



Citing Your Sources

Based on the MLA Handbook 7th Edition

Part of academic writing is the process of acknowledging the source of the material you used in preparing your paper, by citing your sources. Various manuals offer slightly different citation formats depending upon the subject matter.

At West Valley College the English Department has chosen as a standard the MLA format. Instructors in other disciplines also often specify this citation format as it is one of the easiest to understand. Another format, the APA style (American Psychological Association), is used in the psychology, sociology and other related fields. Check with your individual instructors on what citation style they prefer.

BOOKS

Generic citation format:

Author last name, Author first name. *Title of the Book is Italicized*. City of publication: Name of publisher, year of publication. Medium of publication.

One author:

Young, Vernon. *Cinema Borealis: Ingmar Bergman and the Swedish Ethos*. New York: D. Lewis, 1971. Print.

Two or three authors:

Anderson, Marian, Jeanne La Berge, and Margaret E. Elliot. *Play with a Purpose: Elementary School Physical Education*. New York: Harper, 1966. Print.

E-Book:

Butler, John M. *Forensic DNA Typing: Biology, Technology, and Genetics of STR Markers*. Amsterdam: Elsevier Academic, 2005. *NetLibrary*. Web. 27 May 2009.

An Anthology or Edited Book:

Briscoe, James R., ed. *New Historical Anthology of Music by Women*. Bloomington: Indiana UP, 2004. Print.

A Work in an Anthology or Edited book:

Jagamara Nelson, Michael. "I Am an Artist, Not a Politician." *The Oxford Companion to Aboriginal Art and Culture*. Ed. Sylvia Kleinert and Margo Neale. Melbourne: Oxford UP, 2000. 482-83. Print.

MAGAZINE & NEWSPAPER ARTICLES IN PRINT

Generic citation format:

Author last name, Author first name. "Title of Article in Quotation Marks." *Name of Periodical Italicized*. Date of publication: Inclusive page number, if available. Medium of publication.

Magazine:

Ferris, David. "Message in a Bottle." *Sierra* May/June 2009: 44-51. Print.

Newspaper:

Theriault, Denis C. "San Jose Councilwoman Survives Attempt to Remove Her from Office." *San Jose Mercury News* 4 Mar. 2009: 1A+. Print.

ARTICLES FROM ONLINE LIBRARY DATABASES

Generic citation format:

Author last name, Author first name. "Title of Article in Quotation Marks." *Name of Periodical Italicized* volume number for a scholarly journal. Issue number, if available, for a scholarly journal (Year of publication in parenthesis): Inclusive page numbers, if not available, use n. pag. *Title of database italicized*. Medium of publication. Date of access.

Journal Article (Online):

Billitteri, Thomas J. "The Value of a College Education." *CQ Researcher* 19.41 (2009): 981-1004. *CQ Researcher*. Web. 27 Nov. 2009.

Cohen, Daniel A. "Passing the Torch: Boston Firemen, 'Tea Party' Patriots, and the Burning of the Charlestown Convent." *Journal of the Early Republic* 24.4 (2004): 527-86. *ProQuest*. Web. 27 Jan. 2009.

Lopez, Kimberle S. "Modernismo and the Ambivalence of the Postcolonial Experience: Cannibalism, Primitivism, and Exoticism in Mario de Andrade's *Macunaima*." *Luso-Brazilian Review* 35.1 (1998): 25-38. *Literary Reference Center*. Web. 15 Feb. 2009.

Anonymous Article (Online):

"Mideast Talks, 30 Years Later." *USA Today* 19 May 2009: A.10. *ProQuest*. Web. 27 May 2009.

"Organized Squatting." *Issues & Controversies On File*: n. pag. *Issues & Controversies*. Facts On File News Services, 10 July 2009. Web. 19 Jan. 2010.

WEB PUBLICATIONS

Generic format for a Web-based article or a Web page:

Author last name, Author first name. "Title of Page/Article in Quotation Marks." *Title of Overall Website Italicized*. Publisher/sponsor of the site or if not provided use N.p., Date of publication or if not provided use n.d. Web. Date of access. <Enclose the URL in angle brackets>.

"Aid-In-Dying Glossary." Compassion & Choices. N.p., n.d. Web. 18 Jan. 2010.
<<http://www.compassionandchoices.org/learn/glossary>>.

Keller, Helen. *The World I Live In*. New York: Century, 1914. *Google Books*. Web. 14 Feb. 2010.
<http://books.google.com/books?id=CoufAAAAMAAJ&dq=the+world+i+live+in&source=gbs_navlinks_s>.

Lewin, Tamar. "A Boon to 2-Year Colleges, Affirming Their Value." *New York Times* 15 July 2009: A14. Web. 23 Feb. 2010.
<<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/07/15/education/15college.html>>.

Marquardt, Elizabeth. "All Divorces Damage the Children." *Deseret News*. BNET. CBS Interactive, 13 Nov. 2005. Web. 05 July 2009.
<http://findarticles.com/p/articles/mi_qn4188/is_20051113/ai_n15840098/>.

Office of Disability Employment Policy. "Employment Rights: Who has Them and Who Enforces Them." *United States. Dept. of Labor*. U.S. Dept. of Labor, Apr. 2002. Web. 30 Jan. 2010.
<<http://www.dol.gov/odep/pubs/fact/rights.htm>>.

Schaffer, Amanda. "Sex, Science, and Static: Pro-Abstinence Politics Meddles With a CDC Conference." *Slate*. Slate, 5 May 2006. Web. 18 Jan. 2010. <<http://slate.com/id/2141183/>>.

White, Nancy. "Early Intermediate, Regional Diversification: Moche, Nasca, San Agustín Marajo Island; Iconography; 200 BC - AD 6000." *South American Archaeology*. Indiana U Bloomington, 20 Jan. 2005. Web. 10 Dec. 2009.
<http://www.indiana.edu/~arch/saa/matrix/saa/saa_mod06.html>.

OTHER TYPES OF SOURCES

Dead Man. Dir. Jim Jarmusch. Perf. Johnny Depp, Gary Farmer. 1996. Miramax, 2000. DVD.

Copies of the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers, 7th Edition* are available at the West Valley College Library. You can search the catalog at <http://lib.wvmccd.cc.ca.us>