

# Citation of Sources of Information

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/>

This website gives up-to-date guidelines in APA and MLA writing styles. The citation guidelines given below are found on the website. If more help is needed please check their website.

The screenshot shows the homepage of The Purdue Online Writing Lab (OWL). The title "The Purdue Online Writing Lab (OWL)" is at the top. Below it, there are several sections: "Suggested Resources" with a list of links; "The Purdue Online Writing Lab" logo and a welcome message; "Most Popular Resources" with a list of links; "Featured OWL Resources" with icons for OWL News and Podcasts; and "Contact the Purdue OWL" with contact information for OWL Mail, the Webmaster, and the Coordinator.

**The Purdue Online Writing Lab (OWL)**

**Suggested Resources**

- Site Map
- Grades 7-12 Instructors and Students
- English as a Second Language
- Non-Purdue Instructors and Students
- Purdue Instructors and Students
- Professional Writers
- Parents
- Adult Basic Education (GED, ESL, Cover Letters, Résumés)

**The Purdue Online Writing Lab**

Welcome to the Purdue OWL. We offer over 200 free resources including:

- Writing and Teaching Writing
- Research
- Grammar and Mechanics
- Style Guides
- ESL (English as a Second Language)
- Job Search and Professional Writing

**Most Popular Resources**

- OWL Exercises
- APA Formatting and Style Guide
- MLA 2009 Formatting and Style Guide
- Avoiding Plagiarism
- Writing the Basic Business Letter
- Developing a Résumé

**Featured OWL Resources**

Read the Purdue OWL News. RSS Feed

Purdue OWL Podcasts on Boilercast!

**Contact the Purdue OWL**

Writing-related questions: OWL Mail

Site-related and technical questions: OWL Webmaster Caitlan Spronk

Content and copyright-related questions: OWL Coordinator Elizabeth Angeli

MLA (Modern Language Association) style is most commonly used to write papers and cite sources within the liberal arts and humanities. MLA style specifies guidelines for formatting manuscripts and using the English language in writing. MLA style also provides writers with a system for referencing their sources through parenthetical citation in their essays and Works Cited pages. Writers who properly use MLA also build their credibility by demonstrating accountability to their source material. Most importantly, the use of MLA style can protect writers from accusations of plagiarism, which is the purposeful or accidental uncredited use of source material by other writers.

## Works Cited list

References cited in the text of a research paper must appear at the end of the paper in a Works Cited list or bibliography. This list provides the information necessary to identify and retrieve each source that specifically supports your research.

- Arrange entries in alphabetical order by authors' last names (surnames), or by title for sources without authors.
- Capitalize the first word and all other principal words of the titles and subtitles of cited works listed. (Do not capitalize articles, prepositions, coordinating conjunctions, or the "to" in infinitives.)
- Shorten the publisher's name; for example, omit articles, business abbreviations (Co., Inc.), and descriptive words (Press, Publisher).
- When multiple publishers are listed, include all of them, placing a semicolon between each.
- When more than one city is listed *for the same publisher*, use only the first city.
- Use the conjunction "and," not an ampersand [&], when listing multiple authors of a single work.
- **Pagination:** Do not use the abbreviations **p.** or **pp.** to designate page numbers.
- **Indentation:** Align the first line of the entry flush with the left margin, and indent all subsequent lines (5 to 7 spaces) to form a "hanging indent."
- **Italics:** Choose a font in which the italic style contrasts clearly with the regular style.

## Examples

### Books:

References to an entire book should include the following elements:

- author(s) or editor(s)
- the complete title
- edition, if indicated
- place of publication
- the shortened name of the publisher
- date of publication
- medium of publication

### **Basic Format**

Lastname, Firstname. *Title of Book*. Place of Publication: Publisher, Year of Publication. Medium of Publication.

### **One author:**

Nabokov, Vladimir. *Lolita*. New York: Putnam, 1955. Print.

### **Another work, same author:**

---. *Speak, Memory: An Autobiography Revisited*. New York: Knopf, 1999. Print.

### **Two authors:**

Cross, Susan, and Christine Hoffman. *Bruce Nauman: Theaters of Experience*. New York: Guggenheim Museum; London: Thames & Hudson, 2004. Print.

### **Multivolume work:**

Morison, Samuel Eliot, Henry Steele Commager, and William E. Leuchtenburg. *The Growth of the American Republic*. 2 vols. New York: Oxford UP, 1980. Print.

### **No author or editor:**

*Peterson's Annual Guides to Graduate Study*. 33rd ed. Princeton, NJ: Peterson's, 1999. Print.

### **Editor (anthology or collection of essays):**

Hill, Charles A., and Marguerite Helmers, eds. *Defining Visual Rhetorics*. Mahwah, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, 2004. Print.

### **Articles or entries from reference books:**

If the article or entry is signed, place the author's name first; if it is unsigned, give the title first. For well-known reference works, it is not necessary to include full publication information. Include only the title of the reference source, edition, and date of publication.

**Dictionary entry:**

"Hospitality." Def. 1a. *Webster's Third New World Dictionary*. 1993. Print.

**Encyclopedia entry:**

Mercuri, Becky. "Cookies." *The Oxford Encyclopedia of Food and Drink in America*. Ed. Andrew F. Smith. Vol. 1. 2004. Print.

**Article in Journals, Magazines, and Newspapers:**

References to periodical articles must include the following elements:

- author(s)
- article title
- publication title (journal, magazine, etc.)
- volume number
- publication date (abbreviate months, if used)
- the inclusive page numbers
- medium of publication

Issue numbers should be stated as decimals to a given volume number. In the example below, the number

25.4 reads as Volume 25, issue 4. When citing newspapers, it is important to specify the edition used (e.g. late ed.) because different editions of a newspaper may contain different material.

**Journal article, one author:**

Matarrita-Cascante, David. "Beyond Growth: Reaching Tourism-Led Development." *Annals of Tourism Research* 37.4 (2010): 1141-63. Print.

**Journal article, two authors:**

Laing, Jennifer, and Warwick Frost. "How Green Was My Festival: Exploring Challenges and Opportunities Associated With Staging Green Events." *International Journal of Hospitality Management* 29.2 (2010): 261-7. Print.

**Magazine article:**

Kaplan, David A. "Corporate America's No. 1 Gun For Hire." *Fortune* 1 Nov. 2010: 81-95. Print.

**Newspaper article, no author:**

"Africa Day Celebrated in Havana." *Granma International* 31 May 2009, English ed.: 16. Print.

**Newspaper article, one author, discontinuous pages:**

Bajaj, Vikas. "The Double-Edged Rupee." *New York Times* 27 Oct. 2010: B1+. Print.

**Citing Materials from Online Sources**

Citations for online sources, like those for print sources, should provide information that both identifies a source and allows that source to be located and retrieved again. All citations should include the medium of publication (Web) and the date the content was accessed. If the source is difficult to locate or your instructor requires a URL, list the complete address within angle brackets after the date. In many cases, it is also necessary to identify the Web site or database that has made the material available online.

Because there are currently few standards that govern the organization and presentation of online publications, the information that is available to fulfill these objectives can vary widely from resource to resource. In general, references to online works require more information than references to print sources.

**Web page:**

This example includes the optional URL. All other examples below use the shorter citation format.

Cornell University Library. "Introduction to Research." *Cornell University Library*. Cornell University, 2009. Web. 19 June 2009 <<http://www.library.cornell.edu/resrch/intro>>.

**Personal Web site:**

If a work is untitled, you may use a genre label such as Home page, Introduction, etc.

Rule, Greg. Home page. Web. 16 Nov. 2008.

**Entry in an online encyclopedia:**

"Einstein, Albert." *Encyclopaedia Britannica Online*. Encyclopedia Britannica, 1999. Web. 27 Apr. 2009.

### Article in an online periodical:

If pagination is unavailable or is not continuous, use n. pag. in place of the page numbers.

Chaplin, Heather. "Epidemic of Extravagance." *Salon* 19 Feb. 1999: n. pag. Web. 12 July 1999.

### Article in a full-text journal accessed from a database:

Vargas, Jose Antonio. "The Face of Facebook." *New Yorker* 86.28 (2010): 54-63. *Academic Search Premier*. Web. 25 Jan. 2011.

### Online book with print information:

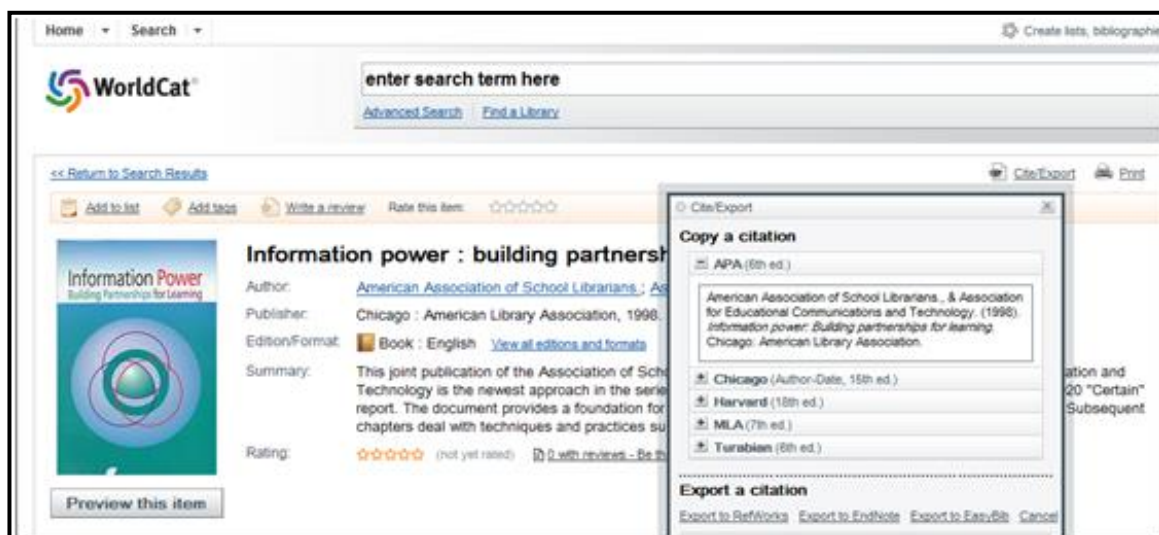
Frost, Robert. *North of Boston*. 2nd ed. New York: Henry Holt and Co., 1915. *Google Books*. Web. 30 June 2009.

<http://www.library.cornell.edu/node/148>

### Other Helpful Websites

www.worldcat.org

This website has a "Cite this Item" link for records or lists that provides bibliographic citations in different styles: APA, MLA etc.



Step 1: Search for your book or item.

Step 2: Click on the title of your chosen item

Step 3: Click on Cite/Export.

Step 4: Choose your citation style.

Step 5. Copy and paste citation into your reference/bibliography list.

www.bibme.org

**BibMe** is a free automatic citation creator that supports MLA, APA, Chicago, and Turabian formatting. BibMe leverages external databases to quickly fill citation information for you. BibMe will then format the citation information and compile a bibliography according to the guidelines of the style manuals. BibMe also features a citation guide that provides students with the style manuals' guidelines for citing references.

