Citing Your Sources Using MLA Style

Brought to you by the Library and the Writing Center at PCCC
What is a citation?

- A citation provides basic identifying information about a book, article or website.

Example:

Why Cite?

• Citing shows your reader or professor where your ideas came from.
• Citing gives credit to the researcher/authors/journalists whose work you used.
• Citing makes you an active part of the scholarly research process.
What Is MLA Style?

• Citations are created based on certain citation formats or styles.
• MLA stands for the Modern Language Association
• It’s used in the Humanities for subjects such as English, History, and Cultural Studies.
MLA Style will help you...

- With the format and style of your paper
- Create in-text citations
- Create your Works Cited Page (list of the sources you used in your paper)
Toward a Recovery of Nineteenth-century Farming Handbooks

While researching texts written about nineteenth-century farming, I found a few authors who published books about the literature of nineteenth-century farming, particularly agricultural journals, newspapers, pamphlets, and brochures. These authors often placed the farming literature they were studying into an historical context by
Citations are listed in alphabetical order, by author name or title.

“Works Cited” should be centered at the top of the page.

Still include your name & page number.


MLA Format for Books

One Author-

Two Authors-
MLA Format for Online Articles

From a database-

From an article published online-
MLA Format for a Website

No known author-

An entire website-
In-Text Citations

• In-text citations are just as important as your Works Cited page.
• They signal to your reader that the information you are discussing comes from another source.
• Use them when you quote directly or when you paraphrase.
MLA In-Text Examples

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

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

• Wordsworth extensively explored the role of emotion in the creative process (263).
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).

One online film critic stated that *Fitzcarraldo* is "...a beautiful and terrifying critique of obsession and colonialism" (Garcia).

Any resources that will help?
Where to go for more help?

• Visit the Writing Center for assistance with style and language questions:
  – **Paterson Campus:** Library, Room A113
  – **Passaic Campus:** Room 118
  – **Wanaque Campus:** Room W127
  – Phone and email: Call 973-684-6160 or email [writingcenter@pccc.edu](mailto:writingcenter@pccc.edu).
Have more Questions?

Have more citation questions? Visit the Library for assistance with citing your sources:

• Paterson Campus
  – In person: Come to the library and see the librarian on duty (go to the Reference Desk all the way in the back) or ask to speak to a librarian. Phone and email: Call 973-684-5888 or email rdept@pccc.edu.

• Wanaque and Passaic Campuses:
  – Contact Rick Perdew at 973-684-7934 or rperdew@pccc.edu.