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Citation Guide: MLA Style (7th edition)

The Modern Language Association (MLA) Style is a commonly used citation method for academic writing, particularly in the humanities.

Most citations include four main divisions:

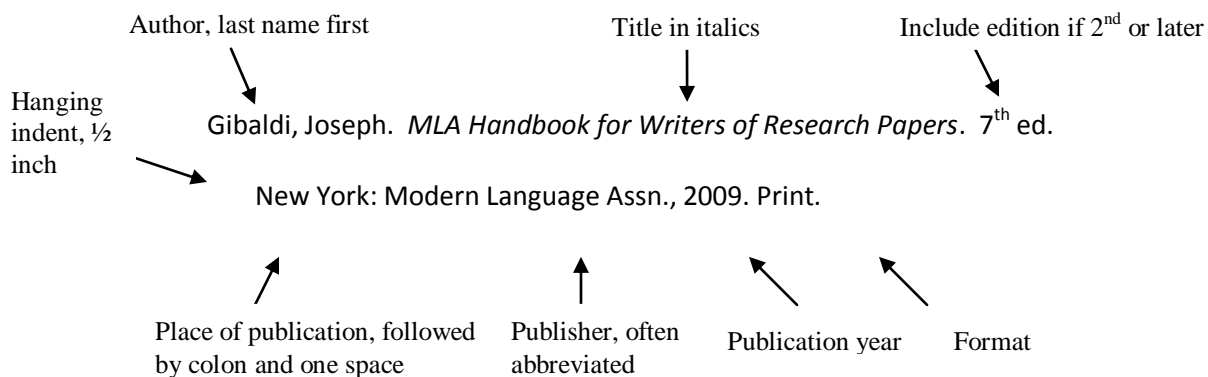
Author's name. Title or source. Publication information. Format.

For a book:

- Give the author's full name as it appears on the title page, last name first.
- Provide the full title, including subtitle, as it appears on the title page. Place a period after the title, unless the title ends with other punctuation. Underline or italicize the entire title, but not the period at the end.
- Publication information includes: City of publication: Publisher's name, year of publication.
- Format is typically "Print" or "Web."
- Follow divisions with a period and two spaces. List each source separately and alphabetically by author's last name.

ANATOMY of an MLA CITATION

Below is a sample citation for a book with a single author. Always consult the title page and the back of the title page for citation information.



LIST of WORKS CITED and ENTRY FORMATS

The list of works cited appears at the end of your paper. The title of the page should be Works Cited. Alphabetize and double-space the entire list. If an entry runs more than one line, indent

the subsequent lines an additional ½ inch (a hanging indent). The following list displays how to format entries from different types of sources.

- Single-author book:* Peretti, Burton W. *Jazz in American Culture*. Chicago: Ivan R. Dee, 1997. Print.
- Two-author book:* Marsalis, Wynton, and Carl Vigeland. *Jazz in the Bittersweet Blues of Life*. Cambridge, MA: Da Capo P, 2001. Print.
- Four or more authors:* Parakilas, James, et al. *Piano Roles: Three Hundred Years of Life with the Piano*. New Haven: Yale UP, 1999. Print.
- Electronic book:* Piazza, Tom. *The Guide to Classic Recorded Jazz*. Iowa City: U of Iowa P, 1995. *NetLibrary*. Web. 12 Aug. 2004.
- Journal article:* Barron, John. "Lessons from the Bandstand: Using Jazz as a Model for a Constructivist Approach to Music Education." *Music Educators Journal* 94.2 (2007): 18-21. Print.
- Journal article from a full-text database:* Custodero, Lori A. "Living Jazz, Learning Jazz." *General Music Today* 22.1 (2008): 24-29. *Academic Search Premier*. EBSCO. Web. 2 Sept. 2010.
- Newspaper article:* Sisario, Ben. "Jazz Gift to the Library." *New York Times* 5 Aug. 2004, late ed.: E2. Print.
- Web site:* Jung, Fred. "A Fireside Chat with Herbie Hancock." *All About Jazz*. 30 July 2004. All About Jazz. Web. 13 Aug. 2004.

For a more complete list of the types of resources you may encounter, see the seventh edition of the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers in the Reference Collection (LB 2369 .G53 2009). Additional style guides are also available on the library's research and citation guides web page.