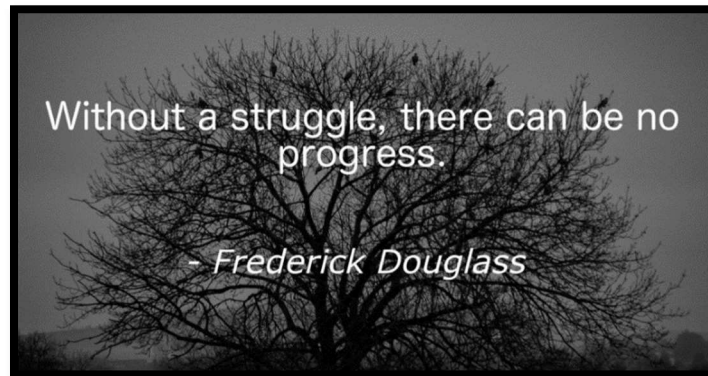


# Ready to Think like a College Student?

## Cite with Purdue OWL

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

Purdue OWL (Online Writing Lab) sets the standard for research and citation information. Building a citation from scratch is not easy, but the practice usually leads to an excellent product. After all...



The menu on the left side of the webpage will help you find the information you need:



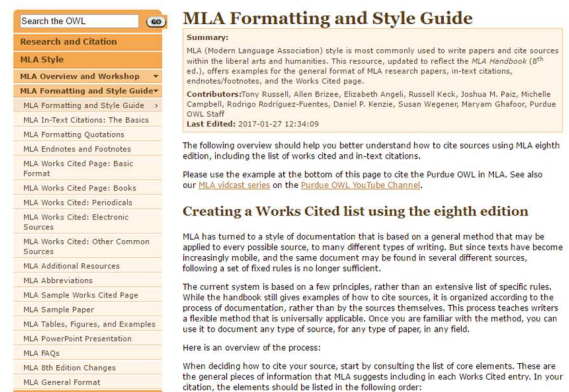
Click in the orange boxes to find more in-depth information.

A few clicks in will bring you to the MLA Formatting and Style Guide.

Jump right to it with this address (don't forget about all the other helpful writing tools).



<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>



### MLA Formatting and Style Guide

**Summary:**  
MLA (Modern Language Association) style is most commonly used to write papers and cite sources within the liberal arts and humanities. This resource, updated to reflect the MLA handbook (8th ed.), offers examples for the general format of MLA research papers, in-text citations, endnotes/footnotes, and the Works Cited page.  
**Contributors:** Tom Russell, Alan Brizer, Elizabeth Angeli, Russell Keck, Joshua M. Paiz, Michelle Campbell, Rodrigo Rodriguez-Fuentes, Daniel P. Kenzie, Susan Wegener, Maryam Ghafour, Purdue OWL Staff  
**Last Edited:** 2017-01-27 12:34:09

The following overview should help you better understand how to cite sources using MLA eighth edition, including the list of works cited and in-text citations.

Please use the example at the bottom of this page to cite the Purdue OWL in MLA. See also our [MLA vidcast series on the Purdue OWL YouTube Channel](#).

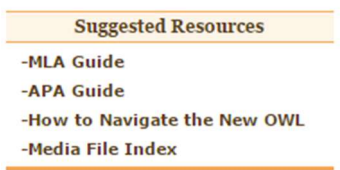
#### Creating a Works Cited list using the eighth edition

MLA has turned to a style of documentation that is based on a general method that may be applied to every possible source, to many different types of writing. But since texts have become increasingly mobile, and the same document may be found in several different sources, following a set of fixed rules is no longer sufficient.

The current system is based on a few principles, rather than an extensive list of specific rules. While the handbook still gives examples of how to cite sources, it is organized according to the process of documentation, rather than by the sources themselves. This process teaches writers a flexible method that is universally applicable. Once you are familiar with the method, you can use it to document any type of source, for any type of paper, in any field.

Here is an overview of the process:

When deciding how to cite your source, start by consulting the list of core elements. These are the general pieces of information that MLA suggests including in each Works Cited entry. In your citation, the elements should be listed in the following order:



Click on the Suggested Resources for general help.

Now you can find formatting guidelines for all kinds of resources. Pay attention to punctuation and capitalization. Don't forget to alphabetize the works cited entries by the first word.

The Works Cited page is double-spaced with hanging indents and a header/page number.

# Sample Student-Created Works Cited Page:

Smith 5

## Works Cited

- “All Fired Up.” *New Internationalist*, 2006, p. 24. *Student Resources in Context*,  
[link.galegroup.com/apps/doc/A156719655/SUIC?u=mtlib\\_2\\_1037&xid=c3125ac9](http://link.galegroup.com/apps/doc/A156719655/SUIC?u=mtlib_2_1037&xid=c3125ac9).
- Bradbury, Ray. *Fahrenheit 451*. New York, Simon & Schuster, 2003.
- “Bradbury's Fiction Reignites an Author's Faith.” *All Things Considered*, 2009, *Student Resources in Context*, [link.galegroup.com/apps/doc/A204773552/SUIC?u=mtlib\\_2\\_1037&xid=679bd6e8](http://link.galegroup.com/apps/doc/A204773552/SUIC?u=mtlib_2_1037&xid=679bd6e8).
- “Fahrenheit 451.” *NEA Big Read*, National Endowment for the Arts, [www.neabigread.org/books/fahrenheit451](http://www.neabigread.org/books/fahrenheit451).
- “The Holocaust of Texts: Genocide, Literature, and Personification.” *Shofar*, vol. 22, no. 2, 2004, p. 209. *Student Resources in Context*, [link.galegroup.com/apps/doc/A114820796/SUIC?u=mtlib\\_2\\_1037&xid=c891ad69](http://link.galegroup.com/apps/doc/A114820796/SUIC?u=mtlib_2_1037&xid=c891ad69).
- Moss, Joyce, and George Wilson. “Fahrenheit 451: The Temperature at Which Books Burn.” *Literature and Its Times: Profiles of 300 Notable Literary Works and the Historical Events That Influenced Them*, Gale, Detroit, 1997, pp. 95–100, *Gale Virtual Reference Library*, [go.galegroup.com/ps/i.do?p=GVRL&sw=w&u=mtlib\\_2\\_1037&v=2.1&it=r&id=GALE|CX2875100310&asid=a372d600e8ec79c9d84268bb12e66a6b](http://go.galegroup.com/ps/i.do?p=GVRL&sw=w&u=mtlib_2_1037&v=2.1&it=r&id=GALE|CX2875100310&asid=a372d600e8ec79c9d84268bb12e66a6b).
- “Ray Douglas Bradbury.” *Almanac of Famous People*, Gale, Aug. 2011, *Biography in Context*, [link.galegroup.com/apps/doc/K1601033816/BIC1?u=mtlib\\_2\\_1037&xid=5f2f8fbf](http://link.galegroup.com/apps/doc/K1601033816/BIC1?u=mtlib_2_1037&xid=5f2f8fbf).
- Sisario, Peter. “A Study of the Allusions in Bradbury's *Fahrenheit 451*.” *EXPLORING Novels*, Gale, Detroit, 2003, *Student Resources in Context*, [link.galegroup.com/apps/doc/EJ2111200573/SUIC?u=mtlib\\_2\\_1037&xid=8fb09b76](http://link.galegroup.com/apps/doc/EJ2111200573/SUIC?u=mtlib_2_1037&xid=8fb09b76).