Citations...they’re nothing to be afraid of...

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MLA 8, In-Text Citations, and Annotated Bibliography
MLA 8- Basic Formatting

- Times New Roman
- 12pt font
- Double Spaced
- 1 space after a period
- 1 inch margins all around
- 1st sentence for each new paragraph is ½ in from margin (recommend to use 1 tab)
- Page numbers are in the header, ½ in from top and flush with right margin Last name # Example: Henry 1
Works Cited

- The Works Cited page begins on a separate page at the end of the paper. The title is **Works Cited**. Do not use quotation marks, etc. Do not use another title.
- Double space everything, but DO NOT USE AN EXTRA SPACE between entries.
- Use a Hanging Indent--this is where the first line hangs out over any subsequent lines in the citation. In many word processors, “hanging indent” is a formatting option. Google docs now has hanging indent!
- The Works Cited list is in alphabetical order by the initial characters in the entry, whether they are the author’s last name or the title.
- **URLS are REQUIRED** for web sources.
- Works Cited includes ONLY sources cited in the text of your paper.
Works Cited Basic format

**Print**
Author last name, Author first name. “Title of Source.” Title of container, other contributors, such as editors or illustrators, Publisher, date of publication, location.

**Electronic**
Author. Title. Title of container (self contained if book), Other contributors (translators or editors), Version (edition), Number (vol. and/or no.), Publisher, Publication Date, Location (URL, DOI or permalink). 2nd container’s title, Other contributors, Version, Number, Publisher, Publication date, Location, Date of Access (if applicable).
Examples

Print

Electronic
Parenthetical Citations MLA

- Include Author’s last name and page number with **NO additional punctuation**.
  Example: (Austen 255)
- Come at the end of the sentence in which the information being cited appears but
  BEFORE the terminal punctuation. When citing a direct quotation, the in-text citation
  comes AFTER the quotation marks, but before the terminal punctuation. **NOTE--this is a
  change from previous guidelines.**
- If the author’s name appears in the sentence, only the page number is included in the
  in-text citation. Example: Sisken argues in *The Work of Writing* that Austen’s genius
  went largely unrecognized in her own lifetime (156).
- If the author is unknown, an abbreviated form of the title appears in the in-text citation.
  Example: (“Way We Were” 45)
- If a source is unpaginated, such as a web source, the last name of the author or the
  abbreviated title are used alone. Example: (Sisken)
- **ALL in-text citations MUST correspond to an entry in the works cited list.**

**Guiding Principle:** First item in an in-text citation should match first item in the W.C.
**citation** (so you can find it alphabetically)
What if you have a quotation?

- First: don't overuse quotations. Only use if there is a specific reason to quote those exact words.
  - If you could paraphrase it: do that instead *(but still cite!)*
- When you do have a quotation: the in-text citation must come IMMEDIATELY after the quote *(NOT the end of sentence/chunk)*
  - “Blah blah blah” *(Smith 3)*.
  - Even in the middle of a sentence: Blah blah, “Blah blah blah” *(Smith 3)*
    - blah blah blah. *(Better: rearrange your sentence so it goes at the end.)*
- If you already write the author’s name in the sentence: you don’t need to include it in the citation.
  - Smith argued, “Blah blah blah” *(3)*.
- If someone is quoted within a source by someone else, use (qtd. In X).
  - John F. Kennedy claimed “blah blah” *(qtd. in Smith 3).*
Works Cited Must-HAVEs

1) The name of the container website
2) The full URL
   ○ The purpose of the Works Cited is so that others can find the information you did. Do not shorten URLs.
   ○ For some databases (like JStor): use the Stable URL they provide rather than the long version from the address bar;
   ○ The access date—The most recent date you accessed the info (this may have to be updated between drafts).
Annotated Bibliography

Annotations are in paragraph form and appear after the citation. The annotation should contain 3 things:

- **Summary**
- **Assessment**--how useful is this source? What limitations does it have, how is it related to others you are using?
- **Reflection**--How does it fit into your research?

For more help, see [LHS MLA Virtual Handout](https://example.com/lhs MLA Virtual Handout) and [Purdue OWL Annotated Bibliography page](https://example.com/purdue OWL Annotated Bibliography page). [Sample MLA Annotated Entry](https://example.com/sample MLA Annotated Entry).
Questions