

## MLA citation guide:

NOTE: As of April 2009, MLA citation style no longer uses underlining for titles of sources, but italics instead.

(For updates of the MLA citation style, visit:

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/557/15/>)

The MLA style was developed by the Modern Languages Association. Its first style guide was published in 1985, and the most recent update of this style guide was published in 2008, coming into effect in April 2009. The MLA style is widely used in the humanities (e.g. literary studies and cultural studies).

You can use the following template as guide to cite the relevant information that you have of your source:

Author or editor. "Title." *Book title*. Printed version information. *Site title*. Volume or issue number. Date posted. Name of subscription service, library name and location. Listserv name. 00 pp. Sponsoring organization. Date accessed. <Electronic address>.

Also keep in mind: there are literally thousands of websites giving formats for the MLA citation style. The main points of the MLA style to keep in mind are the following:

- MLA style uses parenthetical references (Author page number) for in-text references
- If you cite more than one work by the same author, you should include a shortened title (in italics) of the work you refer to.
- In the "Works Cited" list, three short dashes (— if word processed; hyphens [---] when typed) are used when the author or authors' name is the same in subsequent works being listed.
- Content notes are used to avoid lengthy discussions in your main text. "In general, comments that you cannot fit into the text should be omitted unless they provide essential justification or clarification of what you have written."
- If you make references in your footnotes, use the same parenthetical system as used in the main text.

### References in Text:

Reference citations in the text of your paper (instead of footnotes or end notes) cite the **author** and **page number(s)** of the works you used in your research. These references are brief but should give enough information to enable the reader to find the full citation in the references list at the end of the paper.

The full citation for each parenthetical reference must be documented in the references list at the end of your paper.

Example One:

The most pressing issue threatening gorilla survival is the lack of support for gorilla conservation among government officials and local resident groups (Garen 237).

NOTE: No comma between last name and page number!

Example Two:

Schaller (35) stresses that rotational agriculture, which promotes the growth of secondary forest, is strong factor in providing favorable habitat for gorillas.

### **Bibliography/List of Works Cited:**

- The list of "Works Cited" at the end of your paper identifies and makes it possible for the reader to retrieve all of the sources you have referred to in the body of your paper.
- Format: "The reference list must be double-spaced, and entries should have a hanging indent."
- Each entry in the reference list must also be cited in text.

### **Books**

There are several basic elements that are usually included in each citation:

- author [complete first and last name, middle initial or spell out middle name]
- title of book
- place of publication
- publisher
- year of publication

### **Articles**

There are several basic elements that are usually included in each citation:

- author [complete first and last name, middle initial or spell out middle name]
- title of article
- title of journal,
- date of publication [abbreviate months except for May, June, July]
- volume, issue number, etc. (for periodicals, newspapers, journals)

## **Books and documents**

a) An anonymous book – no author:

*World Development Report*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1989.

b) One Author:

Schaller, George. *The Mountain Gorilla: Ecology and Behavior*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1963.

c) Two or more authors:

Agnew, Clive, and Anderson, Ewan.W. *Water Resources in Arid Realm*. New York: Routledge, 1992.

d) Editor:

Harris, Jonathan M., ed. *Rethinking Sustainability: Power, Knowledge, and Institutions*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2000.

e) Two or more editors:

Sherman, Paul W., Jarvis, Jennifer U.M. and Alexander, Richard D., eds. *The Biology of the Naked Mole-Rat*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1990.

f) Translated book:

Camara, Laye. *The Guardian of the Word*. Trans. James Kirkup. New York: Vintage Books, 1984. Translation of *Kouma Lafôlô Kouma*, 1980.

g) Editions:

Ricklefs, Robert E. *Ecology*. 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. New York: W.H. Freeman, 1990.

h) Several volumes:

Grzimek, Bernard. Editor-in-chief. *Grzimek's Animal Life Encyclopedia*. Ed. Bernhard

Grzimek. 13 vols. New York: Van Nostrand Reinhold, 1972 – 1975.

i) Essay or article in a collection (chapter in a book):

Garen, Eva J. "Appraising Ecotourism in Conserving Biodiversity." *Foundations of*

*Natural Resources Policy and Management*. Eds. Tim W. Clark, Andrew R. Willard

and Christina M. Cromley. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2000. 221-251.

j) Government/Institutional publications:

U.S. Dept. of Labor. Bureau of Statistics. *Dictionary of Occupational Titles* (4<sup>th</sup> ed.).

Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1977.

k) Government report:

United States Environmental Protection Agency. *Air Quality Criteria for Ozone and*

*Related Photochemical Oxidants* (EPA Office of Health and Environmental

Assessment, Report #EPA/600884020). Research Triangle Park, North Carolina:

Abacus, 1986.

l) Signed encyclopedia article:

Peavy, Harry. "Environmental Engineering." In *Encyclopedia of Physical Science and Technology*. Ed. Robert A. Meyers. 15 vols. Orlando: Academic Press. 1987.

### **Periodicals (magazines, journals, newspapers, newsletters)**

In general, after the title of the article, give the journal title (in italics), the volume number, the year of publication (in parentheses), a colon, the inclusive page numbers and a period.

a) Scholarly journal:

Turner, John. "Forum: Grizzly Bear Number 209." *Wild Duck Review*, 3.1 (1997): 11-14.

b) Magazine articles, signed (if the article is not printed on consecutive pages, write only the first page number and a plus sign, leaving no intervening space. Don't give volume and issue numbers even if they are listed.)

Begley, Sharon. "Beware of the Humans." *Newsweek* (5 February 1996): 52-54.

c) Magazine article, unsigned:

"A River Runs Through It, Tearing Down the Water Walls." *Newsweek* (12 July): 46.

d) Newspaper article, unsigned:

"Man is the Main Meal." *Scottish Daily Record & Sunday Mail* (13 February 2003): 15.

e) Newspaper article, signed:

Hurt, John. "The Proof is in the Eating." *The New York Times* (12 February 2005): 25.

f) Book review:

Bird, Maryanne. "Ecotourism or Egotourism: A Critic of 'Green' Travel." *Time International* (26 August 2002): 62.

### Electronic Sources:

a) Internet article based on a print source:

Bird, Maryanne. "Ecotourism or Egotourism: A Critic of 'Green' Travel." *Time International* (26 August 2002): 62. 4 April 2009.

<<http://www.time.com/time/europe/magazine/article/0,13005,901020826-338585,00.html>>.

b) Article in an Internet-only journal:

Magliocca, Florence. "1998 Update on the Gorillas of the Odzala National Park, Popular Republic of Congo." *Gorilla Conservation News*, 13 (May 1999). 4 April 2009.

<<http://www.anthro.ucdavis.edu/gcn/g13congo.htm>>.

c) Electronic copy of a journal article, retrieved from database (such as Academic Search Premier, if article is only available in html, and not available in pdf. Add the name of the library where you consulted this database and the homepage address of the library.)

Schwartz, Katrina Z.S. "Wild Horses in a 'European Wilderness': Imagining Sustainable Development in the Post-Communist Countryside." *Cultural Geographics*, 2.3. (July 2005): 292-320. *Academic Search Premier*. University of Groningen Library, Groningen, the Netherlands. 5 May 2009. <<http://www.rug.nl/bibliotheek>>.

d) Electronic book:

Jarrow, Gail and Sherman, P. *Naked Mole-Rats* [electronic resource]. Virtual Reference Library. Gale. University of Groningen Library, Groningen, the Netherlands. 12 January 2009. <<http://www.galegroup.com>>.

e) Doctoral dissertation – available full-text online:

Kord, Joanna. *Understanding the Facebook Generation: A Study of the Relationship Between Online Social Networking and Academic and Social Integration and Intentions to Re-Enroll*. Dissertation, University of Amsterdam, 2008. *Dissertations & Theses: Full Text. ProQuest*. University of Groningen, Groningen, the Netherlands. 2 February 2009. <<http://www.rug.nl/bibliotheek>>.

f) Web site (personal page):

Fine, Doug. *The Misty Future of Rwanda's Mountain Gorillas*. (1995). 3 March 2009. <<http://www.well.com/user/fine/rwandan.html>>.

g) Document available on website:

U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Consular Affairs Travel Warnings & Consular Information Sheets. *Consular Information Sheet*. 2002. 4 April 2009. <<http://travel.state.gov/rwanda.html>>.

h) LexisNexis Newspaper article:

Von Radowitz, John. "Man-eating Lions Dine on Ecotourists a la Carte." *The Evening Standard*. 13 February 2003. *LexisNexis Academic*. University of Groningen Library, Groningen, the Netherlands. 3 May 2009. <<http://academic.lexisnexis.nl/rug/>>.

i) E-mail:

Toshner, David. 22 February 2009. E-mail to the author. 3 March. 2009.

(This entry mentions name of e-mail writer, date message was sent, and ends with description "E-mail to the author" and the date of access of this information.

Remember: Internet sources typically have no page or paragraph numbers, and websites often list no author. For your "works cited" list, list as much source information as possible, and leave out those portions of the citation which you cannot fill out. The main purpose of your reference is to point readers of your text to the source itself.

If a website is very long or complicated, simply give the site's search or home page URL.

Works Cited:

Kunka, J.L. and Barbato, J. "MLA Update 2009." *The OWL at Purdue*. 26 March 2009. 21

April 2009. <<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/557/15/>>.

"MLA Citations, Style Examples (Italicized Titles)", *J.Murray Atkins Library*. 22 August

2008. 21 April 2009. <<http://www.library.uncc.edu/reference/>>.