

Respect Your Sources: MLA Style

Esquimalt High School Library Guide to Lists of Works Cited Using the MLA Style

How to format your list of "Works Cited"

1. Start on a new page at the end of the paper. Type the words "Works Cited" centered at the top of the page.
2. Double space within and between entries.
3. Use hanging indents so that the first line of each reference begins at the left margin and subsequent lines are indented one half inch (much like the list you are reading, only you don't use numbers for each entry).
4. Arrange the entries **alphabetically** (by whatever starts each entry, usually the author's last name). Do not separate items in the list according to the format of publication: books in one section, websites in another.
5. Start each entry with the author's last name, even for web pages. If there is no author, use the editor's name. If there is no editor, start with the title of the book, webpage article, etc.
6. List the author's last name, followed by a comma then the author's first and/or middle name. Spell out the author's name. Do not substitute the author's initials. E.g. use "Woolf, Virginia" not "Woolf, V.".
7. If a work has more than one author, only invert the first author's name.
8. Italicize the titles of books, journals, magazines, newspapers, television series and films.
9. Article titles are placed within quotation marks. Also use quotation marks for the titles of short stories, book chapters, television program episodes, poems and songs.
10. Capitalize each "important word" in the titles of articles, books, etc. "Important words" means that this rule does not apply to "a, an, and, the" etc, unless this word is the first word of the title or subtitle.
11. Separate each element (author, date, title, etc.) by a period and one space.

See Chapters 5 and 6 of the *MLA Handbook* referred to above for details on formatting and citation style.

Works Cited Examples

Book:

Covey, Sean. *The 6 Most Important Decisions You'll Ever Make: A Guide for Teens*. New York: Fireside, 2006. Print.

Article in a reference Book (e.g. encyclopedia, dictionary etc):

Sherrod, Lonnie R. *Youth Activism: An International Encyclopedia*. Westport, CT: Greenwood, 2006. Print.

Article in an online reference book with no author (e.g. Encyclopedia of BC, World Book Online)

"Esquimalt." *Encyclopedia of British Columbia*. Madeira Park, BC: Harbour. 2016. Web. 26 May 2016.

Book with an editor:

Raman-Wilms, Lalitha. ed. *Canadian Pharmacists' Association Guide to Drugs in Canada*. Toronto: Dorling Kindersley, 2004.

Chapter from an edited book (two authors):

Hunt, Suzanne and Janet Sawin. "Cultivating Renewable Alternatives to Oil." *State of the World 2006*. Ed. Linda Starke. New York: Norton, 2006. 61-77.

Magazine article (print, microform, PDF):

Ball, David P. "Reconciliation 'Bigger Than Residential Schools': Grand Chief Ed John." *Windspeaker* 31.7 (2013): 14-15. *Canadian Reference Centre*. Web. 18 May 2016.

Journal article (online from a research database), one author:

Denov, Myriam S. "Children's Rights or Rhetoric? Assessing Canada's Youth Criminal Justice Act and its Compliance with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child." *International Journal of Children's Rights* 12.1 (2004): 1-20. *Academic Search Premier*. Web. 18 May 2016.

Newspaper article, one author from an online database:

La Rose, Lauren. "Dance Program for Indigenous Youth Offers Boost Within and Beyond the Classroom." *Canadian Press, The* (2016.): *Canadian Reference Centre*. Web. 18 May 2016.

Newspaper article, no known author:

"Statistics Canada: Count Yourself In." *Times-Colonist* [Victoria, BC] May 5 2006: A2. Print

Web page with no known author and no known date:

Clones-R-Us. (n.d.). Web. 2 April 2004.

Online Video:

"The Most Shocking Second a Day." *YouTube*. Save the Children, 18, May 2016. Web. 18 May, 2016.

Personal Interview (indicate the type of interview, i.e. personal, email, telephone etc):

Rowling, J. K. E-mail interview, 8-12 May 2015.

Reference Citations in Text

When writing your paper, whenever you express words, facts, or ideas that are not your own, you need to refer the reader to the original source of that information. Those sources are then listed in the list of Works Cited. In MLA Style, usually the author's last name and a page number are used to identify the source and the specific location from which you borrowed the material.

See Chapter 6 of the [MLA Handbook](#) referred to below for more guidance on in-text citations.

Examples of Citations in Text**Author's name in text with the page number following in parentheses:**

Tannen has argued this point (175-85).

Author's name in text when citing the entire source no page number needed:

Fukuyama's *Our Posthuman Future* includes many examples of this trend.

Author's name in reference:

This point has already been argued (Tannen 175-85).

Author's name in reference when listing more than one source by the same author in Works Cited:

She stated that "students often had difficulty," (Jones, *Student Success* 199), but does not elaborate further.

No known author or date: (Abbreviate the first few words from the title and add "n.d." for "no date")

It was discovered that students succeeded with tutoring ("Tutoring" n.d.).

For more information go to the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, in our library at REF 808.06615 GIB or go to esquimalt.sd61.bc.ca and choose *Cite it Right* from the Library & Resources menu.