Citing Sources in MLA
8th Edition

MLA’s 8TH EDITION offers a citation method that can be applied to any kind of source—whether print or digital. In a major revision of their previous style, MLA has made documentation more efficient for the writer and more useful for the reader.

In this handout, we offer a quick overview of how to cite common art, media and design sources.

For sources not covered in this handout, please check the MLA Formatting and Style Guide on the OWL at Purdue University website, or the new online MLA Style Center website.

HOW TO CITE MLA STYLE

In MLA, citing sources is a two-part process:

1. In the body of your text, include an “in-text citation” that contains basic information about the author or title and page number (if your source has pages);

2. This citation then corresponds to an entry in your Works Cited list that provides more detailed information about the source and where you found it.

Note: In-text citation is largely the same as the previous editions of MLA, but there are a number of changes to entries in the Works Cited page.

8TH ED. CHANGES

MLA’s new method is based on the core elements of most sources, which are included in your Works Cited entry (if they are available) in this order:

1. Author.
2. Title of source. [the name of the specific book, article, issue, episode, poem, etc.]
3. Title of container, [the book, journal, website, TV series, etc. that the source was found in]
4. Other contributors, [including: edited by, introduction by, directed by, performances by, translated by, etc.]
5. Version, [such as the edition of a book or film: 7th ed., director’s cut, etc.]
6. Number, [such as the volume and issue number for a journal]
7. Publisher, [the organization that either produced the source or made it available]
8. Publication date,
9. Location. [page number, URL, place, etc.]
Examples of MLA
In-Text + Works Cited

Source: Twyla Tharp’s *The Creative Habit* (a book read online)

In-text: Tharp offers a variety of exercises designed to help people identify their creative strengths and habits (54).

Works Cited:

Note: The date of access and the http:// information that precedes the actual web address is now optional information in the 8th edition.

Source: *Frankenstein* on DVD

In-text: In the DVD re-release, Universal Pictures introduces this 1931 classic and Karloff’s incredible performance to a new generation of audiences (*Frankenstein*).

Works Cited:

Note: The original publication date for books, films and articles is now considered optional, but the appropriate place for it would be immediately following the author-title block.

Source: Page about an Exhibition on a Gallery Website

In-text: In their recent exhibition, the Vancouver Art Gallery “offers an insight into two distinctly different modes of painting that have come to dominate contemporary painting in this country” (“Entangled”).

Works Cited:
“Entangled: Two Views on Contemporary Canadian Painting.”
Examples of common Works Cited at ECUAD

Book

Note: E-books are considered “versions” according to the new MLA Style, so the version should be included in your citation before the publisher.

Journal Article in Print

Note: Journal articles accessed online follow the same guidelines, just add the website name and URL after the page numbers.

Journal Article in a Coursepack

In-person Lecture

Note: Online lectures follow the same guidelines, just add the website name and URL after the date.

Film
Podcast

Audio Commentary on a DVD

**Note:** MLA categorizes an Audio Commentary on a DVD as a “Published or Recorded Interview”, so the in-text citation form for the audio commentary above would be: (Peele).

Artwork that you saw in person

**Note:** You can omit the city name if it is part of the gallery’s name, such as the Vancouver Art Gallery.

Exhibition that you saw in person

Article in an Exhibition Catalogue

An Image Reproduction in a Book

An Image accessed Online

Exhibition Catalogue
**Online catalogue essay**

**Artist’s statement by an unknown author**

**Note:** The medium of publication (document type) is no longer required information, but the best place to include it is at the end of your entry.

**A Cartoon or Comic in Print**

**A Cartoon from an Electronic Source**

**Ephemera**

**Full Website**
Vancouver Art Gallery. 2017, vanartgallery.bc.ca/index.html.

**Page on a Website**

**A Comment on a Blog or Website**

**A Tweet**
@HistoryInPix. “Londoners flock to a mobile screen showing the latest Mickey Mouse film, 1931.” *Twitter*, 13 Oct. 2017, 11:57 a.m., twitter.com/HistoryInPix/status/918913485509218304