

CITATION GUIDELINES – MLA 9

MLA 9 uses ‘core elements’ for citations. The elements, their order, and accompanying punctuation are shown below. Gather the information that is available for each source.

Author.
Title of Source.
Title of Container,
contributor,
version,
number,
Publisher,
Publication date,
location.

Author: (primary creator)

One Author:

Author’s Last name, First name.

Freedman, Russell.

Two Authors:

First author’s Last name, First name, and Second author’s First and Last name.

Lord, Peter, and Brian Sibley.

Three or more authors:

First author’s Last name, First name, et al.

Charon, Rita, et al.

-Middle initial: include if given

Smith, Jessica L.

-Online handles: if the handle differs from the account name, put handle in [] after the name

Hanning, Darci [@geeklibrarian].

-Organizations:

-omit A, An, The

-do not reverse the name

-non-governmental org. is both author and publisher, skip author and use as publisher

-author is division or committee of org.: div. or comm. is author, org. is publisher

-Government organizations: record the name as presented by the source

Title of Source: (title of the work: book, article, webpage, image, etc.)

note: all important words are capitalized

Book -- *Title.*

Creating 3-D Animation.

Article, Webpage, Image title -- “Article Title.”

“Vimy Ridge: Bloody Easter.”

-If no title provided: give a short but informative description of the work; capitalize as for a sentence
Chair of stained oak.

Photo of a letter from Shirley Jackson.

-Very long titles: shorten (include enough to easily identify the source) - end with

The Lives of the Illustrious Netherlandish and German Painters

-untitled works: first line (poem), full text (short, e.g. a tweet), or short section of the introduction

-in “.” exactly as in source

-for fragments or if nontextual elements are included, end with”

Title of Container: (a work that contains another work – book (anthology), journal, webpage, database, CD, podcast or blog, museum or art exhibit, etc.)

-usual format:

-*Capitalized as Title and Italicized,*

MLA Handbook,

-if no title, provide a description and capitalize as for a sentence

Monthly newsletter of the Canadian Library Association,

-most print books are both Source and Container

Note: for **Contributor**, **Version**, and **Number**: unless it follows a period (.), do not capitalize

Contributor: (people, groups, & organizations that contribute to the work, without being key)

-include a title or label describing role (examples)

-editors

, edited by Jay Smith,

-translators

, translated by Hildegard Serle,

-film director

. Directed by Andrew Morgan,

-dance company or music ensemble

. Performance by Vancouver Symphony Orchestra

-audiobook narrator

. Narrated by Sissy Spacek

-actor important to identify a version of the work

, performance by Patrick Stewart

Version: (of works released in more than one form)

-most commonly, edition

, 6th ed.,

. Updated ed.,

, rev. ed.,

-other media:

director's cut, unabridged version, e-book ed.

Number: (source is part of a sequence)

-journal

no. 5,

-multi-volume encyclopedia

vol. 17

-television series

season 4, episode 10,

-podcast

no. 114,

Publisher: (responsible for producing the work; making it available to users)

-capitalize as for proper nouns

books: if 2 publisher names listed, use first one

websites: usually found at bottom of home page; often with copyright sign ©

-if the same as the website name, do not include

-include **Publishing** or **Publishers** if given, but not corporate words (Co., Ltd., Corp., etc.)

-change an & or + to **and**

-common abbreviations: (examples)

Oxford University Press

Oxford UP

University of British Columbia Press

U of British Columbia P

Publication Date: (of version being cited)

-use the most recent date provided

-books: year only

, 2020.

-provide day month year if given in source being cited

, 19 Mar. 2020,

Location:

-journal article or similar – page range

pp. 7-18.

p. 8.

-online works – DOI, permalink, or URL

- DOI (digital object identifier)

<http://doi.org/>

-an identifier permanently assigned to a source by the publisher

-most likely to be found for journal articles

- permalink: a URL intended to be permanent

- URL: copy directly from browser

Works Cited

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