MLA Citation Quick Tips

MLA stands for the *Modern Language Association*. This format is most commonly used in the liberal arts and humanities field. This guide is based on the MLA 8th Edition.

What is a "Works Cited" page?

- Your Works Cited page is the MLA equivalent to the bibliography or references page used in differing formats. This page is where you include your citations, and put them in alphabetical order by author, so that your reader can find where the source you used originated.

Common elements of all MLA citations:

1.) Author
2.) Title of Source
3.) Title of Container
4.) Other Contributors
5.) Version
6.) Number
7.) Publisher
8.) Publication Date
9.) Location

- Note: Not ALL of these are in everything that you cite. Use it as a guide to know what comes when if you have it. If you do not, then move on to the next element.

Dissecting an example:

Clark, Kim. "Can School Reform Ever Really Work?." *U.S. News & World Report*, vol. 147, no. 1, Jan. 2010, p. 23.

- Note: According to the 8th edition of MLA the city of publication is not necessary on works written after 1900. So, although you *may* include the city of publication on some works, it is not necessary.

What's a DOI? And, do I need it?

- DOI stands for Digital Object Identifier. These are usually found in academic journal articles. The DOI acts as a quick and easy way to locate a published source on the web because every number is unique, and it can be used in place of the URL for articles found online.

Do I need to include the URL?

- MLA's 8th Edition does recommend that you include the URL in the Location portion of your citation. When writing the URL in your citation, you can omit "http://" or "https://" to save space. If you include a DOI in your citation, you do not need the URL (unless your instructor says otherwise).

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How Do I Cite that?

Book (with one author):

Davis, Robin. *The Star Wars Cook Book: Wookiee Cookies and Other Galactic Recipes.* Chronicle Books, 1998.

What if the book has two authors?

Wein, Elizabeth, and Phil Noto. *Star Wars: The Last Jedi Cobalt Squadron.* Disney Lucasfilm Press, 2017.

Academic Article with DOI:

Williams Jr., Ronald D., et al. "Adolescent Energy Drink Use Related to Intake of Fried and High-Sugar Foods." *American Journal of Health Behavior*, vol. 41, no. 4, Jul/Aug2017, pp. 454-460. EBSCOhost, doi:10.5993/AJHB.41.4.10.

Academic Article without DOI, from a Library Database:

Carlsen, Brook and Edmund A. Marek. "Why Do Athletes Drink Sports Drinks?" *Science Teacher*, vol. 77, no. 9, Dec. 2010, p. 48. EBSCO*host*, ezproxy.otc.edu/login?url=http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=sch&AN=56567686&site=ehost-live.

Academic Article from Website:

Sen, Soma, and Yoko Baba. "The human trafficking debate: Implications for Social Work Practice." *Social Work & Society*, vol. 15, no.1, pp. 1-16. www.socwork.net/sws/article/view/502/1017. Accessed 18, Dec. 2017.

Online Newspaper or Magazine Article:

Liptak, Adam. "Skepticism From Court Over Ban On Betting." *New York Times*. 5 Dec 2017, p. 14. www.nytimes.com/2017/12/04/us/politics/justices-skeptical-of-sports-gambling-ban.html. Accessed 18, Dec. 2017.

Personal Interview:

Doe, Jane. Personal Interview. 18 December 2017.

What if I found the interview online?

Barack, Obama. Interview by Cliff Ransom. *Popular Science.* 2015, www.popsci.com/features/interview-with-president-barack-obama/. Accessed 18, Dec. 2017.

An entire website:

U.S. Department of Health and Human Resources. *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*, HHS/Open, www.cdc.gov/. Accessed 18 Dec. 2017.