Works Cited in MLA 8th Ed. Style – Examples & Tips

Please consult your instructor for specific directions, as they may differ from those provided here. See the MLA Handbook (8th ed. 2016) available in the MCCC Library reference desk and course reserves collections at R 808.027 G437mo. See the MLA Style Center at style.mla.org for additional information. Parenthetical page references (see p. #) are to the MLA Handbook.

Works Cited Examples from MCCC Library Databases

Academic Search Premier (EBSCO) – Journal Article with DOI available

Academic Search Premiere (EBSCO) – Monthly Magazine Article without DOI
Note: you may omit volume and issue numbers if not readily available for a magazine citation, but you are not required to omit them (see example p. 43).

Expanded Academic ASAP (Gale) – Journal Article without DOI
Hutchinson, Dave E. "'Fleeting Expletives' Are the Tip of the Iceberg: Fallout from Exposing the
Arbitrary and Capricious Nature of Indecency Regulation." Federal Communications Law
Journal, vol. 61, no. 1, 2008, pp. 229-49. Expanded Academic ASAP,
go.galegroup.com/ps/i.do?p=EAIM&sw=w&u=lom_monroeccl&v=2.1&it=r&id=GALE%7CA
194463369&asid=89ca2af10ec2a439263e110d1c71adc4.

JSTOR – Journal Article with DOI
Note: DOI was obtained using CrossRef Metadata Search
Spegele, Roger D. “Fiction as Political Theory: Joseph Conrad's 'Heart of Darkness'." British Journal of

Newsbank – Newspaper Article
Porteous, Danielle. "Senate Vote Moves River Raisin Battlefield Closer to Park Status." Monroe Evening
Nursing Resource Center (Gale) – Article in an Reference Book

Credo Reference – Unsigned Article in a Reference Book

Literature Criticism Online (Gale) – Republished Article in a Reference Book

Works Cited Examples from MCCC Library Print Collections

Reprinted Article in a Print Reference Book.

Unsigned Article in a Print Reference Book. One Volume of a Multi-Volume Book Series. Note: Harvard University Press is the publisher rather than Belknap Press, an imprint (see p. 109) and “Harvard University Press” is abbreviated “Harvard UP” (see p. 97).
Print Book with Three or More Authors. Note: “Publishers” omitted from Rowman & Littlefield Publishers (see p. 97).


Edited Print Book or Anthology.


Chapter in an Edited Print Book or Anthology.


Works Cited Examples from Other Non-MCCC Library Sources

Web-only Publication


Web-only Government Report, Corporate Author. Note: publisher of website omitted because it is essentially the same as the title of the website (see p. 42).

Works Cited Tips

- Each entry in the Works Cited list should have a hanging indent (see p.112) and be double-spaced.
- The possible elements of a Work cited entry are in order: Author. Title of Source (such as a book or an article). Title of Container (such as a multi-volume set or a journal). Other Contributors (such as editors), Version (such as edition), Number (such as volume and issue), Publisher, Publication Date, Location (such as page numbers, URL, or DOI). Templates are provided (see p. 129) and at style.mla.org/works-cited-a-quick-guide/
- If the work is part of an additional container (such as a database), include elements for it beginning with Title of Container as appropriate.
- Omit the “http://” at the beginning of a URL (see p. 110). Check that your word-processing software does not insert a hyphen into a long URL that spans multiple lines.
- If your instructor prefers that you not include URL’s or DOI’s in your Works Cited list, please follow those instructions.
- Use a DOI if available instead of a URL (see p. 110). If a DOI is not provided, you may check to see if one is available for an article, book, etc. by entering an author name, article title, journal name, publication year, etc. at search.crossref.org
- If a periodical article is on non-consecutive pages, use a plus sign following the initial page number, e.g. “pp. 57+” for an article on page 57 and 58 then continued on page72 (see p. 110).
- Page number ranges: omit any repeated leading digits beyond the ones and tens of the final page number, e.g. “422-26” instead of “422-426” or “1046-52” instead of “1046-1052.” This practice is illustrated (see p. 114) although not stated directly in the 8th edition.
- When a government agency is the corporate author of a work, begin with the largest unit of that government and then smaller units down to the authoring agency (see p.104-05).
- The citation shortcuts provided by various databases are useful timesavers, but results should be checked carefully. Some may still provide MLA 7th edition styles. Some other common errors are incorrect punctuation marks, over-capitalization in article titles, misuse of italics and misuse of abbreviations in dates.
- Does copy and paste from a database citation shortcut provide incorrect font style, font sizes, indents or spacing in your Word document?
  - Try a different web browser, such as Firefox instead of Edge.
  - Try Word’s menu option Paste Special and choose Unformatted Text. This will re-use the existing formatting of your Works Cited list, but you will need to re-do italics, etc.

Some Changes in Works Cited in the 8th Edition from the 7th Edition

- Use of URL or DOI is now recommended instead of optional.
- Article page numbers now use “p.” or “pp.” abbreviations.
- “Editor” and “translator” are now spelled out in full rather than abbreviated as “ed.” and “trans.”
- Dates of publication no longer use parentheses, but are separated by commas.
- MLA 8th does not state different periodical citation guidelines for providing numbering of magazines and journals. Previous practice had required omission of volume and issue numbers for magazines even if available. Current examples omit volume and issue numbers for magazine citations (see p.43) but include them for journal citations (see p. 30 and p. 32).
- The city of publication for print sources is no longer necessary, except for pre-1900 works or to distinguish a European edition from an American edition (see p. 43).
- The date that an article or document was retrieved from the web is now optional.