

MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION
Documentation Guidelines for Research
Glendale Community College English Department Revised
Revised 2009

The Modern Language Association documentation style has changed in 2009. This GCC Guide will cover the most important MLA changes that will influence research at Glendale Community College where the MLA style system is required. The central process guiding the MLA system, however, has not changed. The goal is to present the most important source information in a “shorthand” format for readers so that writers can give credit to original authors and sources for cited material.

The MLA documentation system allows writers and researchers to acknowledge sources in the body of the research, essays, and reports. The works are arranged alphabetically at the end of the paper in a bibliographical list called the Works Cited. The label suggests that every work in the Works Cited list has been quoted, summarized, or paraphrased in the body of the research at least once.

Many of the changes in the 2009 version of the MLA style reflect the huge variation of online sources and the ways they are accessed. Other changes in 2009 MLA reflect the difficult tasks in identification if sources are Print, Web, Radio, Television, CD, Audiocassette, LP, Film, Slide program, DVD, Sound filmstrip, Videocassette, Laser disc, Performance, Photograph, Interview, Editorial, Advertisement, and Email. Consequently, these terms will be included in every Works Cited entry in the proper location. Here are some examples:

Works Cited

Bierce, Ambrose. “Academy.” *The Devil’s Dictionary. The Collected Works of Ambrose Bierce*. Vol. 7. New York: Neale, 1911. N. pag. *The Ambrose Bierce Project*. Web. 15 May 2008.

Bordo, Susan. “The Moral Content of Nabokov’s *Lolita*.” *Aesthetic Subjects*. Ed. Pamela R. Matthews and David McWhirter.

- Minneapolis: U of Minnesota P, 2003. 125-52. Print.
- Eaves, Morris, Robert Essick, and Joseph Viscomi, eds. *The William Blake Archive*. Lib. Of Cong., 28 Sept. 2007. Web. 20 Nov. 2007.
<http://www.blakearchive.org/blake/>.
- Lansbury, Angela. Interview. *Off-Camera: Conversations with the Makers Of Prime-Time Television*. By Richard Levison and William Link. New York: Plume-NAL, 1986. 72-86. Print.
- "Maplewood, New Jersey." Map. *Google Maps*. Google, 15 May 2008. Web. 15 May 2008.
- Noujaim, Jehane, dir. *Control Room*. Lions Gate, 2004. DVD.
- Richardson, Lynda. "Minority Students Languish in Special Education System." *New York Times* 6 Apr. 1994, late ed.: A1+. Pt 1 of a series, *A Class Apart: Special Education in New York City*. *Lexus Nexus*. Web. 15 Aug. 2007.
- "The Scientists Speak." Editorial. *New York Times*. New York Times, 20 Nov. 2007. Web. 15 May 2008.
- Shah, Parilah Mohd, and Fauziah Ahmad. "A Comprehensive Account Of the Bilingual Education Programs in Malaysia and the United States." *GEMA Online Journal of Language Studies* 7.2 (2007): 63-77. Web. 5 June 2008.
- "Six Charged in Alleged N.J. Terror Plot." *WNBC.com*. WNBC, 8 May 2007. Web. 9 May 2007.

As you look through the above Works Cited entries, you will probably have immediate questions! The changes in 2009 have significantly altered the details of each entry format from previous MLA formats, even though the basic structure remains the same:

- Name of the author, editor, corporate author, and/or translator.
- Title of the work.
- Date of the work.
- Access date if online.

Many of the changes will affect student learning here at GCC, especially if they have learned the previous way in English 101, and they are now students in ENG 102 or other courses requiring MLA style research formats such as Business. Consequently, here is a short list of the MOST IMPORTANT MLA changes in 2009 you should know:

- A. Titles of newspapers, books, magazines, websites, references i.e. dictionaries, films, movie titles are no longer underlined. **Use only ITALICS** to identify these publications: e.g. *The Cassell Concise Dictionary*, or a textbook such as *Patterns for College Writing*. Smaller works, i.e. essays, song titles, poems, chapters, news stories, editorials all still require double quote marks before and after the title's words. End quotes go outside the period in the MLA style.
- B. Cue the reader when **FOUR or more authors or editors** collaborate on a source by using the Latin phrase et al. with a period after the last letter. Use in both the Works Cited list and in the parenthetical reference to that work. Example: In Smith et al., the hero dies. (Smith et al. 2006).
- C. **URLs** for web publications are not required for daily, weekly or regularly published periodicals like *Time.com* ; however, URLs are recommended for non-periodical web sources. (**Note:** MLA does not require a URL, but suggests that instructors should ask for it when a reader cannot locate the source without it. GCC instructors are asked to require URLs, especially for unique website sources, so that students' online skill in documentation can be assessed easily, especially when papers are electronically submitted.)
- D. Sources without page numbers, dates of publication, location of publication will require abbreviations to indicate these omissions in the Works Cited entries. Here are the requirements:

No Publisher ?

New York: n.p., 2008

No Place of Publication?

N.p.: U of Gotham P, 2008.

No Date of Publication?

New York: U of Gotham P, n.d.

No Pagination?

New York: U of Gotham P, 2008. n. pag.

- E. Sponsors or entities responsible for websites are identified following the italicized title of the website, even if the names are identical. Sponsors are not italicized. See *Google Maps* entry above.
- F. GCC Library Database subscriptions no longer require the Works Cited entry to identify the GCC Library Media Center as the sponsor of the database subscription, nor is the publisher of the database required. See Richardson entry above.

Who Can Use This Guide? Why Use This Guide?

For faculty members and students, this guide shows the up-to-date Modern Language Association (MLA) research paper formats for non-scientific research fields. While many other guides are available, this guide can provide consistency across campus and across many fields that rely upon MLA to clearly communicate the research sources in papers, research projects, and publications. We feel this guide is a quick and easy reference for our students here at GCC.

Many incoming students have had little or no MLA skill development in the past. Learning the style formats increases a student's ability to discern details, aids in word processing skills, reinforces an ethical approach to using another person's information in one's own writing, and underscores the student's academic responsibility to avoid plagiarism.

Students using citation helpers and pre-programmed MLA citation assistance located at databases, in word processing software, or suggested by other MLA texts are advised to seek consistency. Please ask your instructor, seek assistance at the GCC Library and Media Center, either in person, or online.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction to 2009 Changes in MLA	1 - 4
How To List Sources in a Works Cited List	6 - 7
How to Make Parenthetical References	7
Common Formats for Print-based Sources	8 - 15
Common Formats for Library Databases & FAQs	16 - 19
Common Formats for Online Sources & FAQs	19 - 25
Other Sources Suitable for Research	25 - 27
Best Practices for In-text Parenthetical References	27 - 29
Common Terms in MLA Style	29 - 31

How To List Sources Used in an MLA Format Research Paper

The Modern Language Association requires a Works Cited list, an alphabetical arrangement of all sources cited in a research project. The Works Cited list *only* includes sources that were cited or “used” in the research paper final draft. The Works Cited entry formats are standard for most sources and the complete *alphabetical* list is the final page of the research paper. A sample Works Cited list for a paper revolving around a research thesis looks like this:

Works Cited

- Ehrenreich, Barbara. *Nickle-and-Dimed: Surviving in Low-Wage America*. Boston: Carter Press, 2001. Print.
- . “Will Women Still Need Men?” *Time South Pacific* 26 June 2000:76. *MasterFILE Premier*. Web. 17 July 2005.
- “Financial Know-how for Women.” *The Arizona Republic Buyer’s Edge* 01 Mar 2000: 6. Print.
- Hemingway, Ernest. “A Clean, Well-Lighted Place.” *Literature, Reading and Writing the Human Experience*. Shorter 7th ed. Ed. Richard Abcarian and Marvin Klotz. Boston: Bedford/St. Martin’s, 2000. 92-95. Print.
- Shimabukuro, Jake. “Ukulele Weeps by Jack Shimabukuro.” Online video clip. *YouTube*. Web. 4 Apr. 2008.
http://www.youtube.com/results?search_type=&search_query=shimabukuro+while+my+guitar+gently+weeps&aq=1&oq=shimabukuro
- Smith, Robert A. “Cloning Controversy.” *Genetic Engineering* 25.3 (1995):51-57. *Academic Search Premier*. Web. 22 July 2005.
- Specter, Michael. “Control of Grozny Eludes Russian Troops.” *New York Times* 12 Aug.1996. Web. 13 Mar. 2006.
- United States. Central Intelligence Agency. *National Basic Intelligence Fact Book*. Washington: GPO, 1980. Print.

Note: Publication titles of major works, websites, and movies are no longer underlined. You use *italics* to show titles of publications. Titles of essays, magazine articles, database articles, etc. are always in “quotation marks.”

The Works Cited list has key features:

- Titled in center: Works Cited
- Double-spaced entries
- Overhung left margin first line in each entry; lines are indented five spaces to right on additional entry lines
- Alphabetized by author’s last names or significant first word(s) of entries.
- Uses a “shorthand” format, standardized by type of source (see **Common Formats**, this guide).

How To Make the Parenthetical References

To refer to a source included in the Works Cited list, use a parenthetical reference or citation, e.g. (Hemingway 92) within the text of the research paper immediately following the cited or summarized material. Usually, a parenthetical reference uses the author’s last name (and the page number if the source was printed on a printing press, not from computer sources) where the quote was found. Database or website sources do not need a page in the parenthetical reference. A typical in-text sentence where quoted material needs to be cross-referenced to the **Works Cited** list might look like this:

According to the author, “Blah, blah, blah, and blah” (Hemingway 92).

Note: If the cited material does not begin with the actual beginning of a sentence, the quoted material might look like this:

Benson shows in her analysis that “blah, blah, blah” (4).

Note: If Benson is used in the lead-in or “signal” phrase, and is from a website or database source, no parenthetical reference is needed to identify the source further. It will look like this:

Benson argued on her website that “blah, blah, blah.”

Sample parenthetical formats used in a research paper where a quotation is used for the sample Works Cited entries shown on page 3 might be:

“Blah, blah, blah, blah” (Ehrenreich, *Nickle* 67).

“Blah, blah, blah, blah” (Ehrenreich, “Will Women”).

“Blah, blah, blah, blah” (“Financial” 6).

“Blah, blah, blah, blah” (Hemingway 92).

“Blah, blah, blah, blah” (Smith).

“Blah, blah, blah, blah” (Specter).

“Blah, blah, blah, blah” (United States 121).

Common Formats for Documentation of *Print-based Sources*

To determine what format “shorthand” is appropriate for the Works Cited entries, use the following categories to find the formats closest to the sources you have selected.

1. **Book(s) by one author**

Garreau, Joel. *Edge City: Life on the New Frontier*. New York: Doubleday, 1991. Print.

“Blah, blah, blah, blah” (Garreau, *Edge* 22).

Note: If two selections in the same Works Cited list are by the same author, note formats:

Garreau, Joel. *Edge City: Life on the New Frontier*. New York: Doubleday, 1991. Print.

- - -. *The Nine Nations of North America*. Boston: Houghton, 1981. Print.

“Blah, blah, blah, blah” (Garreau, *Edge* 22).

“Blah, blah, blah, blah” (Garreau, *The Nine* 65).

2. **Book by two or three authors**

Fulwiler, Toby J., Jr., and Alan Hayakawa. *The Blair Handbook*. Boston: Blair-Prentice, 1994. Print.

“Blah, blah, blah, blah” (Fulwiler and Hayakawa 24).

3. **Book by four or more authors**

Britton, James, et al. *The Development of Writing Abilities (11-18)*. London: MacMillan Education, 1975. Print.

“Blah, blah, blah, blah” (Britton et al. 45).

Note: MLA grants the writer an option to list all authors in Works Cited list OR use “et al.” Use **also** for books, periodicals, and website essays where more than three authors exist.

4. **Book by a corporation, organization, etc.**

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary. *Boating Skills and Seamanship*. Washington, DC: Coast Guard Auxiliary National Board, 1988. Print.

“Blah, blah, blah, blah” (U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary 56).

5. **Revised edition of a book**

Hayakawa, S. I. *Language in Thought and Action*, 4th ed. New York: Harcourt, 1978. Print.

“Blah, blah, blah, blah” (Hayakawa 33).

6. **Book with an editor**

Hall, Donald, ed. *The Oxford Book of American Literary Anecdotes*. New York: Oxford UP, 1981. Print.

“Blah, blah, blah, blah” (Hall 113).

7. **Book in more than one volume**

Blotner, Joseph. *Faulkner: A Biography*. 2 vols. New York: Random, 1974. Print.

“Blah, blah, blah, blah” (Blotner 2: 1346).

8. **Multivolume works and volume series**

Churchill, Winston S. *Triumph and Tragedy*. Boston: Houghton, 1953. n.p.
Vol. 6 of *The Second World War*. 6 vols. 1948-53. Print.

“Blah, blah, blah, blah” (Churchill 1306).

9. **Introduction, foreword, preface, and afterword**

Holroyd, Michael. Preface. *The Naked Civil Servant*. By Quentin Crisp. New York: Plume-NAL, 1983. Print.

“Blah, blah, blah, blah” (Holroyd x).

10. **Articles from an anthology or collection**

Hemingway, Ernest. “A Clean, Well-Lighted Place.” *Literature, Reading and Writing the Human Experience*. Shorter 7th ed. Ed. Richard Abcarian and Marvin Klotz. Boston: Bedford/St. Martin’s, 2000. 92-95. Print.

“Blah, blah, blah, blah” (Hemingway 92).

Note: When you refer to more than one piece from the same anthology, the anthology and individual cross references for each piece are added to the Works Cited list separately. Note that the word “Print” is not needed in the cross-referenced essay entries. Make certain to alphabetize the cross-referenced author entries within the larger list, not just next to the editor’s name.

Abcarian, Richard, and Marvin Klotz, eds. *Literature, Reading and Writing The Human Experience*. Shorter 7th ed. Boston: Bedford/ St. Martin's, 2000. Print.

"Blah, blah, blah" (Abcarian and Klotz 16).

Hemingway, Ernest. "A Clean, Well-Lighted Place." Abcarian and Klotz 92-95.

Hughes, Langston. "Harlem." Abcarian and Klotz. 328.

"Blah, blah, blah, blah" (Hemingway 92).

"Blah, blah, blah, blah" (Hughes 328).

Note: Both the Hemingway and Hughes essay entries above need not use the location word "Print" because they are cross-referenced with the Abcarian and Klotz entry that uses it.

11. **Articles in a reference book**

"Suicide." *The Columbia Encyclopedia Concise*. 1983 ed. Print.

"Blah, blah, blah, blah" ("Suicide" 234).

Miller, Peter L. "The Power of Flight." *The Encyclopedia of Insects*. Ed. Christopher O'Toole. New York: Facts on File. 18-19. Print.

"Blah, blah, blah, blah" (Miller 19).

12. **Government document**

United States. Cong. House. Committee on the Judiciary. *Immigration and Nationality Act with Amendments and Notes on Related Laws*. 7th ed. Washington: GPO, 1980. Print.

“Blah, blah, blah, blah” (United States 57).

13. **Articles in periodicals**

Barringer, Felicity. “Where Many Elderly Live, Signs of the Future.” *New York Times* 7 Mar. 1993, nat. ed.: A12. Print.

“Blah, blah, blah, blah” (Barringer).

Note: MLA suggests where an article is only one page (as above), the parenthetical reference needs no page number.

“Infant Mortality Down; Race Disparity Widens.” *Washington Post* 12 Mar. 1993: A12. Print.

“Blah, blah, blah, blah” (“Infant”).

Note: When an article has no author (as above), use a word or two of the title as the reference, and include quotation marks around them. Note that the page number follows the exception mentioned above.

14. **Article from a scholarly journal paginated by volume**

Harris, Joseph. “The Other Reader.” *Journal of Advanced Composition* 12 (1992): 34-36. Print.

“Blah, blah, blah, blah” (Harris 34).

15. **Article in a scholarly journal paginated by issue**

Lofty, John. "The Politics at Modernism's Funeral." *Canadian Journal of Political And Social Theory* 6 (1987): 89-96. Print.

"Blah, blah, blah, blah" (Lofty 90).

16. **Article in a weekly magazine**

Van Biema, David. "Parodies Regained." *Time* 21 Mar. 1994: 46. Print.

"Blah, blah, blah, blah" (Van Biema).

Note: Do not include volume numbers for magazines even if they are available. See above, #16 and below, #17.

17. **Article in a newspaper, signed and unsigned**

Martin, Claire. "Primary Care System Under Attack." *Denver Post* 3 Jan. 2000: F1+. Print.

"Blah, blah, blah, blah" (Martin).

"The Odds of March." *Time* 15 Apr. 1985: 20+. Print.

"Blah, blah, blah, blah" ("The Odds").

Note: A + next to a page number indicates a small continuation of the article on a page not in numerical sequence.

18. **A Review**

Solinger, Rickie. "Unsafe for Women." Rev. of *Next Time, She'll Be Dead: Battering and How to Stop It*, by Ann Jones. *New York Times Book Review* 20 Mar. 1994: 16. Print.

"Blah, blah, blah, blah" (Solinger).

19. **An Editorial**

"Price Support Goes South." Editorial. *Burlington Free Press* 5 June 1990: A10. Print.

"Blah, blah, blah, blah" ("Price").

20. **Letter to the editor**

Kempthorne, Charles. Letter. *Kansas City Star* 26 July 1992: A16. Print.

"Blah, blah, blah, blah" (Kempthorne).

Common Formats for Documentation of *Library Database Sources*

Database articles are available only through a subscriber who pays for the service (typically a college library or municipal library). GCC offers many database options for research and they are located online at the GCC Library Media Center. Go to the GCC Library url: <<http://www.lib.gccaz.edu/lmc/>>.

When a researcher has fulfilled the student fee arrangement, access to the database is still only available through the subscriber online. In the past, Library Database sources were handled as a separate group of MLA sources, but in 2009, MLA considers Library Databases another Web source.

As of this revision, Library Databases include scans of articles previously published in print, but may have altered the original. Databases may include HTML, PDF and hypertextual link options for the researcher. Some databases include sound and film clips not available in the original print publications. Consequently, MLA considers the Library Database source as one of many Web sources and handles the Works Cited entry styles for them accordingly.

Note: When select your database article, please note that the titles of the articles or short works you select are not always in quotation marks, as MLA requires them. You are to correct them to conform to MLA.

The database title as well as the original source of the article will be in italics. If a database title is in a foreign language, use the original upper-lower case version. Do not change the capitalization. Insert the location word “Web” directly in front of your access date.

21. *Newspaper databases*

Harden, Nick. “Water-rich Californians Lose Interest In Xeriscaping.” *Arizona Republic* 6 Sept. 1997: AH15. *Newsbank*. Web. 22 July 2005.

“Blah, blah, blah, blah” (Harden).

22. **Magazine and multiple-source databases**

Nock, Steven L., James D. Wright, and Laura Sanchez. "America's Divorce Problem." *Society* May/June 1999: 43. *MasterFILE Premier*. Web. 9 May 2001.

"Blah, blah, blah, blah" (Nock , Wright and Sanchez).

Deyette, Camile. "Here's Looking At You." *Los Angeles Times* 7 Oct. 1998: E1. *LexisNexis*. Web. 10 May 2008.

"Blah, blah, blah, blah" (Deyette).

Note: The GCC Library offers MANY databases that are also multiple source databases. Use this MLA style #22 for all of them. However, if you desire to cite a scholarly journal, do NOT use format #22. See #23 below for scholarly database MLA formats.

23. **A scholarly journal database**

Tolson, Nancy. "Making Books Available: The Role of Early Libraries, Librarians, and Booksellers in the Promotion of African American Children's Literature." *African American Review* 32.1 (1998): 9-16. *JSTOR*. Web. 5 June 2008.

24. **Other library database sources**

"U.S. – Saudi Relations." *Issues and Controversies* 9 Nov. 2001. *Issues and Controversies on File*. Web. 3 Dec. 2001.

"Blah, blah, blah, blah" ("U.S.- Saudi Relations").

“Scotland.” *CultureGrams* 2004: n. pag. Web. 27 Aug. 2008.

“Blah, blah, blah” (“Scotland”).

Cervelli, Peter. “The Threat of Silent Earthquakes.” Mar. 2004: 86-91.

Scientific American Archive Online. Web. 2 Aug. 2007.

“Blah, blah, blah” (Cervelli).

Note: If you want to cite from *MasterFILE Premier’s* abstract, not the actual article, use the following format:

Nock, Steven L., James D. Wright, and Laura Sanchez. Abstract.

“America’s Divorce Problem.” *Society* May/June 1999: 43.

MasterFILE Premier. Web. 9 May 2001.

“Blah, blah, blah” (Nock, Wright, and Sanchez, Abstract).

FAQ’s for Library Database citations:

Q: How do I cite an article when the database takes me to a link on the internet?

A: MLA suggests that hyperlinks still began with the search words you entered into the database search bar. If you will use the article in your research, then the citation should include the library database information. However, if the link offers you a resource that can be used for other articles, then use the MLA for online sources for subsequent citations.

Q: The titles in the databases do not use punctuation and capital letters recommended by MLA. Is it plagiarism if I change the differences to conform to MLA?

A: No. However, if a title is in a non-English language, MLA recommends you copy it exactly as the original upper-lower cases are given.

Q: If a database does not tell me the pages of the original article publication, what do I do?

A: Go see page 3 of this MLA document. You will insert “N.pag” where the page number belonged.

Q: How do I handle a online database versus a Library Database?

A: They are both Web sources, but it is probable that the website database will be the publication source for many of the non-Library database websites. The Library Database citation style will always include the original publication source AND the subscription database as the secondary publication source.

Common Formats for Documentation of *Online* Sources

Online sources include websites. When a website offers information useful in research, the information is considered a *screen* of information, **NOT** a page of information. Consequently, page numbers are not used in the parenthetical references for online sources, e.g. (Smith).

The formats for online sources include two dates: the first date is the publication date of the online article, or the date the material was most recently updated/copyrighted by the sponsors of the website. The second date is called the “access date.” This date is always the date when the researcher retrieved the online information.

In the 2009 revised MLA procedures for citing inline sources, URLs as part of the Works Cited list are optional. However, we recommend that students use URLs for all unique website articles or information to allow

readers and instructors to locate the sources more easily. MLA suggests that online periodicals such as *Time.com* that have regular publications may omit the URLs. In the citation format. But, blog entries, online postings, unique watchdog sites, and issue-based websites can offer excellent research information, but without the URL to point the readers in the correct direction, would be hard to locate. **Instructors are encouraged to include URLs as part of the learning process standards for students new to MLA.**

Note: Notice #25 below to see how to provide a name of a sponsor or web master that does not match the domain name of the website. Put a comma after the sponsor's name.

Remember to check with entry your instructor to see if there are any websites that are inappropriate for the research you have undertaken. Use the following common formats for online sources:

25. Unique Professional sites

Mortimer, Gail. "Faulkner's Style." *The William Faulkner Society Home Page*. UTEP Library, 16 Sept. 1999. Web. 1 Oct. 2000.
<<http://www.utep.edu/mortimer/faulkner/mainfaulkner.htm>>.

"Blah, blah, blah, blah" (Mortimer).

NAIC. National Association of Investors Corporation, 29 Sept. 2000.
Web. 1 Oct. 2001. <<http://www.better-investing.org>>.

"Blah, blah, blah, blah" (NAIC).

“Cost of War.” *National Priorities Project*. n.d. Web. 29 Mar. 2006.

<http://nationalpriorities.org/index.php?option=com_wrapper&Itemid=182>

“Blah, blah, blah” (“Cost”).

Qazi, Abdullah. “The Plight of the Afghan Women.” *Afghanistan Online*

30 May 2005. Web. 29 Mar. 2006.

<http://www.afghan-web.com/women/>

“Blah, blah, blah” (Qazi).

26. Article in an electronic scholarly journal (ejournal)

Joyce, Michael. “On the Birthday of the Stranger (in Memory of John Hawkes).” *Evergreen Review* (5 Mar. 2000): n.pag. Web. 12 May 2001.

“Blah, blah, blah, blah” (Joyce).

27. Article in an electronic magazine (ezine)

Adler, Jerry. “Ghost of Everest.” *Newsweek*. Newsweek, 17 May 2001. Web. 13 Oct. 2001.

“Blah, blah, blah, blah” (Adler).

Note: #26 and #27 do not need URLs because these online publications have weekly or timely publications throughout the year.

28. An online audio rebroadcast of a radio program

Nunberg, Geoff, narr. "Use of the Word 'Literacy.'" *Fresh Air*. Natl. Public Radio, 7 May 2001. Web. 7 May 2001.
<<http://www.npr.org.archive>>.

"Blah, blah, blah, blah" (Nunberg).

29. A Personal site

Pelligrino, Joseph. *Home page*. 16 Dec. 1998. Web. 1 Oct. 1999
<<http://www.english.eku.edu/peல்லigrino/personal.htm>>.

"Blah, blah, blah, blah" (Pelligrino).

30. Online News Broadcast, audio-streamed

"Hourly News Summary." *National Public Radio*. Natl. Public Radio,
20 July 2007. Web. 20 July 2007.

The news suggested that blah, blah, blah ("Hourly").

31. Maps, charts, graphs, cartoons, etc.

"Phoenixville, PA." Map. *US Census Bureau*. U.S. Govt., 4 Oct. 1999.
Web. 6 Mar. 2006
<<http://www.tiger.census.gov/cgi-bin/gazetteer>>

"Blah, blah, blah, blah" ("Phoenixville").

32. **Email message**

Penning, Sarah. "Re: Discrimination." Message to Rai Peterson. 6 May

1999. E-mail.

"Blah, blah, blah, blah" (Penning).

33. **Legal cases**

Brown v. Board of Educ. 347 US 483-96. Supreme Court of the US. 1954. *Supreme Court Collection*. Legal Information Inst., Cornell U Law School, n.d. Web. 3 Aug. 2007.

"Blah, blah, blah" (Brown).

34. **Digital files**

American Council of Learned Societies. Commission on Cyberinfrastructure for the Humanities and Social Sciences. *Our Cultural Commonwealth*. New York: ACLS, 2006. PDF file.

"Blah, blah, blah" (American Council).

35. A Posting to a Discussion group

Inman, James. "Re: Technologist." *Online posting*. Alliance For Computers in Writing. 24 Sept. 2000. Web. 27 Mar. 2001. <acw-@unicorn.acs.ttu.edu>.

"Blah, blah, blah, blah" (Inman).

Note: A server may at times be used as a source. See the sample below:

36. Using a Server as a Source

"Civil War Dead." Photo. *Google Images*. Google, n.d. Web. 4 Apr. 2007.

"Blah, blah, blah" ("Civil").

FAQ's for Online Citations:

Q: What is the information that must be collected when citing websites?

A: An entry for the citation that is not a periodical will contain most of the following information, in sequence:

- Name of the author, compiler, director, editor, narrator.
- Title of Work (in Roman type and quotation marks if part of a larger work; italicized if an independent work.)
- Title of overall Web site, italicized.
- Version or edition, if applicable.

- Publisher or sponsor of the site; if not available use n.p.
- Date of publication (day, month, year); if not available use n.d.
- Medium of publication (Web).
- Date of Access (day, month, year).
- URL for non-periodical sites.

Other Sources Suitable for Research

37. *Films, Radio, and Television programs*

The Last Emperor. Dir. Bernardo Bertolucci. Perf. John Lone and Peter

O'Toole. Columbia. 1987. Film.

“Blah, blah, blah, blah” (*The Last Emperor*).

“Death and Society.” Narr. Joanne Silberner. *Weekend Edition*

Sunday. Natl. Public Radio. WUWM, Milwaukee, 25

Jan. 1998. Radio.

“Blah, blah, blah” (“Death”).

“Frederick Douglass.” *Civil War Journal*. Narr. Danny Glover.
Dir. Craig Haffner. Arts and Entertainment Network.
6 Apr. 1993. Television.

38. Recordings

Enigma. “Turn Around.” *Love, Sensuality, Devotion*. Virgin Records
America, Inc., 2001. CD.

“Blah, blah, blah, blah” (Enigma).

39. A Sacred Text

Jerusalem Bible, The. Garden City: Doubleday, 1966. Print.

“Blah, blah, blah, blah” (*The Jerusalem Bible* 59).

40. Lecture or Speech

Lu, Min-Zhan. “The Politics of Listening.” Conference on College
Composition and Communication. Palmer House, Chicago.
3 Apr. 1998. Address.

“Blah, blah, blah, blah” (Lu).

541. *Retitled reprints in books*

Sibbs, Nancy R. "Restricting The Death Penalty."

Punishment 1. Opposing Viewpoints Sources. Ed.

David L. Bender. San Diego, CA: Greenhaven, 1989: 149-152. Print. Rpt. of "Death On Demand." *Time* 18 April 1988: 64-69.

"Blah, blah, blah, blah" (Sibbs 150).

42. *Play, opera, ballet, concert performances*

Hamlet. By William Shakespeare. Dir. John Gielgud. Perf.

Richard Burton. Shubert Theatre, Boston. 4 Mar. 2006.

Performance.

"Blah, blah, blah" (*Hamlet*).

Note: Use the following format to identify an individual performer's lines:

Rigg, Diana, perf. *Medea*. By Euripides. Trans. Allistair Elliot. Dir.

Jonathan Kent. Longacre Theatre, New York. 7 Apr. 2005.

Performance.

"Blah, blah, blah" (Rigg).

Best Practices for In-text Parenthetical References

All the previous samples assume the quote is word for word, e.g. “Blah, blah, blah, blah” (Smith 9). There are options when creating a smooth writing style in research that may alter what must go into the parentheses. Here are the best approaches:

Author named in signal phrase:

Smith indicated “blah, blah, blah, blah” (9).

Indirect source:

Nunji noted that “Blah, blah, blah, blah” (qtd. in Smith 33).

Two or more sources in the same citation:

Two writers defined *peace* as “blah, blah” (Smith 29; Blake 54).

Citing a source without page numbers using a signal phrase:

On her website, Walker reiterated “blah, blah, blah, blah.”

Using two authors with the same last name:

“Blah, blah, blah,” (F. Smith 9). However, “Blah, blah, blah,” (D. Smith 95).

Citing literary works:

MLA recommends you add pt. (part), ch. (chapter), and/or sec. (section) information to the citation to help guide readers with different editions to the quoted material. Here’s a sample:

The author insisted that “Blah, blah, blah” (Flaubert 218: pt. 2, ch. 12).

Blocked quotes

Note: When a word for word quote exceeds 3-4 lines of word-processed text, MLA suggests to block the quote, add a lead-in phrase followed by a colon, and omit the quotation marks. It is usually recommended to use the author’s last name in the signal phrases preceding the blocked quote. This way, the author’s name is not needed again in the parenthetical reference, but remember to include any pagination if a Print source.

When John Barlow’s fiancée died of a heart attack, he was overcome with grief and despair. Since he had been living in New York with his future wife, his family and friends back home had never met her. Perry turned to the Internet because he needed to talk. Barlow wrote about the responses he received and his musings about death’s stigma:

They told me of their own tragedies and what they had done to survive them. As humans have done since words were first uttered, we shared the second most common human experience, death, with an openheartedness that would have caused grave uneasiness in physical America, where the whole topic is so cloaked in denial as to be considered obscene. (56)

Common Terms in MLA Style

Anthology: a collection of many works, published in one work.

Article: a short work published in a newspaper, magazine, or newsletter.

Author: the writer of a work.

Cite: to quote, to copy another’s ideas and give credit to that author/writer/thinker.

Citation: a parenthetical reference, a “tag” to identify the quotation source.

Critic: may be a writer, editor, or journalist who reviews another’s work.

Database: a retrievable collection of articles, restricted to subscribers, used online.

Document: typically used to describe a government publication.

Documentation: the process of identifying the source and citation formats in research.

Edition: an edition suggests more than one revision has occurred, e.g. 6th ed.

Editor: compiles a work; an editor may also write comments in a work, e.g. Ed. Tom Ho.

Editorial: a commentary in a newspaper, usually found on an editorial page.

Essay: a commentary or composition, often found in anthologies.

Foreword: a background or commentary, often written by a critic, of a work.

In-text: refers to writing in the research paper, i.e. in the *text* of the work.

In-text citation: the parenthetical reference that allows reader to identify the source of a quotation in a research paper from the Works Cited list.

Introduction: similar to a foreword, but usually more content-focused, of a work.

Journal: a peer reviewed publication, non-commercialized, for a field of study.

MLA Style: a format for non-scientific research and documentation in literature, law, business, communication, art, humanities, and other fields, created by the Modern Language Association.

MLA: Modern Language Association.

Online source: a website used to support a research project.

Pagination: sequential numbering of pages in a work.

Paraphrase: to put a quote into one's own words, but retains ALL the original author's ideas and must still be cited with a parenthetical reference.

Plagiarism: to pass off another's original writing as one's own; to commit faulty

paraphrasing or summarizing; to reproduce another's words (at least 3-4 words in sequence) without using quotation marks and a citation.

Preface: an introductory section of a work. See *foreword*.

Reference Work: a library resource, e.g. Business Periodicals Digest or index, e.g. Reader's Guide to Periodical Literature, that lists publications by author, title, subject.

Scholarly journal: see *journal*.

Series: a collection of writings published in a sequence, perhaps monthly.

Signal phrase: a key quotation that identifies the central focus, main point, e.g. Thomas noted, "One successful suicide is the reason for this course" (3).

Signed: means an author's name is attached to an article.

Source: a book, film, letter, magazine, website, database article, interview, etc. which contains information to use in research.

Summarize: to condense a writer's ideas into an overall statement or shorter version of the original, but which requires a parenthetical reference just the same.

Quotation, quote: any use of three or more words in a row exactly as the originator used them. Requires a citation or parenthetical reference and a Works Cited entry when adhering to MLA format. *Always* requires the researcher to put original author's words into quotation marks.

Unsigned: no author's name is mentioned as the writer of an article.

Work: a source or publication.