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## Bibliographic Instruction

### MLA Documentation

This is a brief guide to the Modern Language Association rules for documentation, used primarily in the humanities. It covers only some of the more commonly used categories. For additional and in depth information on the MLA style please consult:

Gibaldi, Joseph. MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers. 6th ed. New York: MLA, 2003.

(Latest edition kept at Dupre Library Reference Desk, Ref LB 2369 .G53).

#### **FORMAT**

Except for page numbers, set one inch margins at the top, bottom and both sides of the text. Research papers must be double spaced throughout.

#### **WHEN TO CITE**

Whenever you draw on another's work, you must provide documentation. Parenthetical notes must be used after: direct quotations, paraphrases of someone else's words or ideas, and facts and figures. Representing the words or ideas of another as your own is plagiarism and a direct violation of the Academic Honor Code in the university catalog. (For more information about plagiarism see the MLA Handbook pp. 65-75.)

#### **CITING SOURCES IN THE TEXT: PARENTHETICAL NOTATION**

MLA documentation requires a brief parenthetical acknowledgment in your paper wherever you incorporate another's words, facts or ideas, usually in the form of the author's last name and the page reference. For example:

Ancient writers attributed the invention of the monochord to Pythagoras... (Marcuse 197).

The citation "(Marcuse 197)" refers to a sentence from page 197 of a work by Marcuse, and the complete citation for this source will be found in the works cited list. If the author's name appears in the text, only the page number appears in the citation:

According to Marcuse, ancient writers attributed the invention of the monochord... (197).

If more than one work by the author is in the list of works cited, a shortened version of the title is given: (Marcuse, *Survey* 197).

References in the text must clearly point to specific sources in the works cited list.

## **WORKS CITED**

The list of works cited appears at the end of the research paper on a new page entitled "WORKS CITED". Begin each entry flush with the left margin and if necessary indent subsequent line(s). Double space the entire list both between and within entries. Alphabetize entries in the list of works cited by author's last name; if the author's name is unknown, alphabetize by title. [Note that double-spacing and indentation is not used in the following examples due to the present limitations of HyperText Markup Language.]

### **BOOKS:**

#### **Books by a single author:**

Marcuse, Sibyl. A Survey of Musical Instruments. New York: Harper, 1975.

#### **Books by two or more authors:**

Jakobson, Roman, and Linda R. Waugh. The Sound Shape of Language. Bloomington: Indiana UP, 1979.

#### **Two or more books by the same author:**

Tannen, Deborah, ed. Gender and Conversational Interaction. New York: Morrow, 1990.

---. You Just Don't Understand: Women and Men in Conversation. New York: Morrow, 1990.

#### **Essay in an anthology:**

Broadhead, Richard H. "Hawthorne Among the Realists: The Case of the Howells." American Realism: New Essays. Ed. Eric J. Sundquist. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1982. 25-41.

## **PERIODICALS:**

### **Newspaper:**

Feder, Barnaby J. "For Job Seekers, a Toll-Free Gift of Expert Advice." New York Times 30 Dec. 1993, v 143: C1 D1.

### **Magazine Article in Print and from an Online Database:**

Begley, Sharon. "New Hope for Women at Risk." Newsweek 20 April 1998: 68-70.

Begley, Sharon. "New Hope for Women at Risk." Newsweek 20 April 1998: 68-70. Academic Search Premier, 22 Aug. 2001.  
<<http://search.epnet.com> >

### **Journal:**

Scotto, Peter. "Censorship, Reading and Interpretation: A Case Study from the Soviet Union." PMLA 109 (1994): 61-70.

### **Article in a microform collection:**

Chapman, Dan. "Panel could help Protect Children." Winston-Salem Journal 14 Jan. 1990: 14. Newsbank: Welfare and Social Problems 12 (1990): fiche 1, grids A8-11.

## **ELECTRONIC MEDIA:**

(resources taken from Diana Hacker, A Writer's Reference, <<http://www.dianahacker.com/resdoc/humanities/list.html>>).

Give as many of the following elements as apply and as are available:  
The name of the author or corporate author (if known)

- The title of the site, underlined
- The names of any editors
- The date of publication or last update
- The name of any sponsoring organization
- The date of access
- The URL in angle brackets

### **An Entire Web Site:**

Peterson, Susan Lynn. The Life of Martin Luther. 17 Oct. 2002. 22 April 2002. <<http://www.susanlynnpeterson.com/luther/home.html>>.

### **An Online Book:**

Rawlins, Gregory J. E. Moths to the Flame. Cambridge: MIT Press, 1996. 3 Apr. 2001 <<http://mitpress.mit.edu/e-books/Moths/>>

contents.html>.

**From An Online Scholarly Journal:**

Belau, Linda. "Trauma and the Material Signifier." Postmodern Culture 11.2 (2001): 37 pars. 30 Mar. 2001 <<http://jefferson.village.virginia.edu/pmc/current.issue/11.2belau.html>>.

**From An Online Magazine:**

Morgan, Fiona. "Banning the Bullies." Salon.com 15 Mar. 2001. 2 Apr. 2001 <<http://www.salon.com/news/feature/2001/03/15/bullying/index.html>>.

**From An Online Newspaper:**

Whillon, Phil. "Ready or Not." Los Angeles Times 2 Dec. 2001. 3 Dec. 2001 <<http://www.latimes.com/news/la-foster-special.special>>. Online database article:

**From an Online Database Article:**

"Fresco." Britannica Online. Vers. 97.1.1. Mar. 1997. Encyclopaedia Britannica. 29 Mar. 1997 <<http://www.eb.com:180/>>.

(*from EBSCOhost:*)

Darnovsky, Marcy. "Embryo Cloning and Beyond." Tikkun July-Aug. 2002: 29-32. Academic Search Premier. EBSCOhost. Portland Community Coll. Lib., Portland, OR. 1 Nov. 2002 <<http://search.epnet.com/>>.

For more detailed information on citing electronic sources please refer to the MLA Handbook, 6th ed., pp.207-235 or go online to: <[http://www.mla.org/style\\_faq4](http://www.mla.org/style_faq4)

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Document last revised Wednesday, February 25, 2004 1:25 PM mac and Thursday, April 22, 2004 11:16 AM smc

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