

Citing Sources in MLA 8: Works Cited Page

Formatting a Works Cited Page

Make the works cited page separate from the paper: After you've finished your conclusion paragraph, add a page break and start putting your Works Cited entries on their own separate page. It's okay if your Works Cited page ends up being more than one page, just make sure that your full reference citations are separated from the end of your paper.

Label your works cited page: Have the words "Works Cited" centered at the top of the page. If you only have one source, you would use "Work Cited." The title should NOT be bold, italicized, in quotations, or underlined. Make sure you still have your last name and the page number in the header, just like you would on the other pages of your paper.

Keep everything double-spaced: The Works Cited page should be in Times New Roman, 12 pt font, and double-spaced, just like the rest of your paper. You do not need any extra spaces in between each citation entry.

Look at the number of authors: If your source has one author, list the author by their last name, then first name. If your source has two authors, list the first author by their last name and first name, but the second author should be listed by first and last name. If your source has three or more authors, list the first author by last name and first name, then write "et al." instead of the other authors' names (Smith, Jane, et al.).

Put your entries in alphabetical order: Look at the first letter of the first author's last name of each citation entry and figure out which ones start with letters that come first in the alphabet. For example, let's say your Works Cited page has three citation entries on it: one source starts with "Smith," one source starts with "Miller," and one source starts with "James." You would put the "James" source first, then the "Miller" source, and finally the "Smith" source.

*Note: this does not mean you should change the order that author names appear in a source to be alphabetical. List authors' names how they are published on your source - do not change the order as it may misrepresent the work.

Use hanging indents: A hanging indent is when the very first line of a paragraph is next to the left margin, and every other line that follows is indented by 0.5 inches. Each new entry should start at the left margin, so that the first line sticks out and makes it clear where a new citation entry starts. This explanation might be a little confusing, so we've formatted all of the example Works Cited citation entries below with hanging indents so that you can see what they're supposed to look like.

Still have questions? Take a look at the [Purdue OWL Formatting and Style Guide](#), or check out our video for step-by-step instructions on how to format your works cited page.

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A Document in an Anthology or Collection

Anthologies or collections of essays are commonly used as textbooks for certain classes, and you might need to cite them for things like literature reviews or argumentative papers. A “collection” could be a larger book that holds many poems and short stories, or it could be a series of chapters that all have different authors. Though each essay will have its own author and title, you also need to include the editor and title of the whole anthology, as well as the year the anthology was published. It’s also important to include the page range of the essay or document.

Example works cited entry format:

Author last name, First name. "The Document Title Goes Here." *Title of Anthology or Collection*, edited by Editor first name and Last name, Name of Publisher, Year of Publication, pp. #-#.

Example document in a collection:

Let’s say you are trying to cite the chapter “Adventuring into Writing Assessment,” which was written by Richard Haswell and Susan Wyche-Smith. The chapter is in a book called *Assessing Writing: A Critical Sourcebook*, which was edited by Brian Huot and Peggy O’Neil and can be found from page 203 to page 217. The book was published in 2009 by Bedford/St. Martin’s.

Use the information above to fill in the blanks:

Author Last name, First name, and Author First name Last name.	“ Document Title.”	<i>Title of Anthology or Collection</i>	Edited by Editor first name, Last name and Editor first name, last name.
	Publisher name,	Year of Publication,	pp. #-#.

_____, _____, “ _____.”
 _____, edited by _____
 _____, _____, _____, pp. ____-____.

An Article in a Print Journal

When you’re citing a physical journal that you found in print, or if you are using a scanned-in PDF version of a printed journal, it will usually have a specific volume and issue number, and these numbers need to be included in your works cited entry. Label the volume number as **vol. #** and the issue number as **no. #**. If the journal doesn’t have a volume or issue number, it’s okay to not include them.

Example works cited entry format:

Last name, First name. “Title of the Article Goes Here.” *Title of Journal*, vol. #, no. #, Year of Publication, pp. #-#.

Example article in a print journal:

Let’s say you are trying to cite an article by Jane Cogie called “ESL Student Participation in Writing Center Sessions.” This article was published in *The Writing Center Journal* in 2006, volume 26, issue 2. It can be found from pages 48-66. The URL link is www.jstor.org/stable/43442249, and you accessed it on September 21, 2018.

Use the information above to fill in the blanks:

Last name, First name.	“Title of Article.”	<i>Title of Journal</i> ,	vol. #,	no. #,
	Year of publication,	pp. #-#,	URL link.	Accessed Day Month Year.

_____, _____. “_____” _____, vol. __, no. __, _____, pp. __ - __. Accessed _____.

An Article in an Online-Only Journal

If you found an article from an online journal that does not have a printed version, you need to cite it slightly differently than print journal articles in your works cited page. Usually, if there isn't a scanned PDF version of the journal, that means the journal does not appear in print and it is only online. For these journals, you will not have page numbers to include in your works cited entry, so instead you would include the URL link that you used to access the journal and the date that you accessed the article.

Example works cited entry format:

Last name, First name. "Title of the Article Goes Here." *Title of Journal*, vol. #, no. #, Year of Publication, www.url_link_goes_here.com. Accessed Day Month Year.

Example article in an online-only journal:

Let's say you're trying to cite an article by Helen Phelan and Mary Nunan called "To Write or Not to Write? The Contested Nature and Role of Writing in Arts Practice Research." This article was published in the *Journal of Research Practice* in 2018, volume 14, issue 2. It does not have page numbers because it's only online. The URL link is www.jrp.icaap.org/index.php/jrp/article/view/592, and you accessed the article on January 15, 2019.

Use the information above to fill in the blanks:

Last name, First name, and First name Last name.	"Title of the Article."	<i>Name of Journal</i> ,	vol. #, no. #,
	Year of Publication,	URL link.	Accessed Day Month Year.

_____, _____, and _____. "_____
 _____."
 _____, vol. _____,
 no. _____. Accessed _____.
 _____.

Books with Authors

Books can be a little harder to cite because the information you need for your citations might not be as noticeable. Authors and the full book title are listed on the cover page, and the rest of the information can be found in one of the first pages of the book. The publisher is usually pretty easy to spot because most books will have a section labeled “published by.” The publication year is usually marked by a copyright symbol.

You might come across books that have both authors and editors. In these cases, you would put a comma after the title of the book, then add the words “edited by” and follow that with the first and last name/names of the editor/editors. Include a comma in between the editor/editors and the name of the publisher.

If you’re citing an e-book, the citation will look only slightly different. After you put the title of the book, you have to include the word “e-book,” then you would include the name of the publisher and the publication year.

Example works cited page entry format for standard book:

Last name, First name. *The Title of the Book Goes Here*. Name of Publisher, Year of Publication.

Example works cited page entry format for e-book:

Last name, First name. *The Title of the Book Goes Here*, e-book, Name of Publisher, Year of Publication.

Example book:

Let’s say you are trying to cite *Multilingual Writers and Writing Centers*, which was written by Ben Rafoth. The book was published in 2015 by Utah State University Press.

Use the information above to fill in the blanks:

Last name, First name.	<i>Title of Book.</i>	Name of Publisher,	Year of Publication.

*If you are citing a book that was published before 1900, make sure to include the city that the book was published in before you list the publisher’s name.

An Edited Book with no Author

Sometimes you will come across books that have editors and no listed authors. When a book only has editors, you would put the editor names in the author slot followed by **editor** or **editors** if there is more than one.

Example works cited page entry format with one editor:

Last name, First name, editor. *Title of Book*. Name of Publisher, year of publication.

Example works cited page entry format with more than one editor:

Last name, First name, and First name Last name, editors. *Title of Book*. Name of Publisher, year of publication.

Example edited book with no author:

Let's say you are trying to cite *Tutoring Second Language Writers*, which was edited by Shanti Bruce and Ben Rafoth. The book has no authors listed, and it was published in 2016 by Utah State University Press.

Use the information above to fill in the blanks:

Last name, First name, and First name Last name,	editors.	<i>Title of Book</i> .	Name of Publisher,
	Year of publication.		

_____, _____, and _____, _____, editors. _____.

_____, _____.

A Book with More than One Edition

If there is more than one edition of a book, you have to include that in your works cited page. You only have to worry about this if it is clearly labeled that the book is an edition other than the first. You will see the edition number on the book cover if it is a different edition from the original publication. In your works cited entry, make sure to format the edition number like this: **2nd ed., 3rd ed., 4th ed., etc.**

Example works cited page entry format:

Last name, First name. *Title of the Book*, # ed., Name of Publisher, year of publication.

Example book with more than one edition:

Let's say you are trying to cite *Writing with a Purpose*, which was written by Joseph F. Trimmer. This is the 10th edition of this book. It was published in 1992 by Houghton Mifflin.

Use the information above to fill in the blanks:

Last name, First name.	<i>Title of Book</i> ,	10th ed.,	Name of Publisher,
	Year of publication.		

_____, _____, and _____, _____.
 _____,
 10th ed., _____, _____.

A Page on a Website with an Author

A page on a website is when you are citing from a specific part of a website. Pages on websites will usually have an author, but if it does not, look at the entry for a page on a website without an author. The page sometimes will not have a publication date, so if it does not, add the date you accessed the page to the works cited page entry.

If the article is written by a corporation that is different from the title of the website itself, use the corporation as the author.

Example works cited page entry format with date:

Last name, First name. "Title of Page." *Title of Website*, Day Month Year of publication,
 www.url_link_goes_here.com. Accessed Day Month Year.

Example works cited page entry format without date:

Last name, First name. "Title of Page." *Title of Website*, www.url_link_goes_here.com.
 Accessed Day Month Year.

Example page on a website with an author:

Let's say you are trying to cite "Writing Centers: More Than Remediation," which was written by Art Peterson and published May 7, 2010 on the National Writing Project website. You accessed the website on June 12, 2017. The URL link is www.nwp.org/cs/public/print/resource/3141.

Use the information above to fill in the blanks:

Last name, First name.	"Title of Page."	<i>Title of Website</i> ,	Day Month Year of publication,
	URL link.	Accessed Day Month Year.	

_____, _____. " _____." _____,
 _____, _____. Accessed ____
 _____.

A Page on a Website Without an Author

Sometimes, pages on a website will not have an author. When there is no author, start with the title of the page on the website. The page sometimes will not have a publication date, so if it does not, add the date you accessed the page to the works cited page entry.

Example works cited page entry format with date:

“Title of Page.” *Title of Website*, Day Month Year of publication, www.url_link_goes_here.com.
 Accessed Day Month Year.

Example works cited page entry format without date:

“Title of Page.” *Title of Website*, www.url_link_goes_here.com. Accessed Day Month Year.

Example page on a website with an author:

Let’s say you are trying to cite “The Final Draft: A Guide to Writing Centers,” which was published on the Value Colleges website. This article does not have an author or a publication date, but you accessed this article on January 25, 2019. The URL link is www.valuecolleges.com/guides/guide-to-writing-centers/.

Use the information above to fill in the blanks:

“Title of Page.”	<i>Title of Website</i> ,	URL link.	Accessed Day Month Year.

“ _____.” _____,
 _____ . Accessed ____ ____ ____.

A Newspaper Article

Printed newspapers are cited slightly differently from online newspapers. For print newspapers, you will need to include the page number of the article. Newspaper page numbers are often very different from page numbers in books or journals, and might include letters as well as numbers. Make sure to include the numbers and letters of the page the article is from. For articles found on a newspaper website, you probably will not be able to find any page numbers with the article. In this case, you would include the URL link that you used to access the article and the date you found the article instead.

Example works cited entry format for article in print:

Last name, First name. "Title of Newspaper Article." *Title of Newspaper*, Day Month Year of publication, p. #.

Example works cited entry format for online article:

Last name, First name. "Title of Newspaper Article." *Title of Newspaper*, Day Month Year of publication, www.url_link_goes_here.com. Accessed Day Month Year.

Example newspaper article:

Let's say you are trying to cite an article titled "OU Researchers Contribute to Ending Mudsna il Invasions in Michigan Waters." This article was written by Katie Valley and was published on June 5, 2019 in *The Oakland Post*. Though this article can be found in print, you found it online with no page numbers at [www.oaklandpostonline.com/27661/life-arts/ou-researchers-contribute-to-ending-mudsna il-invasions-in-michigan-waters/](http://www.oaklandpostonline.com/27661/life-arts/ou-researchers-contribute-to-ending-mudsna-il-invasions-in-michigan-waters/). This article was accessed on June 15, 2019.

Use the information above to fill in the blanks:

Last name, First name.	"Title of Article."	<i>Title of Newspaper</i> ,	Day Month Year of publication,
	URL link.	Accessed Day Month Year.	

_____, _____. " _____."

_____, _____, _____.

Accessed _____.

An Online Video

An online video can be found on YouTube or other various websites. There are two different ways to cite an online video. If the video has only one author or uploader, only cite the author once. Cite the author’s name first if the author is different than the uploader, such as if you are citing someone’s TED Talk that is uploaded by TED.

Example works cited page format for online video with one author/uploader:

“Title of Video.” *Website Title*, uploaded by Uploader, Day Month Year uploaded,
 www.url_link_goes_here.com.

Example works cited page format for online video with different author and uploader:

Last name, First name. “Title of Video.” *Website Title*, uploaded by Uploader, Day Month Year
 uploaded, www.url_link_goes_here.com.

Example online video:

Let’s say you are trying to cite a video titled “Writing in Nursing Lightboard.” This video was uploaded to YouTube by username OUWrtCtr, on April 19, 2019. You found it online at www.youtube.com/watch?v=j1Qtu7sB3TM.

Use the information above to fill in the blanks:

“Title of Video.”	<i>Website Title</i> ,	uploaded by Uploader,	Day Month Year uploaded,
	URL link.		

“ _____ ” _____, uploaded by
 _____, _____, _____.

A Personal Interview

If you need to include primary research in your paper, you will most likely need to cite a personal interview. Since you will not have any publication information, you will only need to include the name of the person you interviewed, the words “personal interview,” and the date that you conducted the interview.

Example works cited entry format:

Last name, First name of person you interviewed. Personal interview. Day Month Year of interview.

Example personal interview:

Let’s say you were interviewing Caitlyn Ulery about what it’s like to work as an Oakland University writing consultant. You interviewed her on January 18, 2019.

Use the information above to fill in the blanks:

Last name, First name of person interviewed.	Personal interview.	Day Month Year of interview.

_____, _____. Personal interview. _____. _____.

Citing Sources in MLA 8: Answer Key

A Document in an Anthology or Collection

Haswell, Richard, and Susan Wyche-Smith. "Adventuring into Writing Assessment." *Assessing Writing: A Critical Sourcebook*, edited by Brian Huot and Peggy O'Neil, Bedford/St. Martin's, 2009, pp. 203-217.

An Article in a Print Journal

Cogie, Jane. "ESL Student Participation in Writing Center Sessions." *The Writing Center Journal*, vol. 26, no. 2, 2006, pp. 48-66, www.jstor.org/stable/43442249. Accessed 21 Sept. 2018.

An Article in an Online-Only Journal

Phelan, Helen and Mary Nunan. "To Write or Not to Write? The Contested Nature and Role of Writing in Arts Practice Research." *Journal of Research Practice*, vol. 14, no. 2, 2018, www.jrp.icaap.org/index.php/jrp/article/view/592. Accessed 15 Jan. 2019.

Books with Authors

Rafoth, Ben. *Multilingual Writers and Writing Centers*. Utah State University Press, 2015.

An Edited Book with no Author

Bruce, Shanti, and Ben Rafoth, editors. *Tutoring Second Language Writers*. Utah State University Press, 2016.

A Book with More than One Edition

Trimmer, Joseph F. *Writing with a Purpose*, 10th ed., Houghton Mifflin, 1992.

A Page on a Website with an Author

Peterson, Art. "Writing Centers: More Than Remediation." *National Writing Project*, 7 May 2010, www.nwp.org/cs/public/print/resource/3141. Accessed 12 June 2017.

A Page on a Website Without an Author

"The Final Draft: A Guide to Writing Centers." *Value Colleges*, www.valuecolleges.com/guides/guide-to-writing-centers/. Accessed 25 Jan. 2019.

A Newspaper Article

Valley, Katie. "OU Researchers Contribute to Ending Mudsnail Invasions in Michigan Waters." *The Oakland Post*, 5 June 2019, www.oaklandpostonline.com/27661/life-arts/ou-researchers-contribute-to-ending-mudsnail-invasions-in-michigan-waters/. Accessed 15 June 2019.

An Online Video

"Writing in Nursing Lightboard." *YouTube*, uploaded by OUWrtCtr, 19 Apr. 2019, www.youtube.com/watch?v=j1Qtu7sB3TM.

A Personal Interview

Ulery, Caitlyn. Personal Interview. 18 Jan. 2019.