



MLA Works Cited Page: General Format and Print Sources (MLA 9)

General Format

- Begin your works cited page on a new page at the end of your paper.
- The title of your works cited page should be Works Cited. Do not bold, underline, italicize, put in quotes, or increase the font size. The title should be centered.
- Use the same margins and header as the rest of your paper.
- Double-space the entire works cited page. Do not skip an extra space between citations.
- Left-align all citations. Indent every line after the first of each citation by a half-inch to create a hanging indent.
- Arrange your citations in alphabetical order by author last name.

Books

Book with One Author:

Erdrich, Louise. *Love Medicine*. Harper Perennial, 2009.

Book with More than One Author:

Wiegman, Robyn, and Elena Glasberg. *Literature and Gender: Thinking Critically through Fiction, Poetry, and Drama*. Longman, 1999.

Cranny-Francis, Anne, et al. *Gender Studies: Terms and Debates*. Palgrave Macmillan, 2003.

Speaking and Writing Center [1]: Notice that MLA inverts the author's name and separates the last and first names with a comma.

Speaking and Writing Center [2]: Notice that MLA italicizes book titles. All major words (except articles and short prepositions) should be capitalized.

Speaking and Writing Center [3]: Notice that for most books, the city of publication is not necessary. Only include city of publication if the book was published before 1900, if the publisher has offices in more than one country, or if the publisher is unknown in North America.

Speaking and Writing Center [4]: Notice that MLA uses a comma to separate the publisher and date of publication.

Speaking and Writing Center [5]: Authors should always be listed in the order that they appear in the source.

Speaking and Writing Center [6]: Notice that MLA uses a comma before the "and"

Speaking and Writing Center [7]: Notice that MLA writes out the word "and" rather than using an ampersand (&).

Speaking and Writing Center [8]: Notice that MLA only inverts the name of the first author. The second author's name should be in first name-last name format.

Speaking and Writing Center [9]: Notice that MLA uses a colon to denote a subtitle.

Speaking and Writing Center [10]: Notice that for works with three or more authors, MLA lists only the first author followed by the abbreviation "et al."

Speaking and Writing Center [11]: Notice that MLA uses a comma to separate the author's name and the abbreviation "et al."

Speaking and Writing Center [12]: Notice that a period never follows the word "et" but always follows the word "al."



Translated Book:

De Beauvoir, Simone. *The Second Sex*. Translated by Constance Borde and Sheila Malovany-Chevallier, Vintage Books, 2011.

Speaking and Writing Center [13]: Notice that MLA writes out the full phrase "Translated by"

Speaking and Writing Center [14]: Notice that MLA lists translators (and editors) in first name-last name format.

Speaking and Writing Center [15]: Notice that for two translators, MLA lists both names joined by the word "and." Notice that MLA does not use a comma before the "and" here because neither name is inverted.

Anthology or Collection:

Lentricchia, Frank, and Thomas McLaughlin, editors. *Critical Terms for Literary Study*. 2nd ed., University of Chicago Press, 1995.

Speaking and Writing Center [16]: Notice that MLA uses the same format for editors as it does for authors when citing an entire edited collection.

Speaking and Writing Center [17]: Notice that MLA uses a comma after the editors' names followed by the word "editors" to denote editors of a work.

Work in an Anthology or Collection:

Patterson, Lee. "Literary History." *Critical Terms for Literary Study*, 2nd ed., edited by Frank Lentricchia, and Thomas McLaughlin, University of Chicago Press, 1995, pp. 250-62.

Speaking and Writing Center [18]: Notice that for an edition other than the first, MLA lists the edition after the title. A period separates the title and the edition. MLA uses the Arabic numeral followed by the two-letter abbreviation to denote the edition rather than writing out "second." The abbreviation "ed" is used, followed by both a period and a comma. An edition number may be listed on the cover or may appear in the front matter of the book, usually on the title or copyright page.

Speaking and Writing Center [19]: Notice that MLA lists the title of the essay in quotation marks before the title of the book.

Speaking and Writing Center [20]: Notice that MLA uses the phrase "edited by" to denote the editors when citing only one work in an edited collection.

Carter, Angela. "The Tiger's Bride." *The Bloody Chamber*, Penguin Books, 2015, pp. 61-82.

Speaking and Writing Center [21]: Notice that commas rather than periods are used to separate the editors, publisher, and date of publication.

Speaking and Writing Center [22]: Notice that MLA uses the abbreviation "pp." to denote the page range of an entry. If the entire work spans only one page (for example, a short poem), the abbreviation "p." would be used.

Introduction or Foreword:

Link, Kelly. Introduction. *The Bloody Chamber*, By Angela Carter, Penguin Books, 2015, pp. vii-xiv.

Speaking and Writing Center [23]: Notice that for page ranges in the triple digits, the first digit of the second number may be omitted if it is the same as the first.

Speaking and Writing Center [24]: Note that for a single-author collection, there may not be an editor.

Speaking and Writing Center [25]: Here, write the name of the part of the work being cited, such as foreword, introduction, preface, or afterword. Note that it should not be italicized or placed in quotation marks.

Speaking and Writing Center [26]: Note that "by" is capitalized.

Speaking and Writing Center [27]: Note that MLA lists the full name (in first-name last-name format) of the principle author of the work if the author is different from that of the part being cited. If the principle author is the same as the author of the part being cited, it is only necessary to list the last name in this slot.

Speaking and Writing Center [28]: Note that the pagination of introduction sections is often different from the rest of the work.



Other Print Sources

Newspaper or Magazine Article:

Patel, Priya. "UMW Administers National Healthy Minds Study Examining Students' Mental Health." *The Weekly Ringer* [Fredericksburg, VA], 23 Feb. 2023, p. 7.

Speaking and Writing Center [29]: Note that for lesser known or local publications, MLA includes the city and state in brackets after the name of the publication. This is omitted for well-known national publications.

Dissertation or Thesis:

Todd, Katharine McLaren. "*Ourself Behind Ourself, Concealed*": *The Thematic Importance of Doubling in Nineteenth and Early Twentieth-Century American Gothic Literature*. 2011. University of Mississippi, PhD dissertation.

Speaking and Writing Center [30]: Note that if a title contains quotation marks, you should retain them in the citation.

Government Publication:

United States, Congress, Senate, Committee on Labor and Human Resources. *Reading and Literacy Initiatives*. Government Printing Office, 1998. 105th Congress, 2nd session.

Speaking and Writing Center [31]: Note that MLA includes the sponsoring university and the document type for dissertations.

Speaking and Writing Center [32]: Note that MLA no longer distinguishes between published and unpublished sources.

Speaking and Writing Center [33]: Note that the government agency takes the place of an organizational author for this type of publication. MLA begins by listing the largest body, here the national government, and narrows down to the smaller bodies.

Speaking and Writing Center [34]: Note that MLA italicizes the titles of government documents.

Speaking and Writing Center [35]: Note that congressional records and other government documents are usually published by the government printing office.

Speaking and Writing Center [36]: For congressional records, note that MLA includes the session number of the Congress.