Creating an MLA Works Cited Page

Northampton Community College
Mack and Monroe Libraries

(Format used with permission from The Smucker Learning Center, The University of Akron – Wayne College)

Examples taken from the
MLA Handbook, 8th edition
and the MLA Library Handout
Citing Your Sources

- Means telling your readers where the information came from

- Is a courtesy to the original authors

- Is a courtesy to your readers
The Works Cited Page

- Center the words Works Cited at the top—no quotes, italics, or underline.

- Arrange sources alphabetically, beginning with author’s last name.

- If no author is given, alphabetize by the first word in the source’s title, other than A, An, or The.

- Do not justify the right margin.
Each Entry Needs a Hanging Indent

- Type your citation without any extra spacing –OR– follow these steps to set the indentation before typing.
- Highlight the entire citation –OR— place cursor where you will begin a citation.
- Make sure you are on the Home tab in Microsoft Word
- Click the pop-out arrow to the right of PARAGRAPH
- Look under INDENTATION
- Click the drop-down arrow under SPECIAL
- Change to HANGING
- Click OK
Double-Spacing

- Within each citation entry
- Between entries
- Do not put extra spaces between entries
- Press CTRL + 2 to set double-spacing for the entire paper.
Works Cited


½” hanging indent

All entries are double-spaced.
Some Common Sources

- Book
- Magazine
- Journal
- Newspaper
- Journal article from a Library subscription database
- Web sites
Book

- Author’s last name, followed by a comma, followed by their first name, followed by a period.
- Title of book in *italics*, followed by a period.
- Publisher, followed by a comma.
- Year of publication, followed by a period.
Example: Book

Books, continued

If an author has more than one work cited, after the first entry, instead of the author’s name, type three hyphens, followed by a period and the title.

Alphabetize the entries by the title of the work.


Works Cited

Edmondson, Jacqueline. “The Will of the People.” *The Reading Teacher*, vol. 55, no. 5, 2002, pp. 52-54. *ProQuest*, and add here the URL for this online database article if your instructor requests it.

Gilbert, Sandra M. *Emily’s Bread: Poems*. Norton, 1984.  Book Citation

----. *Ghost Volcano: Poems*. Norton, 1995.  Book Citation


“Reading Between the Lines.” *New Yorker*. 24 May 1993, pp. 36-43.


en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wicca.
Magazine

- Last name of author, followed by a comma, followed by first name of author, followed by a period.
- Quotation mark, followed by title of article, followed by period, followed by quotation mark.
- Title of magazine or journal in *italics*, followed by a comma
- Date of publication, followed by a comma
- Page numbers for the entire article, (beginning with p. for a single page, or pp. for multiple pages), followed by a period.
Example: Magazine

Edmondson, Jacqueline. “The Will of the People.” *The Reading Teacher*, vol. 55, no. 5, 2002, pp. 52-54. *ProQuest*, Note: If your instructor requests the URL, don’t forget to add the URL at the end of this citation.


“Reading Between the Lines.” *New Yorker*, 24 May 1993, pp. 36-43. Magazine Citation


en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wicca.
Journal Article

- Last name of author, followed by a comma, followed by first name of author, followed by a period.
- Quotation mark, followed by title of article, followed by period, followed by quotation mark.
- Title of journal in *italics*.
- Volume – vol. , followed by the applicable volume number, followed by a comma
- If available, add the issue number, followed by a comma
- Year of publication, followed by a comma.
- Page numbers for the entire article, preceded by a pp. for multiple pages, or p. for a single page, followed by a period.
Example A: Journal

Segal, Gabriel. “Seeing What Is Not There.”

Example B: Journal

Works Cited

Edmondson, Jacqueline. “The Will of the People.” *The Reading Teacher*, vol. 55, no. 5, 2002, pp. 52-54. ProQuest, and add here the URL for this online database article if your instructor requests it.


Newspaper Article

- Author’s last name, followed by a comma, followed by their first name, followed by a period.
- Quotation mark, followed by the article title, followed by a period, followed by a quotation mark.
- If the article is an editorial, write Editorial, followed by a period.
- Name of newspaper, in *italics*.
- Date of publication (Day Month Year format), followed by a comma, followed by the edition (if given), followed by a comma.
- Section and page number followed by a period. If the article is on more than one page, add a plus sign, followed by a period.
Edmondson, Jacqueline. “The Will of the People.” *The Reading Teacher*, vol. 55, no. 5, 2002, pp. 52-54. *ProQuest*, and add here the URL for this online database article if your instructor requests it.


Article from Library Database

- Your citation will depend on whether you used an article from a newspaper, magazine, or journal, which you retrieved from a library database.

- Format the citation as you would for the print source. After typing the page numbers, you will then type:
  - The name of the database from which you retrieved the article, in *italics*, followed by a comma.
  - The URL of the online article, followed by a period.

Note that stable URLs, permalinks, or digital objective identifiers (Doi), which are sometimes provided by databases, are preferable to an unstable URL retrieved from the browser window.
Example: Journal Article from Library Database

Example: Magazine Article from Library Database

Works Cited

Edmondson, Jacqueline. “The Will of the People.” *The Reading Teacher*, vol. 55, no. 5, 2002, pp. 52-54. *ProQuest*, and add here the URL for this online database article if your instructor requests it.  Library database citation


“Reading Between the Lines.” *New Yorker*, 24 May 1993, pp. 36-43.


en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wicca.
Internet Sources

- Author’s last name, followed by a comma, followed by their first name, followed by a period.

- Quotation mark, followed by title of document, followed by a period, followed by quotation mark.

- Name of the entire web site, in *italics*, followed by a period.

- Name of sponsoring institution (if given), followed by a comma.

- Date of web page’s last update, in Day Month Year format, followed by a period.

- The web address of the document
Example: Internet Source

Works Cited

Edmondson, Jacqueline. “The Will of the People.” *The Reading Teacher*, vol. 55, no. 5, 2002, pp. 52-54. *ProQuest*, and add here the URL for this online database article if your instructor requests it.


“Reading Between the Lines.” *New Yorker*, 24 May 1993, pp. 36-43.

For More Help

- MLA handout from the Library Reference Desk (also available online at the Library website)


- Learning Center Writing Tutors

- Other NCC Library documentation links and handouts under “Need Help?” → Citing Sources
  [http://www.northampton.edu/Library.htm](http://www.northampton.edu/Library.htm)

- MLA website [https://style.mla.org/](https://style.mla.org/)

- View other MLA tutorials:
  - MLA Basics
  - In-Text Citation
Questions?

- Stop by the **Learning Center**!

- Stop by the **Library Reference Desk** at the Mack (Bethlehem) and Monroe libraries.

- **Call** the Library Reference Desk:
  - Mack (Bethlehem): 610-861-5359
  - Monroe: 570-369-1810

- **Email** a librarian - askthelibrarian@northampton.edu.