This worksheet provides an overview to MLA Style 8th edition and gives examples of citations based on the most common source types. For more source types and more in-depth information consult: 


**Copies are available at the University Library Reserves Desk and Ask Me Desk, call number LB2369 .G53 2016**

https://kentlink.kent.edu/record=b5126758

### Style Basics:

#### Core elements:

Citations in MLA Style 8th edition are built from a practice template of common elements, which can be found at: 


- Include any applicable information for a given source in the order presented in the MLA template.
- An element is omitted if it is not applicable to the source.
- **Punctuation** required after each element is indicated in the template.
- When your source is part of a larger whole, the larger whole is referred to as a “container.”
- A source can have more than one container, Ex: A short story appears in an edited book of stories (container 1) available online in an ebook collection (container 2).
- You will need to document information for each of these levels of detail about your source.
- Cite all sources you use for your work and cite the specific versions you consulted.

#### Formatting Basics:

- **Capitalization:** capitalize the first word and all other words of titles except: articles, prepositions, coordinating conjunctions, and the “to” before infinitives. Capitalize the first word of a subtitle.
- **Names:** (author, editor…) Include full name and initial(s) as it appears in the work.
- **Title Formatting:** Use *Italics* for book, journal or source titles. Use “quotation marks” for titles of articles or portions of works.
- **Date format:** day month year: 18 Feb. 2016 (abbrev. months), use level of detail as provided in the work.
- **Last element:** the last element of a citation is always followed by a period.
- **Online Sources:** URLs or DOIs must be included in the “location” element of the template.
Citation Examples:

### Books

**One Author**

Last Name, First Name. *Title*. Publisher, Publication date.


**Two Authors**

Last Name, First Name and First Name Last Name. *Title*. Publisher, Publication date.


**More Than Two Authors**

Last Name, First Name, et al. *Title*. Publisher, Publication date.


**Ebook**

Last name, First name. *Title*. Other contributors, Publisher, Publication date, *Container title* (name of ebook vendor), URL.


**Book Chapter in an Anthology**

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


**Book with Editor instead of Author.**

Last Name, First Name, editor. *Title*. Publisher, Publication date.

Corporate Author (Different from Publisher)
Name of authoring organization. Title. Publisher, Publication date.


Corporate Author (Same as Publisher)
Title. Publisher, Publication date.


Specific Edition of a book
Last Name, First Name, Title. 2nd ed., Publisher, Publication date.


Articles

Journal Article (Print)
Author(s). "Title of Article." Title of Journal, vol. #, no. #, date, pages.


Online Journal Article- from a Database (option to use URL or DOI)
Author(s). "Title of Article." Title of Journal, vol. #, no. #, date, pages. Database (e.g. Academic Search Premier), URL.


Hwang, Jung-Suk. "Staging the Uneven World of Cybercapitalism on 47th Street in Don Delillo’s Cosmopolis."


Magazine Article
Author(s). "Title of Article." Title of Periodical, Date, pages.

Newspaper Article
Author(s). "Title of Article." Title of Periodical, Date, pages.


Other Online Sources

Webpage
Author or Corporate Author. “Page Title.” Title of the Overall Website, Publisher, Date of Publication or Update, URL. Accessed date.


Blogpost
Author’s or Poster’s name. “Title of blogpost.” Name of Blog, Date of posting, URL.


www.cultofpedagogy.com/preventing-plagiarism/.

Online Video
Author or Director’s name. “Title of Video.” Name of Website, Name of Website’s Publisher, Date of Posting, URL.

Bauer, Katie, Dir. “The Future of Maned Wolves.” Wild Inside the National Zoo Series, Smithsonian Channel, 2016,


You Tube Video
“Video Title.” YouTube, uploaded by username, Date of Posting, URL.

‘How to Stop Procrastinating.” YouTube, uploaded by Watchwellcast, 9 Nov. 2012,

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qvcx7Y4caQE.

Formatting the Paper (see attached):

Read the attached one page sample formatted paper which explains and also illustrates general formatting concerns for a paper written in MLA style. See the MLA Style Center for more details:

https://style.mla.org/formatting-papers/
Works Cited Page (see attached):

Layout:
• 1 inch margins
• Title is: Works Cited
• Include name and page number in upper right, ex: Smith 7
• Cited works-- first line aligned to left margin
  o All following lines use ½ inch hanging indentation
• Double spaced throughout

Alphabetical Arrangement:
• By Author/Editor last name
• By Title if author not given (ignore initial “a”, “an” or “the”)
• Two or more works by same author? Note special rules (use ---, instead of the author(s) name for second item, see 2.7.2, p113, and note the example on the sample Works Cited Page.)

In-text citations:

You must use in-text citations anytime you quote, paraphrase or summarize information from another source. Insert a brief parenthetical reference immediately after a quote or after a paraphrased section.

Formatting: Include author(s) last name(s) and page number or page range of the source material.
Examples:  (Anderson 7)
            (Lewis and Greenboro 35)
            (Levinson et al. 76-8)

No author: If there is no author, then other possibilities include editor name(s), corporate name, title for anonymous works, etc. What is in the parenthesis should match the first element of the citation on the Works Cited page for easy reference. See MLA 8th ed. Section 3.1-3.2 (pp.116-9) for more detail.
Examples: Abbreviated Title ("Cyberbullying" 3)
          Corporate Author (Modern Language Association vii)

No Page numbers: If there are no page numbers in the source you may use other labels such as sections, chapters, paragraphs, or the time stamp on a video. However, DO NOT add your own numbering or labels (such as counting paragraphs), use only those found in the original work. Therefore, some in-text citations will contain just the first element, this is common for websites.
Examples: An author’s blog site, no pagination: (Crawford)
          Anonymous, abbreviated webpage title, no pagination: ("Formatting")

Signal Phrase Option: If you use the author(s) name in the text (this is often referred to as a “signal phrase”), then just the page number (s) go in the parenthesis.

Note the difference:
One researcher noted the lack of consistency between these two thematic images (Johnson 75).
Johnson noted the lack of consistency between these two thematic images (75).
Jane Doe
Professor Smith
English 11011
September 30, 2019

Formatting Your MLA Paper

It is important to properly format your paper in MLA style. First, you should use a one inch margin on all four sides of your paper. It should be double spaced throughout, including any block quotes. Use a common font such as Times New Roman and a standard size such as 12 point. Indent each paragraph ½ inch to help set it off visually from the rest of the text. Do not put any extra spaces between paragraphs, as the double spacing already provides a separation. Justify your text to the left side only and turn off any automatic hyphenation (“Formatting”).

In MLA style you do not need a separate title page, instead, the heading and title will go on the top of page one. The heading will be double spaced and on the upper left corner. It should include the following elements: your name, your professor’s name, the course name, and the date. You may choose to format the date either as: “1 February 2014” or “February 1, 2014” (“Formatting”).

Page numbers are required in MLA style. Include your last name and the page number in the upper right margin, ½ inch from the top of the paper. Include this on every page including the first page (“Formatting”). Using your word processor’s header and automatic numbering feature will help you set this up.

Be sure to include a title for your paper. Center the title and use the standard MLA style capitalization rules in section 1.2.1 (MLA Handbook 67-8). Do not set off the title with any special formatting such as bolding or underlining and do not use a period at the end of the title (“Formatting”). Only use italics in a title in the same way as you would need to italicize something in the text of the paper itself, referring to rules 1.2.2 and 1.2.4 (MLA Handbook 68-71).
Works Cited


Works Cited


