

MLA WORKSHOP

Presented by

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Reddie Writing Center

www.hsu.edu/writingcenter

OBJECTIVES

1. Determine how to format the first page of an MLA paper
2. Figure out how to use MLA in-text citations
3. Learn how to create a Works Cited Page

WHAT IS MLA?

- MLA stands for Modern Language Association
- One of many formats (APA, Chicago, etc)
- Most often used in literature and humanities disciplines

IMPORTANT NOTE

- This presentation will help you write a standard MLA 8th edition paper
- HOWEVER, the format of your paper is up to your professor; they may want something different than a standard MLA 8th edition paper
 - e.g., cover page, footnotes, & single-spaced text
- **WHEN IN DOUBT, ASK YOUR PROFESSOR**

STARTING YOUR PAPER

Make sure the margins are 1 inch on all sides.

Make sure your font is Times New Roman; size 12.

Get rid of the extra space between paragraphs.

Make sure everything is double spaced.

FIRST PAGE FORMAT

Gale 1

Dorothy Gale

Professor Marvel

PS381: Witches and Wizards in Modern Film

1 March 2017

The Archetype of the Wicked Witch: Magician or Outlaw?

Whether one is a munchkin, a little dog, a castle guard, or a monkey, most everyone has an opinion about witches. But this essay, rather than focusing on personal opinion, will focus on the

IN-TEXT CITATIONS

- Any time you are using information from another source, you **must** create an in-text citation for that source. Otherwise, you are plagiarizing!

Format: Here is something I need to cite (author page number).

Example: Romantic poetry is characterized by the "spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings" (Wordsworth 263).

-or-

Format: This author states this piece of information (page number).

Example: Wordsworth stated that Romantic poetry was marked by a "spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings" (263).

IN-TEXT CITATIONS

When a source has no known author, use a shortened title of the work instead of the author's last name. Place the title in quotation marks if it is a work within a book or a container and italicize it if it is the whole work itself, such as a book or a container, and provide the page number of the text

We see so many global warming hotspots in North America likely because this region has "more readily accessible climatic data and more comprehensive programs to monitor and study environmental change" ("Impact of Global Warming" 6).

IN-TEXT CITATIONS

- When citing something without page numbers, such as a website article, the in-text citation will only include the author or the title if there is no author

Narcissism has two dimensions: grandiose and vulnerable (Brenner).

WORKS CITED

Last Name 1

Works Cited

Rowling, Joanne K. *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*. Bloomsbury, 1997.

Hurston, Zora Neale. "Sweat." *The Oxford Book of American Short Stories*, edited by Joyce Carol Oates. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1992. pp. 1019-1030.

King, Stephen. "Why We Crave Horror Movies by King." *The Longman Writer: Rhetoric, Reader, Research Guide, and Handbook*, 8th ed., edited by Judith Nadell, John Langan, and Eliza Comodromos. Longman, 2011, pp. 345-347.

Klinkenborg, Verlyn. "The Rural Life; Prairie Vertigo." *The New York Times*, December 10, 2000, <https://www.nytimes.com/2000/12/10/opinion/the-rural-life-prairie-vertigo.html>. Accessed Feb 20, 2020.

Rectangular Snip

CREATING CITATIONS

Author. **Title of work.**
Title of container, ed.,
edited by editor/s,
Publisher, year of pub,
pp. 00-00.

Carson, Rachel. "A Fable for
Tomorrow." **The Student Writer,**
9th ed., **edited by**
Barbara Fine Clouse, McGraw-
Hill, 2012, pp. 266-267.

CREATING A CITATION: MULTIPLE AUTHORS

If there are two authors, the format looks like this:

Last name, First name and First name Last name.

Coleridge, Samuel Taylor and William Wordsworth.

If there are three or more authors, the format looks like this:

Last name, First name, et al.

Wordsworth, William, et al.

CREATING A CITATION: WEBSITE ARTICLE

The location is the URL or the DOI, but not everything has a DOI.

It is recommended to include the date you accessed the website.

Emamzadeh, Arash. "The Communal Narcissist: A New Kind of Narcissist?" *Psychology Today*, 6 Dec. 2018.

www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/finding-new-home/201812/the-communal-narcissist-new-kind-narcissist. Accessed 11 Feb. 2020.

Author.

"Title of work."

Title of container,

Publication date,

URL. Accessed date.

A NOTE

Sources can come from a wide range of materials published through different mediums and there is a specific way to cite each of them

For details on all types of materials, visit style.mla.org or “MLA Style at Purdue Owl”

WHAT IS WRONG WITH THIS CITATION?

Author.

Title of source.

Title of container,

Other contributors,

Version,

Number,

Publisher,

Publication date,

Location.

1. Harper Lee, "To Kill a Mockingbird." J. B. Lippincott & Co., 1960. (hint: there are 3 errors!)

2. Greenberg, Melanie. "Love, Sex, Relationships, and the Brain." 18 Oct. 2012, *Psychology*

Today, Accessed 12 Feb. 2020, www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/the-mindful-self-express/201210/love-sex-relationships-and-the-brain.

(hint: there are two errors!)

3. Oakley, Ann. "Beyond The Yellow Wallpaper." (1997), no. 10 *Reproductive Health Matters*,

vol. 5, pp. 29–39. *JSTOR*, doi: 10.1016/S0968-8080(97)90083-5. Accessed 12 Feb. 2020.

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NOTE

- There are citation generators (EasyBib, CitationMachine, etc.), and some sources even have the citation made for you! These can be a great resource.
- **HOWEVER, do NOT simply copy and paste the citation based on them.** These generators do not always give you perfect answers.
- Use these tools as a guide and at the very least, double check the citation, but always give it a manual touch.
- **Remember, citing something incorrectly constitutes plagiarism!**

For more info, visit

hsu.edu/writingcenter & CLICK Resources

OR, GO TO

MLA Homepage: <https://style.mla.org/>

Owl Purdue: <https://owl.purdue.edu/>

QUESTIONS?

**MEET WITH OUR TUTORING TEAM
@HSU.EDU/WRITINGCENTER**

WE ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE