

## CITING SOURCES: MLA STYLE

This guide contains examples of MLA bibliographic formats for commonly used sources. For complete and authoritative information consult the printed *MLA Style Manual*. You must attribute direct quotations and other people's ideas within the body of your paper. Failure to do so might lead to charges of plagiarism.

- ◆ If you are unsure of what to cite, a good rule of thumb is to cite it, or ask your instructor.

Keep in mind the following rules when formatting your bibliography:

- ◆ The bibliography should be arranged alphabetically by author, or, if author is not present, by title.
- ◆ Use hanging indents of 5 spaces.
- ◆ All entries must include a medium (print, electronic, recording etc.) note. See the *Style Manual* for a full listing of mediums.
- ◆ Web resources must include a date of access in the citation.
- ◆ Check with your instructor to see if URLs are required for web resources. If not, use URLs for any resource that can not be found using a simple web search
- ◆ Use double spacing, unless your professor instructs otherwise.
- ◆ Be sure to use the proper punctuation.

### BOOKS

*Basic format:* Author. *Title*. Publisher city: Publisher, year. Medium.

Wilson, David Sloan. *Evolution for Everyone: How Darwin's Theory Can Change the Way We Think About Our Lives*. New York : Delacorte Press, 2007. Print.

#### ONLINE BOOK:

Dickins, Charles. *A Tale of Two Cities*. New York: Hurd and Houghton, 1869. *Google Book Search*. Web. 19 May 2009.

#### CHAPTER IN AN EDITED BOOK:

Chapter author. "Chapter title." *Book title*. Editor first name last name. Publisher city: Publisher, year. Pages. Medium.

Thompson, Cathy. "The Oreo Cookie: Black on the Outside, White on the Inside." *Becoming American, Becoming Ethnic : College Students Explore their Roots*. Ed. Thomas Dublin. Philadelphia, P.A.: Temple University Press, 1996. 152-175. Print.

#### TRANSLATED BOOK:

Marquez, Gabriel. *Love in the Time of Cholera*. Trans. Edith Grossman. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1988. Print.

### JOURNAL ARTICLES

#### PRINT:

*Basic Format:* Author. "Title." *Journal Title* vol.no (year): pages. Format.

Bix, Herbet, P. "War Crimes Law and American Wars in 20th Century Asia." *Hitotsubashi Journal of Social Studies*. 33.1 (2001):119-132. Print.

#### FROM A FULL-TEXT DATABASE:

Author. "Title." *Journal Title*. Volume number. Issue number. (Year). Pages. *Database name*. Medium. Date of Access. <URL provided, if necessary / >.

Gates, Leslie. "Theorizing Business Power in the Semiperiphery: Mexico 1970-2000." *Theory and Society*. 38.1 (2009): 57-95. *SpringerLink Contemporary*. Web. 19 May 2009.  
<<http://www.springerlink.com/>>.

**FROM A WEB-BASED SOURCE:**

Author. "Title." *Journal Title* Volume number. Issue number (years): page numbers, if applicable\*:  
Web. Date accessed. <URL, if necessary />.

\*if page numbers are not available, use abbreviation n.pag. to indicate "no pagination."

Kinney, Kelly. "Online Communities, Self-Silencing, and Lost Rhetorical Spaces." *Kairos: A Journal for Teachers of Writing in Webbed Environments* 6.1 (2001): n.pag. Web. 19 May 2009

**MAGAZINE ARTICLES:**

*Basic format:* Author. "Title." *Magazine title*. Day Month Year: pages. Medium.

Hewitt, Bill, Diane Herbst, and Caroline Howard. "A Survivor – And Hero." *People*. 20 April 2009: 76+. Print.

**NEWSPAPER ARTICLES:**

*Basic Format:* Author. "Title." *Newspaper name* day month year, edition information: pages. Medium.

Applebome, Peter. "Seeking Higher Education at Lower Prices." *New York Times* 25 Oct. 2008, New York ed. : A4. Print.

For magazine and newspaper articles from a FULL-TEXT DATABASE or a WEB-BASED SOURCE, use the format shown above, but change the "medium" and include database name, date accessed, and URL (if necessary) as shown in the JOURNAL ARTICLE examples above.

**WEB SITE**

*Basic Format:* Author or Corporation. *Title (see below)*. Version or edition used. Publisher or sponsor\*. Date of creation or update day month year \*\*. Web. Date of access day month year. <URL if necessary />.

If are citing the overall web site, place the title in italics. If you are using a specific page from a larger site, place the title in regular font, inside quotes.

\*if not available, use N.p.

\*\*if not available, use n.d.

*Binghamton University Libraries*. 19 May 2009. N.p. Web. 18 May 2009.

Bouman, Kate. "Citation Help." Binghamton University Libraries. 24 Feb. 2009. Web. 18 May 2009.  
<<http://library.binghamton.edu/search/citing.html> />.

For further help, see :

- ♦ *MLA Style Manual* (Ref Desk PN147 G44 2008) or the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers* (Ref Desk LB2369 .G53 2009)
- ♦ The Libraries' web guide, Citing Sources (<http://library.lib.binghamton.edu/search/citing.html>)
- ♦ Using Refworks (<http://library.binghamton.edu/instruct/refworkshelp.html>) to help create your citations and keep track of your sources.