

MLA – quick guide



Further examples can be found at <https://library.unimelb.edu.au/recite/referencing-styles/mla-9>

Basic Principles

- MLA is **an in-text citation** style with 2 key components:
 1. Citations in the text that direct the reader to entries in the Works Cited list.
 2. An alphabetical list of sources (Works Cited list) that appears at the end of the paper.
- **Consistency** in your citations is essential.
- **Citations** can appear in the text either as part of the prose or in parentheses. All in-text references should be concise. Provide the author's name or, if no author, the title of the work in either prose or parentheses but not both.
- If a specific part of a work **is quoted or paraphrased**, the page number should be included in parentheses in the citation. Do not precede a page number with p. or pp.
- The **Works Cited list** should be ordered alphabetically by family name. It only contains works used in a paper.
- **Punctuation** should be consistently applied.
- **Citations of online resources** should always include an identifier. DOIs are preferred because they are more stable than URLs.
- **Access dates** for online works should be used if there is no publication date, or if the work could be altered or removed.

Books and chapters

In text citation	(Author page number)
Works cited list (Books)	Author (Surname, Forename). <i>Title of Book</i> . Publisher, Year.
Works cited list (Chapters)	Author(s) of chapter, "Title of chapter." <i>Title of Book</i> , edited by Editor(s). Edition, Publisher, Year, page numbers.

Journal articles

In text citation	(Author page number)
Works cited list	Author (Surname, Forename). "Title of Article." <i>Journal Name</i> , vol., no., Publication date, page(s).

Websites

In text citation	(Author)
Reference List	<p>Author (Surname, Forename). "Title of web page." Title of Website, date of publication (if available), URL.</p> <p>Note: if there is no individual author for a web page, begin the citation with "Title of the web page".</p>