Citing Your Sources

Brought to you by the Library and the Writing Center at PCCC
Why Cite?

• Citing shows your reader or professor where your ideas came from.
• Citing gives credit to the researchers/authors/journalists whose work you used.
• Citing makes you an active part of the scholarly research process.
When Do I Cite?

When you....

• Use direct quotes from another author's work
• Use ideas from another author's work, but in your own words (paraphrasing)
• Specifically reference another person's work or ideas
• Use a figure, image, or table created by someone else
What is a citation?

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

```
Author
Meridian, Merry.

Title
Lines for All Occasions.

Place of Publication
```

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Publisher

Date
```
How Do I Create a Citation?

Citations are created based on certain citation formats or styles.

- APA style is used in subjects such as Psychology, Sociology, Education and Business.
- MLA style is used in subjects such as English, History, and Cultural Studies.
How Do I Find Out More?

MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers
SEVENTH EDITION

Publication Manual
of the American Psychological Association
Sixth Edition
Any websites that will help?

For MLA citations:
- **OWL** (The Purdue Online Writing Lab)
- **Citation Machine**
- **EasyBib** (www.easybib.com)
Works Cited

Adorno, Theodor. “Excerpts from Minima Moralia: Reflections from Damaged Life.”


References


In-Text Citations

• In-text citations are just as important as your Works Cited or References 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.
In-Text Examples - APA

• She stated, "Students often had difficulty using APA style" (Jones, 1998, p. 199), but she did not offer an explanation as to why.

• According to Jones (1998), "Students often had difficulty using APA style, especially when it was their first time" (p. 199).

• Jones (1998) found "students often had difficulty using APA style" (p. 199); what implications does this have for teachers?
In-Text Examples - MLA

• 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).
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.