

## Citing Sources

When researching a topic, you will be looking for various sources (such as books, articles, and websites) that support your argument. You will need to find reliable sources that you can incorporate into your paper. Information about these sources (such as title, author, and publication date) is what you will use to create your citations.

### Why cite sources?

You want to make sure your readers can trace your research. If, for example, you found an article in the *New York Times*, you want to tell your readers how to find this article. You need to provide them with the title of the newspaper, when it was published, who wrote it, etc.

You also want to make sure you acknowledge the efforts of other writers and researchers. By citing your sources, you make certain that the writers of the sources you found are credited. Without citations, it might look like you have plagiarized someone else's work or ideas.

### Where do citations go in a paper?

You will place the full citation of each source in your Works Cited section (also called a Bibliography or References), which will go at the end of your paper.

When you quote or refer to one of your sources in your paper, you will use in-text citations (information in parentheses near the reference or footnotes at the bottom of a page).

## Need Help?

The Writing Center in Bryan and the Writing Room in Brenham are designed to help you improve your written communication skills. For hours, handouts, useful links, and more, visit the websites below.

The Writing Center – Bryan  
<http://www.blinn.edu/brazos/humanities/writingcenter/>  
Bryan Campus: Room A119

The Writing Center – Brenham  
<http://www.blinn.edu/humanities/writingroom/index.htm>  
Brenham Campus: Academic Building, Room 14

Please also see the library's LibGuide on Citations  
<http://libguides.blinn.edu/citingsources>

You can also come in to one of our locations, call, e-mail, chat, or text us. Go to [www.blinn.edu/library](http://www.blinn.edu/library) for information on hours and locations.

## Finding Citation Information

### For books you will need:

- Name of Author(s)/Editor(s)
- Title of book
- City of Publication
- Publisher
- Date of Publication

Example:

**Title** → The vaccine controversy : the history, use, and safety of vaccinations / Kurt Link.

**Author/editor** → Link, Kurt, 1937-  
Record 8 of 69

Call Number: 614.47 L648v  
Publication: Westport, Conn. : Praeger Publishers, 2005.  
Physical Description: xii, 196 p. : ill.  
Subject: Vaccination. Vaccination - History. Vaccination - Complications. Vaccines - Health aspects. Vaccines - Safety measures.

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**Publication Line includes:**  
Place of Publication, Publisher Name, Date of Publication

### For Articles you will need:

- Name of Author(s)
- Article Title
- Periodical Title
- Date of Publication
- Volume and Issue numbers
- Page Numbers
- Database Name
- Date of Access

Keep in mind that some types of articles may not have all of these. Refer to your MLA handbook.

Example:

**Article Title** → US vaccine researcher sentenced to prison for fraud.

**Author** → Author: Reardon, Sara

Source: Nature, 7/9/2015, Vol. 523 Issue 7559, p.138-139, 2p, 2 Color Photographs

Document Type: Article  
Subject Terms: \*SENTENCES (Criminal procedure) \*AIDS - Vaccination - Research UNITED STATES  
Company/Entity: IOWA State University NATIONAL Institutes of Health (U.S.)  
People: HAN, Dong Piyoo GRASLEY, Charles, 1933-

**Source Line includes:**  
Periodical Title (*Nature*); Date of Publication (*7/9/2015*); Volume and Issue (*523, 7559*); Page Numbers (*138-139*)

Abstract: The article discusses the sentencing of former Iowa State University biomedical scientist Dong Piyoo Han to 57 months in prison for falsifying data during HIV vaccine trials and questions raised by U.S. senator Charles Grassley concerning Han's penalty. According to the article, Han was forced to resign from Iowa State in 2013 following the revelation that he tampered with data in experiments supported by the organization the US National Institutes of Health (NIH).



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# MLA Citation Examples

### **Book**

Author's Name. *Title of Book*. Place of Publication: Publisher, Date of Publication. Print.

Atwood, Margaret. *The Handmaid's Tale*. New York: Everyday Library, 2006. Print.

### **Book by Two or Three Authors**

When there are more than three authors you may give just the first author's name only followed by "et al."

Lastname, Firstname, Firstname Lastname, and Firstname Lastname. *Title of Book*. Place of Publication: Publisher, Date of Publication. Print.

Noakes, Jonathan, and Margaret Reynolds. *Margaret Atwood: The Essential Guide*. Lincolnshire, IL: Vintage, 2002. Print.

### **Book with Editor instead of Author**

Editor's Name, ed. *Title of Anthology/Book*. Place of Publication: Publisher, Date of Publication. Print.

Salzman, Paul, ed. *Early Modern Women's Writing: An Anthology, 1560-1700*. Oxford: Oxford UP, 2008. Print.

### **Short Story/Poem/Essay/Article in a Print Anthology**

Author's Name. "Title of Short Story/Poem/Essay/Article." *Title of Anthology*. Ed. Editor's Name. Edition/Volume. Place of Publication: Publisher, Year of Publication. Inclusive Pages. Print.

Atwood, Margaret. "Happy Endings." *Literature: An Introduction to Fiction, Poetry, Drama, and Writing*. Ed. X.J. Kennedy and Dana Gioia. 11th ed. New York: Longman, 2010. 482-85. Print.

### **Book Accessed Online/ E-book**

Author's name. *Title of Book*. Place of Publication: Publisher, Year of Publication. Title of Database/Web Site. Web. Date of Access.

Torrey, E. Fuller, and Robert H. Yolken. *Beasts of the Earth: Animals, Humans, and Disease*. New Brunswick: Rutgers UP, 2005. ebrary. Web. 4 June 2015.

### **Journal or Magazine Article Accessed Online/ In database**

Author's Name. "Title of Article." *Title of Journal or Magazine*. Volume Number. Issue Number (Date of Publication): Inclusive Pages. *Title of Database/Web Site*. Web. Date of Access.

Drichel, Simone. "Regarding the Other: Postcolonial Violations and Ethical Resistance in Margaret Atwood's *Bodily Harm*." *Modern Fiction Studies*. 54.1 (2008): 26-49. *Academic Search Complete*. Web. 10 Mar. 2015

### **Journal Article reprinted in a book:**

Author's Name. "Title of Article". *Title of Journal*. Volume Number. Issue Number (Date of Publication): Page numbers. *Rpt In Title of Book*. Editor/Author. Volume. City of Publication: Publisher, Date of Publication. Page Numbers. *Title of Database*. Web. Date of Access.

Holladay, Hilary. "Narrative Space in Ann Petry's Country Place." *Xavier Review* 16 (1996):21-35. *Rpt. In Twentieth-Century Criticism*. Ed. Linda Pavlovski and Scott Darga. Vol. 112. Detroit: Gale, 2002. 356-62. *Literature Resource Center*. Web. 13 July 2015.

### **Web Page**

If there is no author, begin the reference with the document title. If there is no date, put n.d. If there is no sponsoring organization, copyright holder, or publisher, put n.p.

Author's Name. "Title of Page". *Title of Overall Web Site*. Sponsoring Organization or Publisher, Date of Publication. Web. Date of Access.

United States. "Global Warming: Emissions." *Global Warming*. Environmental Protection Agency, 23 April 2006. Web. 17 July 2015.

### **Part of a Web Page**

Author's Name, "Title of Article/Section of Web Page" *Title of Website*. Sponsoring Organization or Publisher, Date of Publication. Web. Date of Access.

Quade, Alex. "Elite Team Rescues Troops behind Enemy lines." *CNN.com*. Cable News Network, 19 Mar, 2007. Web. 15 May 2015.

### **Video from Library Database**

*Title of Video*. Dir. Director's Name. Production Company/Distributor, Date of Publication. *Database Name*. Web. Date of Access. URL (if necessary)

*The Secret War: Civil War Spies*. Dir. Donna Lusitana. A&E Television Networks, 1996. *American History in Video*. Web.4 Aug. 2015.

### **Online Video Clip**

Author name/poster's username. "Title of Video." Online video clip. Name of Website. Name of Website's publisher, date posted. Web. Date accessed.

Bbmsmedia. "Hitler has Overdue Books." Online Video Clip. YouTube. YouTube, May 2, 2012. Web. 17 Nov. 2014

### **CITING REFERENCES WITHIN THE PAPER**

Give names in the same order as on the title page. Reverse only the name of the first author, comma, give other names in normal form. Ex: Smith, Barney, Joe Brown, and John Jones.

Cite documents by putting the author's last name and page number in parentheses. Do NOT separate the last name and page with a comma.

#### **Single Author**

(Smith 36)

#### **Two or Three Authors**

(Smith and Jones 7) or (Smith, Jones, and Brown 195)

#### **Four or More Authors**

(Smith et al. 57-59)

#### **Author's Name in Sentence**

Jones found that... (89)

#### **Classic Literary Works**

When citing a classic work you may want to include further identifying information

*Hamlet struggles with his feelings (Shakespeare Act I, Scene 5)*

*In Sonnet 18 Shakespeare compliments his love (Lines 1&2)*