

MLA Citation Guidelines for Energy Research Project

Why cite sources?

- If you fail to give proper credit to your sources you are committing plagiarism.
- Plagiarism is a form of *theft* or *fraud*.
 - People have lost their jobs or have had degrees taken away because of plagiarism.
 - At most universities, students can fail assignments, and sometimes entire courses (that cost the student thousands of dollars), because of plagiarism. Universities take plagiarism so seriously that in severe cases students are not allowed to return.

In text, or parenthetical, citations

- Parenthetical, or in-text, citation involves placing relevant source information in parentheses after a quote or a paraphrase.
- **General Guidelines**
 - The source information required in a parenthetical citation depends (1.) upon the source medium (e.g. Print, Web, DVD) and (2.) upon the source's entry on the Works Cited (bibliography) page.
 - Any source information that you provide in-text must correspond to the source information on the Works Cited page. More specifically, whatever signal word or phrase you provide to your readers in the text must be the first thing that appears on the left-hand margin of the corresponding entry in the Works Cited List.
- For Print sources like books, magazines, scholarly journal articles, and newspapers, provide a signal word or phrase (usually the author's last name) and a page number. If you provide the signal word/phrase in the sentence, you do not need to include it in the parenthetical citation.
 - Human beings have been described as "symbol-using animals" (Burke 3).
- For electronic and Internet sources, follow these guidelines:
 - Include in the text the first item that appears in the Work Cited entry that corresponds to the citation (e.g. author name, article name, website name, film name).
 - Unless you must list the Web site name in the signal phrase in order to get the reader to the appropriate entry, do not include URLs in-text. Only provide partial URLs such as when the name of the site includes, for example, a domain name, like *CNN.com* or *Forbes.com* as opposed to writing out <http://www.cnn.com> or <http://www.forbes.com>.

Works Cited Page

- All sources used must be listed according to MLA citation guidelines.
- Any information cited in your paper must be included in your works cited.
- If you did not use a source in your paper it should NOT be on your works cited page.
- **Citing Books:** The author's name or a book with a single author's name appears in last name, first name format. The basic form for a book citation is:

Lastname, Firstname. *Title of Book*. City of Publication: Publisher, Year of Publication. Medium of Publication.

- **Web Sites:** It is necessary to list your date of access because web postings are often updated, and information available on one date may no longer be available later. Be sure to include the complete web address for the site. Remember to use *n.p.* if no publisher name is available and *n.d.* if no publishing date is given followed by complete web address in angle brackets.

Editor, author, or compiler name (if available). *Name of Site*. Version number. Name of institution/organization affiliated with the site (sponsor or publisher), date of resource creation (if available). Medium of publication. Date of access. <<http://www.webaddress.com>>

The Purdue OWL Family of Sites. The Writing Lab and OWL at Purdue and Purdue U, 2008. Web. 23 Apr. 2008. <<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/08/>>

- **Recorded Films or Movies:** List films by their title. Include the name of the director, the distributor, and the release year. If relevant, list performer names after the director's name. Use the abbreviation *perf.* to head the list. End the entry with the appropriate medium of publication (e.g. DVD, VHS, Laser disc).

Ed Wood. Dir. Tim Burton. Perf. Johnny Depp, Martin Landau, Sarah Jessica Parker, Patricia Arquette. Touchstone, 1994. DVD.

If you need help, remember to visit the Purdue OWL Online Writing Lab- <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/>

MLA In-Text Citation Helper



WHEN SHOULD I CITE MY SOURCES IN MY PAPER?

You **MUST ALWAYS CITE** text that is quoted, paraphrased, or summarized – or any information taken from another sources (like statistics or numerical data). Usually this is information that is not common knowledge that you learned from your source.

WHAT DOES AN IN TEXT CITATION LOOK LIKE?

One researcher has found that dreams move backward in time as the night progresses (Dement 71).

Martin Luther King stated "I have a dream" (184).

A new study finds that most teenagers and adults are reading less than ever (*New York Times* 3).

HOW DO I KNOW WHAT MY IN TEXT CITATION SHOULD LOOK LIKE?

Example	In text citation
Author's last name & page # are known	(Author's last name page #).
Author's last name is mentioned in sentence	(Page #).
No author	(Title of <i>book</i> /"article"/ <i>website</i> etc & page # if listed).
More than one work by the same author	(Author's Last Name, Shortened Title Page #).
Work has two or three authors	(Author's Last Name and Other Author's Last Name Page #).

