



METU School of Foreign Languages
Academic Writing Center
ODTÜ/Yabancı Diller Yüksek Okulu
Akademik Yazı Merkezi

MLA DOCUMENTATION

You must document whenever you quote, paraphrase, summarize, or use any idea, fact, or figure from source material (unless the material is “common knowledge”). MLA documentation style is used in many research papers, especially within the liberal arts and humanities.

IN-TEXT CITATION

An in-text citation names the author of the source, often in a signal phrase, and gives the page number in parentheses. At the end of the paper, a list of works cited provides publication information about the source; the list is alphabetized by authors' last names (or by titles for works without authors). MLA recommends in-text citations. Following are some sample entries:

BOOKS

Books are generally cited in the following order:

Author's name (surname, first name).

If there are more than three authors, you may name only the first and add et al.

Title of the book.

Name of the editor, translator or compiler.

Edition used.

Number(s) of the volumes(s) used.

Name of the series.

Place of publication, name of the publisher, and date of publication.

Page numbers.

Supplementary bibliographic information and annotation.

BOOK, single author:

in-text citation: Burgess has argued this point (210-15).

Reference example: Burgess, Anthony. A Dead Man in Deptford . New York: Carroll, 1985.

TWO or MORE BOOKS, same author: alphabetize by title (the three hyphens stand for exactly the same name as in the preceding entry)

in-text citation: Frye declares that the "rebel" is representative of our society (Anatomy 130). He seems to confirm this view in the intellect's speech (Sound 17).

Reference example: Frye, Northop. Anatomy of Criticism: Four Essays. Princeton: Princeton UP, 1957.

---, Sound and Vision. New York: Columbia UP, 1957.

BOOK, two or more authors: give the names in the order in which they appear on the title page

in-text citation: Gilbert and Gubar broke new ground on the subject. (171-182).

Reference example: Gilbert, Sandra M., and Susan Gubar. The Madwoman in the Attic: The Woman Writer and the Nineteenth-Century Literary Imagination . New Haven: Yale UP, 1979.

BOOK, no author on the title page: begin with the title and alphabetize by the first word other than an article (a, an, the).

in-text citation: In Encyclopedia of Photography, a new view is brought to the perception of city lights (150-9).

Reference example: Encyclopedia of Photography. New York: Crown, 1997.

CORPORATE AUTHOR:

in-text citation: Several prominent physicians identify the problem as such in Cancer Encyclopedia (947-57)

Reference example: World Cancer Society. Cancer Encyclopedia. New York: Random, 1993.

PERIODICALS

(Including articles in newspapers, magazines and scholarly journals. For scholarly journals the publication information generally includes the journal title, the volume number, the year of publication, and the page numbers of the articles cited.)

Periodicals are generally cited in the following order:

Author's name (surname, first name).

"Title of article".

Name of the periodical.

Series number or name.

Volume number (for a scholarly journal).

Date of Publication.

Page numbers.

NEWSPAPER ARTICLE:

in-text citation: In her article, Smith writes, "The philosopher's treatment of a question is like the treatment of an illness" (42).

Reference example: Smith, Geanne. "After Four Centuries, Still Gaining Ground." New York Times 22 Apr. 2005, late ed., sec. 2: 39.

SCHOLARLY JOURNAL: if only the issue numbers are included, treat it as a volume number

in-text citation: Fudge suggests some interesting conclusions regarding the philosophy and politics of family culture (45-6).

Reference example: Fudge, Keith. "Sisterhood Born From Attraction: Susanna Rowson's Charlotte Temple, and Stephen Crane's Maggie Johnson." Journal of American Culture 19.1 (1996): 43-50.

ARTICLE, no author: begin the entry with the title and alphabetize by title

in-text citation: Allergies may be caused by dust, dust mites, pollen, and/or certain medications ("Allergic" 43)

Reference example: "Allergic to Prozin?" Health News 22 Oct. 2004: 32-46.

ELECTRONIC SOURCES

Electronic sources are generally cited in the following order:

Author's name, if given (surname, first name).

"Title of article".

Name of publication.

Name of the source and the specific collection searched.

Publication information.

ENCYCLOPEDIA (CD-ROM):

in-text citation: Edison's analysis of the project has provided useful insight on the subject.

Reference example: Edison, Adams. "The Landmark Project." Great Britannica. CD-ROM. 2005, 3rd ed. New York: Carroll, 2005.

INTERNET SOURCES

Internet sources are generally cited in the following order:

Author's name, if given (surname, first name).

"Title of article", or Title of Book

Publication information (varies depending on the type of material).

Name of scholarly project, or Site (or use the designation home page).

Date of electronic publication or latest update.

Name of the institution or organization sponsoring the site.

Date of access.

<URL>

SCHOLARLY JOURNAL ARTICLE:

in-text citation: McKenzie suggests some interesting conclusions regarding "standard teaching".

Reference example: McKenzie, Jamie. "Teaching to the Standard." From Now On: The Education Technology Journal 9.3 (1998) Nov.

<www.fno.org/nov98/connov.html>.

PERSONAL SITE:

in-text citation: Lewis notes that he had "no accurate knowledge" of his date of birth, "never had any authentic record containing it".

Reference example: Lewis, Lennox. "Background." 1999. LLO, London, UK. Webmaster: Hagensand IT Inc. 19 Dec. 1999. <www.lenoxdonor-lewis.com>.