It is important to cite sources properly when you are researching and writing a paper or preparing a presentation. This beginner’s guide to citing sources uses the 7th edition of the Modern Language Association (MLA) style format, a style most often used in fields related to the liberal arts. When including these in your paper, remember to include them on a separate page in alphabetical order, with the title Works Cited.

For more information on citations in MLA format, we like to suggest:

- Purdue’s Online Writing Lab (OWL) at [http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/11/](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/11/)
- NoodleTools located on the NCC library’s homepage or at [www.noodletools.com](http://www.noodletools.com)
- *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers (7th ed.)* available in the NCC library

The following are some examples of MLA-formatted citations:

**Books:**

**Basic Form:** Name of author or editor. *Title of the Book*. Publisher location: Publisher name, Year published. Format.


**Online Form:** Name of author or editor. *Title of the Book*. Publisher location: Publisher name, Year published. *Database or sponsor*. Format. Day Month and year of access.


**Magazine and Newspaper Articles:**

**Basic Form:** Name of author or editor (if given). “Title of the article.” *Publication title* [City of publication for newspapers] Date Month Year: Page number. Format.


**Academic, Scholarly, or Peer-Reviewed Journals:**


**Film or Video Recording:**

Basic Form: Movie Title. Dir. Director’s Name. Distributor, Year of release. Format.


**Web Pages:**

Basic Form: Name of author or editor (if given). “Title of work” Title of Web Site. Publisher or sponsor of the site; use n.p. if no publisher, Day, Month, and year of publication- use n.d. if no date is available. Web. Day, Month, and year of access.


**Commonly Used NCC Sources:**


Parenthetical (In-text) References:

When using a quotation or any information obtained from a source, you must point the reader to a specific entry included on your Works Cited. This is referred to as a parenthetical reference or an in-text citation. If you cite a reference in a text, it must also appear in the Works Cited. The reverse is also true: if you add an entry to the Works Cited it must be cited within the text. The MLA style of in-text citation includes the author name and date of the publication. The following examples are the most common. For additional examples, please utilize the sources listed at the end of this guide.

Print Sources

Basic Form: Sentence (Author Page).

Examples: While many countries used blood groups to determine the paternity of a given child, “California did not do so until 1953” (Starr 195).

According to Starr, California did not use blood groups to determine the paternity of a child until 1953 (195).

Citing an Entire Work: Mark Achbar’s The Corporation....

Citing Part of a Work: Sentence (Jenson 155-168).

Citing Part of a Work with No Page Numbers: Sentence (Walsh).

Citing a Work Listed by Title: Sentence (“Gardening”).

Citing Two or More Works by the Same Author: Sentence (Wilson, Camping 134).

Citing More than One Work: Sentence (Wilson, Fishing 288).

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- NoodleTools located on the NCC library’s homepage or at www.noodletools.com
- MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers (7th ed.) available in the NCC library