

This guide summarises the basic rules for the Modern Languages Association (MLA) citation style. This guide is not intended as a complete source. For more details, refer to FedCite.

In-Text

An in-text citation includes the author's surname (family name) and the page number where you found the information. The citation is placed either at the end of the sentence in the round brackets and before the full stop, or within a sentence. The first time you mention the author in-text, include their first name and surname; and subsequently, just their surname.

The basic format includes:

(Author page) or Author (page)

For example:

- ... which is confirmed by one study (Breen 268).
- ... the study by Breen (268) confirmed these results.

Quotes

When you quote an author (i.e., use their exact words), you must put the quote in double quotation marks and provide the page number after the author's surname, as follows:

- It was described as "a stunning victory" (Harrison 15).
- Harrison described it as "a stunning victory" (15).

When quoting and there is no page number, use section or paragraph.

Two Authors (Author and Author Page)

If there are two authors, use 'and' between their names if the citation is placed at the end of a sentence in parentheses and if the citation is made within the text

- (Roberts and Wallace 164) OR Roberts and Wallace (164) ...

Three or More Authors (Author et al. Page)

In your in-text citations, name the first author followed by 'et al.' (Latin abbreviation meaning 'and others') in all mentions. The same author's name plus 'et al.' will be used in the Works Cited list.

- (Bennan-Jones et al. 56) OR Bennan-Jones et al. (56) ...

Group Authors (Government or Organisation)

If the author is a corporation or association, the name can be abbreviated to avoid interrupting the flow of reading.

- (Australian Bureau of Statistics 22) OR Australian Bureau of Statistics (22) ...

Two Sources, One Idea (Author Page; Author Page)

Two or more works by different authors within the same parenthesis are separated with a semicolon (";").

- Studies by Keen (63); Lee (19); and Wojk (209) indicate that ...
- ... along with other studies (Keen 63; Lee 19; Wojk 209)



Works cited

Basic rules and formatting

- Begin the list on a new page at the end of your work.
- Give the list the central heading 'Works Cited'.
- Use double line-spacing and a hanging indent.
- Include one entry for every source you have cited in the text.
- Arrange all entries in alphabetical order.

A basic MLA works cited entry is made up of the following parts:

AUTHOR + TITLE + PUBLISHER INFO + YEAR + PUBLICATION MEDIUM + RETRIEVAL DATE

Book

Basic, print: Speed, Lesley. *Clueless: American Youth in the 1990s*. Routledge, 2018.
<https://researchonline.federation.edu.au/>

Chapter from edited collection: Smith, Jerney C. A. "Regionality and civilizations in the Americas: Considerations on Civilizational Analysis in the Context of American Modernities." *Civilization, Modernity, and Critique: Engaging Johann P. Arnason's Macro-Social Theory*, edited by Lubomir Dunaj, Jeremy C. A. Smith and Kurt C. M. Mertel, Routledge, 2023, pp. 214-227.

Library e-book: Arnava, Francesca. *Uncanny Fairy Tales: Hybrid Wonders in the Mirror*. Routledge, 2024. Taylor & Francis,
www.taylorfrancis.com/books/mono/10.4324/9781003403449/uncanny-fairy-tales-francesca-arnavas

Journal article

Grosvenor, Chris. "Secret Origins: The Disavowal of the Comics Medium within the Promotional Rhetoric of Film Trailers." *Adaptation: The Journal of Literature on Screen Studies*, vol. 17, no. 1, 2024, pp. 52-75. <https://doi.org/10.1093/adaptation/apae003>.

Website

General: Walsh, Jemma. "Hunter Page-Lochard Interview." *National Film and Sound Archive of Australia*, 2023, www.nfsa.gov.au/latest/spear-hunter-page-lochard

Website PDF: Screen Australia. *Gender Matters: Women in the Australian Screen Industry*, Screen Australia, 2015, www.screenaustralia.gov.au/getmedia/f20beab8-81cc-4499-92e9-02afba18c438/Gender-Matters-Women-in-the-Australian-Screen-Industry.pdf

Example Works Cited list:

Works Cited

Arnavas, Francesca. *Uncanny Fairy Tales: Hybrid Wonders in the Mirror*. Routledge, 2024. Taylor & Francis,
www.taylorfrancis.com/books/mono/10.4324/9781003403449/uncanny-fairy-tales-francesca-arnavas

"Chapter two: A touch of evil." Riverdale, season 1, episode 2, The CW television network, 3 Feb. 2017. Netflix,
www.netflix.com/au/title/80133311.

Currie, Dawn H., and Deirdre M. Kelly. "Critical Social Literacy: Media Engagement as an Exercise of Power." *The Review of Education/Pedagogy/Cultural Studies*, vol. 44, no. 5, 2022, pp. 406-446.

Finley, Mark-Elliott. "Harry Potter and the Goblet of Beowulf: Rowling's Beowulfian Allusions, Analogues, and Inversions." *Mythlore*, vol. 43, no. 2, 2025, pp. 137-60. JSTOR, www.jstor.org/stable/48820334.

Related Resources

- FedCite



Find this helpsheet online
studyskills.federation.edu.au