



The Writing Center

The University of Oklahoma

MLA Style

MANUSCRIPT FORMAT

Use 8 1/2 by 11-inch paper. Except for page headers, leave a one-inch margin on the top, bottom, left, and right margins of your paper. Indent paragraphs 5 spaces (tab). Indent block quotations ten spaces from left margin. Double space throughout the paper, including quotations, notes, and list of works cited. Do not insert extra spaces after paragraphs.

An MLA research paper does not need a title page unless it is requested by the professor. Instead, beginning one inch from the top of the first page and flush with the left margin, type your name, your instructor's name, the course number, and the date on separate lines, double-spacing between lines. Double space again and center your title. Double space and begin the body of your text. Number all pages in the upper right-hand corner, one-half inch from the top.

Wallace 1

Mark Wallace

Professor Rita Galloway

ENGL 1113-044

April 14, 2010

Poetry in Motion: A Deconstruction

Insert your last name before the page number in the header.

REFERENCE CITATIONS IN-TEXT

Parenthetical references signal places in your paper where you have summarized or quoted ideas or words from another source and say exactly where that material is located in the source.

Identify sources by author and, if necessary, title—do not use abbreviations such as ed., trans., etc. after the name. If an author is named in the text, you need not repeat the name in the parenthetical reference that follows. It is important for the in-text reference to point clearly to a specific source on the double spaced works cited page(s). In other words, the information in your parenthetical reference should list the beginning of the entry in the works cited.

Shorten long titles for brevity. For example: In *Neopragmatism*, Kimura states that we must “reconstruct those characteristics” important to our field of reasoning (5).

*Note: since the author’s name and an abbreviated title occur within the sentence, only the page number is required in the citation.

To cite a multivolume work: Fletcher chronicles the rise of the empire (2: 332-355) as well as the development of technology (1: 220-304).

To cite two or more works by the same author(s): One option is to reference either the work or the author(s) in your text and provide the missing information in the parenthetical citation. When including all information in the parenthetical citation, include (Authors, Title, page).

To cite an indirect source: Maring claimed the film was “extraordinary and unique” (qtd. in Smith 45).

To cite more than one work in a single parenthetical reference: Cite each work as you would normally but use semicolons to separate the citations. For instance, (Cox 12; Lam 2-42).

Works Cited Page

The list of sources is titled Works Cited (Work Cited if you have a single source and Works Consulted for sources you have consulted but not cited in any way) and appears on a new page after the body of the essay. The title will be centered at 1” in upper and lower case. Works Cited pages are arranged alphabetically by author’s last name (or, if there is no author, by the first main word of the title) followed by the year of publication, the title of the reference, the location of publication, and the name of the publisher. The reference list is to be double spaced within and between all entries including the title and uses a hanging indent of 5-7 spaces or .5 inch. These are basic guidelines; use the following examples for specific citation formats.

Books, journals, plays, films, and other larger works will be in italics. The most recent versions of MLA ask for the format of the source to be included.

A BOOK WITH A SINGLE AUTHOR

Troyka, Lynn Quitman. *Handbook for Writers*. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice, 1987. Print.

A BOOK WITH TWO OR THREE AUTHORS

Wimsatt, William K., and Cleanth Brooks. *Literary Criticism*. Chicago: U of Chicago P, 1978.

Print.

A BOOK WITH MORE THAN THREE AUTHORS

Moore, Barry S., et al. *Shattered Dreams*. New York: Norton, 1971. Print.

A BOOK WITH AN EDITOR

Williams, Linda, ed. *History of Women in Labor*. Detroit: Wayne State UP, 1973. Print.

A TRANSLATION

Alighieri, Dante. *The Inferno*. Trans. John Ciardi. New York: NAL, 1971. Print.

A BOOK WITH CORPORATE AUTHORSHIP

Editors of *The Progressive*. *The Crisis of Survival*. Glenview: Scott, 1970. Print.

AN ANONYMOUS BOOK

Webster's Collegiate Dictionary. Springfield: Merriam, 1963. Print.

A LATER EDITION

Bollinger, Dwight L. *Aspects of Language*. 2nd ed. New York: Harcourt, 1975. Print.

A WORK IN MORE THAN ONE VOLUME

Lincoln, Sam. *Lincoln*. Ed. Roy P. Basler. 8 vols. New Brunswick: Rutgers UP, 1953. Print.

Smaller works such as stories, chapters in a book, journal articles, and individual songs or scenes from a play or musical work will appear in double quotation marks.

A SELECTION FROM AN ANTHOLOGY

Smith, Jay. "Homecoming." *Vietnam Remembered*. Ed. Luis Munoz. New York: Knopf, 1980.

Print.

AN INTRODUCTION, PREFACE, FOREWORD, OR AFTERWORD

Mead, Margaret. Preface. *Patterns of Culture*. By Ruth Benedict. 1934. Boston: Dover, 1959.

Print.

GOVERNMENT PUBLICATION

United States. Cong. House. Committee on the Judiciary. *Immigration and Nationality with*

Amendments and Notes on Related Laws. 7th ed. Washington: GPO, 1980. Print.

AN ENCYCLOPEDIA OR ALMANAC

“Mammoth.” *The New Columbia Encyclopedia*. 1975 ed. Print.

A SIGNED ARTICLE IN A JOURNAL WITH CONTINUOUS PAGINATION

Lever, Janet. “Games Children Play.” *Social Problems* 23 (1976): 478-87. Print.

A SIGNED ARTICLE IN A JOURNAL WITH VOLUMES

Boyd, Sarah. “Nuclear Terror.” *Adaptation to Change* 7.4 (1981): 20-23. Print.

A SIGNED ARTICLE IN A MONTHLY OR BIMONTHLY PERIODICAL

Stein, Harry. “Living with Lies.” *Esquire* Dec. 1981: 23. Print.

A SIGNED ARTICLE IN A WEEKLY OR BIWEEKLY PERIODICAL

White, Thomas. “Onward and Upward with the Arts.” *New Yorker* 20 May 1985: 45-87. Print.

A SIGNED ARTICLE IN A DAILY NEWSPAPER

Gargan, Edward A. “Buffalo Dies in Bronx Zoo.” *New York Times* 16 Feb. 1984: B1. Print.

AN UNSIGNED ARTICLE

“The Right to Die.” *Time* 11 Oct. 1976: 101. Print.

AN EDITORIAL, A LETTER TO THE EDITOR, OR A REVIEW

Ball, George W. “Block That Vietnam Myth.” Editorial. *New York Times* 19 May 1985: E21.
Print.

AN ABSTRACT OF A DISSERTATION

Steciw, Steven K. “The Corbusier Project.” *DAI* 46 (1986): 565C. Oxford U, England. Print.

A PAMPHLET

Resource Notebook. Washington: Project on Improvement of Teaching, 1976. Print.

AN UNPUBLISHED DISSERTATION OR THESIS

Wilson, Stuart M. “John Stuart Mill as a Literary Critic.” Diss. U of Michigan, 1970. Print.

A FILM OR TELEVISION PROGRAM

King of America. Writ. B. J. Merholz. Music Elizabeth Swados. With Lary Atlas, Andreas Katsulas, and Michael Walden. *American Playhouse*. PBS. WNET, New York. 19 Jan. 1982. Television.

A LECTURE, ADDRESS, OR READING

Carlone, Dennis J. "Urban Design in the 1990s." Sixth Symposium on Urban Issues. City of Cambridge. Cambridge, 16 Oct. 1988. Lecture.

AN INTERVIEW

Smithson, Councilman John. Personal interview. 6 Sept. 1985.

CITING ONLINE SOURCES

Remember the works cited page is double-spaced. The basic order of online works cited is similar to print sources and may contain all or only a part of the items below in the order shown. **If you cannot find all information, cite what is available.**

General Style:

Author Last name, First Name. "Title of Document or Webpage." *Title of Complete Work*.

Volume or Issue Number (if applicable). Publisher or sponsor for the site. Date of

Publication. Medium of Publication. Date of Access.

Examples:

ARTICLE FROM DATABASE

Ouellette, Marc. "Theories, Memories, Bodies, and Artists." Editorial. *Reconstruction* 7.4

(2007): n. pag. Web. 5 June 2008.

Gilbert, Sandra M., and Susan Gubar. "Sexual Linguistics: Gender, Language, Sexuality." *New*

Literary History 16.3 (1985): 515-43. *JSTOR*. Web. June 2007.

INTERNET PAGE

Doe, Jane. "Writing is Great." N.p. 2004. Web. 31 February 2005.

"Stocks Rally into the New Year." *CNNMoney.com*. 3 January 2012. Web. 4 January 2012.

ENTIRE INTERNET SITE

Title of site. Editor (if any). Copyright or update date. Name of sponsoring institution. Date of access.

Hoover's Online. Hoover's, Inc. 2002. Web. 19 June 2002.

For more detailed citations, please see the MLA Handbook:

MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers. 7th ed. New York: Modern Language Association, 2009. Print.