Academic writing standards require you to credit all sources that you use to write a paper, report, or study. The Modern Language Association (MLA) documentation style provides a guideline for properly crediting your sources by requiring notes in the text of your work that point the reader to an alphabetical list of your sources, called a “Works Cited” list. Properly citing your sources of information allows a reader to locate the original sources of information you used in your writing and will also help you avoid the serious offense of plagiarism.

*** For more detailed information about the MLA documentation style and to see examples not listed on this handout, consult the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers, 6th ed. (Ref. 808.02 Gi350m6), or Diana Hacker's MLA website: http://www.dianahacker.com/resdoc/p04_c08_o.html or the Purdue University online writing lab website: http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/557/01/

**PARENTHETICAL DOCUMENTATION**

Parenthetical documentation directs the reader to the specific sources of information that you are referencing in the body of your paper. These listings must direct the reader to a particular work listed on your “Works Cited” page. In most cases the author’s last name and a specific page number, in parentheses, are enough to identify the source you used and it's location within that source.

Example: During the 1980s global inflation remained steady at around 15 percent (Rogoff 49).

If you are already referring to the author’s name in the text of your paper, then you need only cite the specific page number in parentheses.

Example: According to Rogoff, “global inflation averaged 15 percent in the 1980s” (49).

**CITATIONS**

The basic components of an MLA citation are:

**Book**
Author’s Last name, First name. “Title of Chapter or Essay if Applicable.” Title of Book. Publication Location: Publisher, Date.

**Article, print version**
Author’s Last name, First name. “Title of Article.” Title of Periodical Vol.# (Year or date of publication): page number(s).

**Article, electronic version**
Author’s Last name, First name. “Title of Article.” Title of Periodical Vol.# (Year or date of publication): page number(s). Database Name. Service Name. Library Name. date of access <URL>.

**Internet citation**
Author’s Last name, First name. “Title of Webpage.” Date of posting. Website Title. Date of access. <URL>.

*** See reverse for citation examples ***
PRINT / VIDEO RESOURCES

Book with one author

Book with two authors

*** Note: if there are three or more authors, list the first author that appears on the title page/citation, followed by "et al." or you may give all names in full, in the order in which they appear on the title page.

Essay in an anthology

Encyclopedia article

Magazine article

Newspaper article

Article from journal with continuous pagination

Article from journal with new pagination in each issue

Government publication

Television or radio program

Motion picture (Video cassette)

Motion picture (DVD)
ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

**Online periodical article from an electronic database (i.e. Proquest)**

**Online periodical article from a website**

**Article from a CD-ROM**

**Document from a website, with author(s) and date of publication**

**Information from a website, no author, no date**

**Entire website**

**Online government publication**

**Email**

**Online posting (discussion group, listserv, etc.)**

**Weblog (“blog”) entry**

*** See reverse for sample “Works Cited” list ***
Your “Works Cited” page(s) should include your last name and page number in the upper right hand corner and the title “Works Cited” centered on the page. Entries should be in alphabetical order by author, double-spaced throughout, and subsequent lines of individual entries are indented ½”.

Works Cited


