



## How to Cite Sources on an MLA Works Cited Page

Use the following guidelines when formatting a works cited page in MLA style. For more information, see: The Modern Language Association of America. *MLA Handbook*. 8th ed., MLA, 2016.

Works cited entries in MLA style

- focus on 3 types of “containers”
- utilize 9 “core elements” (e.g., author, source title, etc.)

\*Note: A single source may be cited correctly in more than one way; the correct citation form depends on what you want to emphasize (e.g., the episode or the director of a TV show). See the last two examples of #3 below.

## Containers

*Self-contained/stand-alone sources:* e.g., book, movie, whole website, brochure

Book:

Fitzgerald, F. Scott. *Tender Is the Night*. Charles Scribner, 1961.

Record:

Beyoncé. *Beyoncé*. Columbia Records, 12 Aug. 2014.

*Sources in containers:* e.g., article in a journal, episode of a TV show

Selection from an Anthology:

Diaz, Junot. “Aurora.” *The Ecco Anthology of Contemporary American Short Fiction*, edited by Joyce Carol Oates and Christopher R. Beha, Harper Perennial, 2008, pp. 213–26.

Newspaper Article from a Website:

Chen, Brian X. “Oculus Rift Review: A Clunky Portal to a Promising Virtual Reality.” *The New York Times*, 28 Mar. 2016, [nyti.ms/1XYcowB](http://nyti.ms/1XYcowB).

*Sources in containers in containers:* e.g., article in a journal in a database, episode of a TV show on YouTube, poem in an edited collection on Google Books

Journal Article from an Online Database:

Yi, Yu, et al. A New Dynamic Covalent Bond of SeN: Towards Controlled Self-Assembly and Disassembly. *Chemistry*, vol. 19, no. 29, July 2013, pp. 9506–10. *ProQuest*, doi:[dx.doi.org/10.1002/chem.201301446](https://doi.org/10.1002/chem.201301446).

TV Episode from an Online Streaming Service:

“Under the Gun.” *Pretty Little Liars*, season 4, episode 6, ABC Family, 16 July 2013. *Hulu*, [www.hulu.com/watch/511318](http://www.hulu.com/watch/511318).

## Core Elements

Omit any of the following elements that do not apply to a particular source. There is no need to include placeholders (e.g., *n. pag.* to signify "no page") when something is missing.

### 1. Author(s).

Casebeer, Daniel. "Edgar Poe and the Enigma of Transcendence." *Poe Studies/Dark Romanticism*, vol. 35, no. 1, 2006, pp. 13–27.

Blackorby, Charles, and R. R. Russell. "Aggregation of Efficiency Indices." *Journal of Productivity Analysis*, vol. 12, no. 1, 1999, p. 5.

U.S. Food and Drug Administration. "E17 General Principles for Planning and Design of Multi-Regional Clinical Trials." *U.S. Food and Drug Administration*, May 2016, [www.fda.gov/ucm/groups/fdagov-public/@fdagov-drugs-gen/documents/document/ucm519603.pdf](http://www.fda.gov/ucm/groups/fdagov-public/@fdagov-drugs-gen/documents/document/ucm519603.pdf).

\*For three or more authors, cite the first author as usual followed by *et al.*

Blight, James G., et al. *Becoming Enemies: U.S.-Iran Relations and the Iran-Iraq War, 1979–1988*. Rowman and Littlefield, 2012.

\*For multiple sources by the same author, cite the first source as usual; for subsequent sources, replace the author's name with three dashes:

Stein, Gertrude. "Composition as Explanation." *Selected Writings of Gertrude Stein*, edited by Carl Van Vechten, Vintage Books, 1990, pp. 511–24.

---. "The Gradual Making of the Making of Americans." *Selected Writings of Gertrude Stein*, edited by Carl Van Vechten, Vintage Books, 1990, pp. 239–58.

### 2. Source title (e.g., journal, edited collection, website, TV series).

Munro, Alice. *Hateship, Friendship, Courtship, Loveship, Marriage*. Vintage, 2001.

Boutin, Aimee. "Shakespeare, Women, and French Romanticism." *Shakespeare Quarterly*, vol. 37, no. 3, 2002, pp. 34–47. *Project Muse*, doi:10.1192/bjp.pb.111.093823.

### 3. Container title (i.e., source containing #2),

Dolby, Nadine. "Research in Youth Culture and Policy: Current Conditions and Future Directions." *Social Work and Society: The International Online-Only Journal*, vol. 6, no. 2, 2008, pp. 32–47.

Lee, Li-Young. "The Gift." *The Rose*, BOA Editions, 1986, p. 15.

"Cops Redesign." *Portlandia*, directed by Jonathan Krisel, performances by Fred Armisen and Carrie Brownstein, season 2, episode 5, IFC, 3 Feb. 2012. *Netflix*,

[www.netflix.com/watch/70236274](http://www.netflix.com/watch/70236274).

Krisel, Jonathan, director. "Cops Redesign." *Portlandia*, season 2, episode 5, IFC, 3 Feb. 2012. *Netflix*, [www.netflix.com/watch/70236274](http://www.netflix.com/watch/70236274).

\*Note: for items in a container *in a container*, add core elements 3–9 (as appropriate) for each container

#### **4. Other contributors (e.g., editor, translator, creator, illustrator),**

Hemingway, Ernest. "Old Man at the Bridge." *Literature: The Human Experience*, edited by Richard Abcarian and Marvin Klotz, St. Martin's, 1984, pp. 36–37.

Tolstoy, Leo. *The Death of Ivan Ilyich*. Translated by Lynn Solotaroff, Bantam, 1981.

#### **5. Version,**

Baker, Nancy L., and Nancy Huling. *A Research Guide for Undergraduate Students: English and American Literature*. 6th ed., MLA, 2006.

Hunkin, Galumalemana Afeleti L. *Gagana Sāmoa: A Samoan Language Coursebook*. Rev. ed., U of Hawaii P, 2009.

#### **6. Number,**

Kellner, Douglas. "Bushspeak and the Politics of Lying: Presidential Rhetoric in the 'War on Terror.'" *Presidential Studies Quarterly*, vol. 37, no. 4, Dec. 2007, pp. 622–45.

"Past, Present, and Future." *NCIS*, created by Donald Bellisario, performance by Mark Harmon, season 13, episode 1, CBS, 2013.

#### **7. Publisher,**

Jencks, Christopher and David Riesman. *The Academic Revolution*, Doubleday, 1968.

Sweet, Ken. "Wells Fargo fined \$185 million for improper account openings." *Houston Chronicle*, Hearst, 9 Sept. 2016, [www.chron.com/news/article/Wells-Fargo-fined-185-million-for-improper-9210298.php](http://www.chron.com/news/article/Wells-Fargo-fined-185-million-for-improper-9210298.php).

#### **8. Publication date,**

Rowley, Hazel. *Franklin and Eleanor: An Extraordinary Marriage*. Farrar, 2010.

Ecker, Thelma. "The Winter Survival Guide" *GQ*, Jan. 2005, pp. 3-5.

Donnelly, John M. "Some Survivors of the Fallen Are Shorted on Pentagon Benefits." *Huffington Post*, 8 Sept. 2016, [www.rollcall.com/news/policy/survivors-fallen-shorter-pentagon-benefits](http://www.rollcall.com/news/policy/survivors-fallen-shorter-pentagon-benefits).

**9. Location (e.g., pages, DOI, URL).**

Long, Lisa A. "The Postbellum Reform Writings of Rebecca Harding Davis and Elizabeth Stuart Phelps." *The Cambridge Companion to Nineteenth-Century American Women's Writing*, edited by Dale M. Bauer and Philip Gould, Cambridge UP, 2001, pp. 262–83.

Kresser, Chris. "Basics of Immune Balancing for Hashimoto's." *Chris Kresser*, 30 Aug. 2010, [chriskresser.com/basics-of-immune-balancing-for-hashimotos/](http://chriskresser.com/basics-of-immune-balancing-for-hashimotos/).

## Works Cited

The Modern Language Association of America. *MLA Handbook*. 8th ed., MLA, 2016.

Rosenwasser, David, and Jill Stephen. *Writing Analytically*. 7th ed., Cengage, 2015.