television series, or even a website. A container can be thought of as anything that is a part of a larger body of works. In this case, cite the author and title of article as you normally would. Then, put the title of the journal in italics. Include the volume number (“vol.”) and issue number (“no.”) when possible, separated by commas. Finally, add the year and page numbers.
Author(s). "Title of Article." Title of Journal, Volume, Issue, Year, pages.

MLA Works Cited Examples: Electronic Sources
Citing an Entire Web Site
It is a good idea to list your date of access because web postings are often updated, and information available on one date may no longer be available later. When using the URL, be sure to include the complete address for the site except for the https://.
Editor, author, or compiler name (if available). Name of Site. Version number, Name of institution/organization affiliated with the site (sponsor or publisher), date of resource creation (if available), URL, DOI or permalink. Date of access (if applicable).

A Page on a Web Site
For an individual page on a Web site, list the author or alias if known, followed by an indication of the specific page or article being referenced. Usually, the title of the page or article appears in a header at the top of the page. Follow this with the information covered above for entire Web sites. If the publisher is the same as the website name, only list it once.

An Image (Including a Painting, Sculpture, or Photograph)
Provide the artist's name, the work of art italicized, the date of creation, the institution and city where the work is housed. Follow this initial entry with the name of the Website in italics, and the date of access.


**Article in an Online-only Scholarly Journal**
If the journal you are citing appears exclusively in an online format that does not make use of page numbers, indicate the URL.


**Article in an Online Scholarly Journal That Also Appears in Print**
Cite articles in online scholarly journals that also appear in print as you would a scholarly journal in print, including the page range of the article. Provide the URL and the date of access.


**An Article from an Online Database (or Other Electronic Subscription Service)**
Cite online databases (e.g. LexisNexis, ProQuest, JSTOR, ScienceDirect) and other subscription services as containers. Thus, provide the title of the database italicized before the DOI or URL. If a DOI is not provided, use the URL instead. Provide the date of access if you wish.


**E-mail (including E-mail Interviews)**
Give the author of the message, followed by the subject line in quotation marks. State to whom the message was sent with the phrase, “Received by” and the recipient’s name. Include the date the message was sent. Use standard capitalization.


**A Tweet**
Begin with the user's Twitter handle in place of the author’s name. Next, place the tweet in its entirety in quotations, inserting a period after the tweet within the quotations. Include the date and time of posting, using the reader's time zone; separate the date and time with a comma and end with a period.
@tombrokaw. “SC demonstrated why all the debates are the engines of this campaign.” Twitter, 22 Jan. 2012, 3:06 a.m., twitter.com/tombrokaw/status/160996868971704320.

@PurdueWLab. “Spring break is around the corner, and all our locations will be open next week.” Twitter, 5 Mar. 2012, 12:58 p.m., twitter.com/PurdueWLab/status/176728308736737282.

A YouTube Video

Video and audio sources need to be documented using the same basic guidelines for citing print sources in MLA style. Include as much descriptive information as necessary to help readers understand the type and nature of the source you are citing. If the author’s name is the same as the uploader, only cite the author once. If the author is different from the uploader, cite the author’s name before the title.

“8 Hot Dog Gadgets put to the Test.” YouTube, uploaded by Crazy Russian Hacker, 6 June 2016, www.youtube.com/watch?v=WBlpjSEtELs.


MLA Works Cited: Other Common Sources

Speeches, Lectures, or Other Oral Presentations (including Conference Presentations)
Provide the speaker’s name. Then, give the title of the speech (if any) in quotation marks. Follow with the title of the conference or meeting and then the name of the organization. Name the venue and its city (if the name of the city is not listed in the venue’s name). Use the descriptor that appropriately expresses the type of presentation (e.g., Address, Lecture, Reading, Keynote Speech, Guest Lecture, etc.)


A Painting, Sculpture, or Photograph

Provide the artist's name, the title of the artwork in italics, the date of composition, and the medium of the piece. Finally, provide the name of the institution that houses the artwork followed by the location of the institution (if the location is not listed in the name of the institution, e.g. The Art Institute of Chicago).

Goya, Francisco. The Family of Charles IV. 1800, oil on canvas, Museo del Prado, Madrid. For photographic reproductions of artwork (e.g. images of artwork in a book), treat the book or website as a container. Remember that for a second container, the title is listed first, before the contributors. Cite the bibliographic information as above followed by the information for the source in which the photograph appears, including page or reference numbers (plate, figure, etc.).


Films or Movies

List films by their title. Include the name of the director, the film studio or distributor, and the release year. If relevant, list performer names after the director's name.

The Usual Suspects. Directed by Bryan Singer, performances by Kevin Spacey, Gabriel Byrne, Chazz Palminteri, Stephen Baldwin, and Benecio del Toro, Polygram, 1995. To emphasize specific performers or directors, begin the citation with the name of the desired performer or director, followed by the appropriate title for that person.

**Recorded Television Episodes**
Begin with the episode name in quotation marks. Follow with the series name in italics. When the title of the collection of recordings is different than the original series (e.g., the show Friends is in DVD release under the title *Friends: The Complete Sixth Season*), list the title that would help researchers to locate the recording. Give the distributor name followed by the date of distribution.


**Broadcast TV or Radio Program**
Begin with the title of the episode in quotation marks. Provide the name of the series or program in italics. Also include the network name, call letters of the station followed by the date of broadcast and city.


**Netflix, Hulu, Google Play**
Generally, when citing a specific episode, follow the format below.


**Podcasts**

**Special Cases for Works Cited**
Two authors: The second author’s name is first name, last name: Smith, James and Sam Jones.
Authors with the same last name: These should be listed alphabetically by last name, then by first name.
Three or more authors: Use the first author’s last name followed by et al. (Smith, James et al.).
More than one work by the same author: These should be listed alphabetically by the first important word in the title. Works beyond the first start with --- (see Poe example in the example works cited above).
No author: List these alphabetically by the first important word in the title (“Youth Violence in Chicago”).

**NOTE:** This packet and the accompanying PowerPoint presentation, along with many other resources, are available on The College of Saint Rose Writing Center’s website at www.strose.edu/academics/center-for-student-success/academic-success-center/writing-center/

The College of Saint Rose Writing Center is located in the Academic Success Center, on the second floor of Saint Joseph Hall. Stop by or call **518-454-5299** to make an appointment.

Additional resources for student writers:
- The Online Writing Lab at Purdue University. http://owl.english.purdue.edu/
- The Modern Language Association’s website: http://www.mla.org/style_faq

Information obtained from The Online Writing Lab at Purdue University at: https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_style_introduction.html
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