Guide to MLA 8 Citation (from MLA Handbook, 8th edition)

There are some notable changes with the new MLA Handbook, 8th ed. (2016) in regards to how resources are conceptualized and cited. The major changes are:

- The establishment of core elements for simpler citation formatting, including the concept of information containers
- Changes to the ways that more than two authors/editors are listed
- The removal of a medium type (such as Web or Print) from citation formatting
- The removal of the publication location when citing books

MOST COMMON RESOURCES AND CITATIONS

The following are formatting guidelines for citing various types of sources. For citation types not covered here, ask a librarian or consult the MLA Handbook (8th ed.).

CITING PHYSICAL BOOKS AND ELECTRONIC LIBRARY BOOKS

Books are probably the most cited type of resource. What type of book you use and what part of the book you use will determine which template you use to cite it. There are three major types of books: physical books, electronic library books, and books from the internet. How do you tell the difference?

- If you **physically have a book in your hands**, then it is considered a PRINT book and you use the **Print Book Template**.
- If you **went to the library website and found a book that you read online**, then this is an electronic library book and you use the **Electronic Library Book Template**.
- If you **searched on the open internet (such as Google) and located your book without the use of a library database**, then this is a book from the internet and you would use the **Electronic Book from the internet Template** (See _Citing Internet Resources (not from Library Databases_ further down).

SOURCE TYPE	PRINT BOOK TEMPLATE (for physical books only)	PRINT BOOK EXAMPLE	ELECTRONIC SCC LIBRARY BOOK TEMPLATE	ELECTRONIC SCC LIBRARY BOOK EXAMPLE
Entire Book	Author last name, first name. _Book Title: With Subtitle if Present._ Publisher Name, Year.	Mushanga, Tibamanya Mwene. _Crime and Deviance: An Introduction to Criminology_. Law Africa, 2011.	Author last name, first name. _Book Title: With Subtitle if Present._ Publisher Name, Year. _Database Name._	Mushanga, Tibamanya Mwene. _Crime and Deviance: An Introduction to Criminology_. Law Africa, 2011. _Ebrary_.
Book Chapter	Last name, first name. "Chapter Title." _Book Title: With Subtitle if Present,_ Publisher Name, Year, pp.#-#.	Mushanga, Tibamanya Mwene. "Political Crimes." _Crime and Deviance: An Introduction to Criminology_, Law Africa, 2011, pp.27-35.	Last name, First name. "Chapter Title." _Book Title: With Subtitle if Present,_ Publisher Name, Year, pp.#-# (if present). _Database Name._	Mushanga, Tibamanya Mwene. "Political Crimes." _Crime and Deviance: An Introduction to Criminology_, Law Africa, 2011, pp.27-35. _Ebrary_.
Edited Book	Editor last name, first name, editor. _Book Title: With Subtitle if Present._ Publisher Name, Year.	Calhoun, Craig, editor. _Sociology in America: A History_. U of Chicago P, 2008.	Editor last name, first name, editor. _Book Title: With Subtitle if Present._ Publisher Name, Year. _Database Name._	Calhoun, Craig, editor. _Sociology in America: A History_. U of Chicago P, 2008. _Ebrary_.

Anthology Section in an edited book	Author last name, first name. "Chapter Title." *Book Title: With Subtitle if Present,* edited by Editor's Name, Publisher Name, Year, pp.#-#.	DeVault, Marjorie L. "Knowledge from the Field." *Sociology in America: A History*, edited by Craig Calhoun. U of Chicago P, 2008, pp.155-82.	Author last name, first name. "Chapter Title." *Book Title: With Subtitle if Present*, edited by Editor's Name, Publisher Name, Year, pp.#-#. *Database Name.*	DeVault, Marjorie L. "Knowledge from the Field." *Sociology in America: A History*, edited by Craig Calhoun, U of Chicago P, 2008, pp.155-82. *Ebrary*.
Section in a Reference Book (include information if present; omit information not given)	Author name. "Title of Section/Entry." Title of Reference Book, edited by Editor's name, edition, vol. #, Publisher Name, Year, pp.#-#.	Short, Vanessa. "Birds from Outer Space." Science Fiction Flora and Fauna, edited by Jules Verne, vol. 18, McMillian, 2016, pp.36.	Author name. "Title of Section/Entry." Title of Reference Book, edited by Editor's name, edition, vol. #, Publisher Name, Year, pp.#-#. *Database Name*.	Short, Vanessa. "Birds from Outer Space." Science Fiction Flora and Fauna, edited by Jules Verne, vol. 18, McMillian, 2016, pp.36. *Gale Virtual Reference Library*.

CITING MAGAZINE, NEWSPAPER, AND JOURNAL ARTICLES FROM THE LIBRARY

Like most college libraries, Solano College Library's collection of articles is primarily online in our **library databases**. Whenever you go to the **library website and access resources from our databases** (i.e. Ebsco, ProQuest, etc.) you will use the templates here. If you bypass the library website and use the general internet (i.e. Google) to locate a resource, you will use the templates in the next section (*Citing Internet Resources*).

To cite articles taken from physical publications that you've found on the library shelves or at home (**less common**), use the Printed Article template.

SOURCE TYPE	TEMPLATE	EXAMPLE
Magazine, Newspaper or Journal Article from a SCC library database	Last name, First name. "Article Title." *Publication Title*, vol.#, no.#, Day Mon. Year, pp.#- #. *Database Name.*	Jensen, Cheryl. "The Three Seconds that Save Lives." *Consumer Reports,* Aug. 2016, pp.61-66. *Academic Search Complete*. Powell, Michael. "Billions to Fight Foreclosure, But New Loans for Just a Few." *The New York Times*, 29 Dec. 2009, A1. *ProQuest*. Magalas, Laura, and Thomas G. Ryan. "A New Rendition of an Old Classic: The Young Writers Program as a Writing Workshop." *International Journal of Progressive Education*, vol.12, no.2, June 2016, pp.7-22. *Education Research Complete*.
Printed article (less common; one you did not find online or in a database)	Last name, First name. "Article Title." *Publication Title*, vol.#, no.#, Day Mon. Year, pp.#- #.	Jensen, Cheryl. "The Three Seconds that Save Lives." *Consumer Reports,* Aug. 2016, pp.61-66.

Citing Internet Resources (not from Library Databases)

Whenever you bypass the library databases and use a tool like Google to locate a resource, you are accessing the open or free internet. For example, when you go to www.nytimes.com and find an article you would cite it as **Newspaper Article from the internet (below)**, but if you found the same New York Times article by searching the library databases, you would cite it as a **Newspaper Article from a library database (above)**.

When you're citing a resource from the open internet instead of a SCC library database, be sure to include the direct URL that leads back to the source, or the DOI# (digital object identifier number).

SOURCE TYPE	TEMPLATE	EXAMPLE
Magazine, Newspaper, or Journal Article from the Internet	Last name, First name. "Article Title." *Publication Title,* vol.#, no.#, Day Mon. Year, www.resourceURL.com OR doi:#.	Jensen, Cheryl. "Fastening Seat Belts: The 3 Seconds that Save Lives." *Consumer Reports,* Aug. 2016, www.consumerreports.org/ car-safety/fastening-seat-belts-3-seconds-that-save-lives/. Powell, Michael. "Billions to Fight Foreclosure, but Few New Loans." *The New York Times*, 29 Dec. 2009, www.nytimes.com/2009/ 12/30/nyregion/30foreclose.html. Magalas, Laura, and Thomas G. Ryan. "A New Rendition of an Old Classic: The Young Writers Program as a Writing Workshop." *International Journal of Progressive Education*, vol.12, no.2, June 2016, www.inased.org/v12n2/ijpev12n2.pdf.
Electronic Book from the Internet	Author last name, first name. *Book Title: With Subtitle if Present.* Publisher Name, Year, *Name of Organization Providing Book, www.*resourceURL.com.	Thoreau, Henry David. Walden. Thomas Y. Crowell, 1910, *GoogleBooks*, www.books.google.com/books?id=yiQ 3AAAAIAAJ.
Webpage (most common; part of a website)	Last name, first name (if present). "Webpage Title." *Website Name,* Publisher Name (omit if same as website name), Day Mon. Year published (if present), www.resourceURL.com.	Lohrey, Jackie. "How to Write a Successful Resume." *eHow*, Leaf Group, www.ehow.com/how_4710883_write-successful-resume.html. "Childhood Obesity: Definition." *Mayo Clinic*, 3 Nov. 2015, www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/childhood-obesity/basics/definition/con-20027428.
Entire Website (less common)	*Website Name.* Publisher Name (omit if same as website name), Day Mon. Year published (if present), www.resourceURL.com.	*eHow*. Leaf Group, www.ehow.com.
Online video from YouTube or other video hosting site	Creator name. "Video Title." *Website Name,* Publisher Name (omit if same as website name), Day Mon. Year published (if present), www.resourceURL.com.	Chicago Humanities. "Ta-Nehisi Coates: Between the World and Me." *YouTube*, 29 Oct. 2015, www.youtube.com/watch?v=yuopm8il7bq.

THINGS TO BE AWARE OF FOR ALL CITATIONS

Include as much information as you can in your citation to help your reader "see" your source. More information is better than less!

Hanging indent	• The second and subsequent line of each citation on a Works Cited page is indented 1.5" from the left margin. Google "hanging indent MLA" for tips, and see the Works Cited example below
Multiple authors/editors	• When a resource has **TWO** authors/editors include both names:
	o Dubner, Stephen J., and Steven Levitt. *Freakonomics: A Rogue Economist Explores the Hidden Side of Everything*. Turtleback Books, 2009.
	o Pool, Robert, and Wenzel Gessler, editors. *Medical Anthropology*. Open UP, 2005.
	• When any resource has **MORE THAN TWO** authors or editors include the first two author/editor name only, followed by **et al.**:
	o Gonzalez Morganti, Kristy, et al. "The Evolving Role of Emergency Departments in the United States." *Journal of Emergency Care*, vol. 45, no.2, Aug. 2015, *Academic Search Complete*.
Page numbers	• Include page numbers when present and use pp. to denoted pages: pp.11-14.
Dates	• Follow the pattern: Day Mon. Year
	• Abbreviate months: Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr., Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.; Do not abbreviate May, June, or July
Formatting: MLA is very specific about formatting!	• Capitalization: Major Title Words Use Title Case and Major Words Are Capitalized
	• Italics: Use for the titles of publications such as *books*, *magazine titles*, *newspaper titles*, *journal titles*, as well as *database names*
	• Quotations: Put article titles, book chapters, and webpage names within quotations
Publishers	• University Presses: Use UP or U of P
	o University of Chicago Press ⇨ U of Chicago P
	o Cambridge University Press ⇨ Cambridge UP
	• Omit words like Company/Co., Corporation/Corp., Incorporated/Inc., and Limited/Ltd.
	o Houghton Mifflin Co. ⇨ Houghton Mifflin
URL links/DOI#s	• Include in citations DOI#s when present
	• URL links should only be included if they direct the reader directly to the resource cited and if they are a reasonable length.
	• Do not include URL links to items in the SCC library databases unless your instructor requires it.

PAPER LAYOUT AND FORMATTING

- All MLA formatted papers should be typed in 12-point font (Times New Roman or similar), double-spaced, and have 1" margins on all sides
- Include your name, your instructor's name, the course, and the date in the upper left-hand corner (also double-spaced)
- Your last name and the page number(s) go in the upper right-hand corner of every page, though sometimes not on the title page (check with your instructor)

IN-TEXT/PARENTHETICAL CITATIONS

When you quote, paraphrase, or use any words/ideas/data/etc. that are not "yours", you need to provide your reader with a parenthetical reference to show them where it originally came from. This usually includes the author(s) name and the page number of your source within your writing, which directs your reader to the citation in your Works Cited page. Writers typically do this two ways:

- Call out an author's name within the text, followed by a page number in parentheses at the end of the idea or sentence
  - After Smithson's results were published, he found himself at the center of a controversy (96).
- Include the author's name and page number in parentheses at the end of the idea or sentence.
  - The published results created quite a controversy (Washington 96).

Many electronic resources do not have page numbers. In this case the use of an author name within the text is sufficient. For sources without authors, an abbreviated form of the source title should be used in parentheses in place of the author's name.

SOURCE TYPE	IN-TEXT EXAMPLES	APPEARS IN WORKS CITED
Source with one author	Mushanga believes that all crimes fall into one of three categories (13). Based on the three categories of crime (Mushanga 13)...	Mushanga, Tibamanya Mwene. "Political Crimes." *Crime and Deviance: An Introduction to Criminology*, Law Africa, 2011, pp.27-35. *Ebrary*.
Source with two authors	Dubner and Levitt reject that assertion (229), and suggest instead... That assertion has been rejected (Dubner and Levitt 229), replaced with the notion that...	Dubner, Stephen J., and Steven Levitt. *Freakonomics: A Rogue Economist Explores the Hidden Side of Everything*. Turtleback Books, 2009.
Source with more than two authors	Emergency departments around the country faced significant increases in intakes in the year 2014 (Gonzalez Morganti, et al.). According to Gonzalez Morganti, et al., the results were unequivocal.	Gonzalez Morganti, Kristy, et al. "The Evolving Role of Emergency Departments in the United States." *Journal of Emergency Care*, vol. 45, no.2, Aug. 2015. *Academic Search Complete*.
Source with no author	The book even made it to the top of many publishers' favorites list in 2013 ("Staff Picks").	"Staff Picks 2013." *Publisher's Weekly*, 6 May 2013, vol.260, no. 18, pp.26-28. *Literature Resource Center*.
Source with no page numbers	Some officials even plan on using shaming as a tactic to get mortgage lenders to respond (Powell). According to Powell, some officials even plan on using shaming as a tactic to get mortgage lenders to respond.	Powell, Michael. "Billions to Fight Foreclosure, but Few New Loans." *The New York Times*, 29 Dec. 2009, www.nytimes.com/2009/12/30/nyregion/30foreclose.html.
Source with no author and no page numbers	Medical professionals around the country have described childhood obesity is described as a "serious medical condition" ("Childhood Obesity").	"Childhood Obesity: Definition." *Mayo Clinic*, 3 Nov. 2015, www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/childhood-obesity/basics/definition/con-20027428.

WORKS CITED EXAMPLE

Works Cited starts on new page with heading, 1" margins, double-spaced, 12-pt. font

Jefferson 5

All citations are alphabetized

Last name and page number in upper right corner

Works Cited

"Childhood Obesity: Definition." *Mayo Clinic*, 3 Nov. 2015, www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-

conditions/childhood-obesity/basics/definition/con-20027428.

Dubner, Stephen J., and Steven Levitt. *Freakonomics: A Rogue Economist Explores the Hidden*

Side of Everything. Turtleback Books, 2009.

1" margin all around

Gonzalez Morganti, Kristy, et al. "The Evolving Role of Emergency Departments in the United

States." *Journal of Emergency Care*, vol. 45, no.2, Aug. 2015. *Academic Search*

Complete.

Hanging indent: Second and subsequent lines of citations indent 1.5" from margin

Mushanga, Tibamanya Mwene. "Political Crimes." *Crime and Deviance: An Introduction to*

Criminology, Law Africa, 2011, pp.27-35. *Ebrary*.

Powell, Michael. "Billions to Fight Foreclosure, but Few New Loans." *The New York Times*, 29

Dec. 2009, www.nytimes.com/2009/12/30/nyregion/30foreclose.html.

"Staff Picks 2013." *Publisher's Weekly*, 6 May 2013, vol.260, no. 18, pp.26-28. *Literature*

Resource Center.