MLA 8 – In-text Citations

- In-text citations let the reader know the precise location(s) of the work that you're citing in your text.
- They are used when you paraphrase, summarize, or directly quote someone else's idea(s) / work / facts in your own text.
- Citations are not required for well-known quotations, proverbs, or information that is common knowledge.
- In-text citations are enclosed in **()**, usually at the end of the sentence or paragraph. Period goes after the **()**.
- Multiple citations for one idea can be grouped together, separated by a **;**.

Print Resources: usually, author's last name and page number

- author is known
  - last name and page number   (Montero 37)
- author unknown
  - title (shortened form if long) and page number   ("Curie" 216) – article   (*Curie* 46) – book
- author's name is used in the text (eg. Montero states that…)
  - page number only   (216)

Web Resources: use the first item in the Works Cited entry; for most, page numbers are not provided. If paragraph numbers are provided, use "par." or "pars."

- author is known
  - last name only   (Lavallee)
- author is unknown
  - usually, title   ("Canadian Pacific Railway" par. 4)
- author or title is used in the text
  - in-text citation is not required

For both:

- more than one author with same last name
    - first initial, last name and page number   (D. Francis 12)
- 2 authors
    - last names and page number   (Daintith and Hammond 83)
- multiple authors (3 or more)
    - first author's last name et al. and page number   (Russell et al. 23)
- more than one resource from same author
    - author's last name**,** title (note use of comma)   (Lavalee, "Canadian Pacific Railway")
- article titles are enclosed in **" "**; book titles are in ***italics***   ("Curie" 216) – article   (*Curie* 46) – book

For further information, see the following online citation guides:

SFU: http://www.lib.sfu.ca/help/cite-write/citation-style-guides/mla#parenthetical-in-text-citations

UBC Okanagan: http://ok-lib.sites.olt.ubc.ca/files/2014/08/MLAStyleGuideSept2016UBCOlib-1.pdf