**MLA Guidelines:**

**In-Text Citations and Works Cited Page**

**In-text Citations**:

When writing your paper, you may need to refer to the author or authors of your sources. MLA format follows the author-page method of in-text citation. This means that the author's last name and the page number(s) from which the quotation or paraphrase is taken must appear in your paper, and a complete reference should appear on your Works Cited page.

The author's name may appear either in the sentence itself or in parentheses following the quotation or paraphrase, but the page number(s) should always appear in the parentheses, not in the text of your sentence.

Here are three different ways to write the same sentence. The first two examples directly quote from the source. The third example uses a paraphrasing to describe the same information.

1. **Quotation:** Wordsworth stated that Romantic poetry was marked by a "spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings" (263).
2. **Quotation:** Romantic poetry is characterized by the "spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings" (Wordsworth 263).
3. **Paraphrase:** Wordsworth extensively explored the role of emotion in the creative process (263).

The citations in the examples above, (263) and (Wordsworth 263), tell readers that the information in the sentence can be located on page 263 of a work by an author named Wordsworth. If readers want more information about this source, they can turn to the Works Cited page, where, under the name of Wordsworth, they would find the following information:

Wordsworth, William. Lyrical Ballads. London: Oxford U.P., 1967. Print.

**Works Cited Page**

1. Begin your Works Cited page on a separate page at the end of your research paper. It should have the same one-inch margins as the rest of your paper.
2. Label the page Works Cited (do not italicize the words Works Cited or put them in quotation marks) and center the words Works Cited at the top of the page.
3. Double space all citations, but do not skip spaces between entries.
4. Indent the second and subsequent lines of citations five spaces so that you create a hanging indent.
5. List page numbers of sources efficiently, when needed. If you refer to a journal article that appeared on pages 225 through 250, list the page numbers on your Works Cited page as 225-50.
6. For every entry, you must determine the Medium of Publication. Most entries will likely be listed as Print or Web sources, but other possibilities may include Film, CD-ROM, or DVD.

**Common MLA Citation Examples**

**Book:**

|  |
| --- |
| **Author(s) last name, first name. Title of Book. Place of Publication: Publisher, Year of Publication. Medium of**  **Publication.**Quintana, Alvina E., Ed. *Reading U.S. Latina Writers: Remapping American Literature.* New York:  Palgrave Macmillan, 2003. |

**Magazine (Popular Article) from Ebsco or ProQuest:**

|  |
| --- |
| **Author(s) last name, first name. "Title of Article." Title of Periodical Day Month Year: pages. *Database Title.* Database Name. Web. Date of Access.**Poniewozik, James. "TV Makes a Too-Close Call." Time 20 Nov. 2000: 70-71. *Research Library.* ProQuest. Web.  10 Feb. 2010. |

**Scholarly Article from Ebsco or ProQuest:**

|  |
| --- |
| **Author(s) last name, first name. "Title of Article." Title of Journal Volume.Issue (Year): pages. Medium of publication. Date of Access.**Torres, Lourdes. "In the Contact Zone: Code-switching Strategies by Latino/a Writers." *MELUS* 32.1 (2007): 75-96.  *Academic Search Premier*. EBSCO. Web. 10 Feb. 2010. |

**Encyclopedia Article from a Reference Database**:

|  |
| --- |
| **Author Last Name, First Name (if given). "Title of Article in Quotes with All Important Words**  **Capitalized." *Title of Source (if given) Italicized with All Important Words Capitalized.* Day Month**  **Year: pages (if given). Vol. Number. Ed. Name of Editor in First, Last Order. City and State of**  **Publication: Publisher, Date. In *Name of Database Italicized.* City and State of Publication (if given):**  **Publisher (if given), Date (if given). Medium of Publication. Day Month Year of access.** "Dominican Republic." *CultureGrams Online Edition*. ProQuest, 2010. Web. 20 Apr 2010."Julia Alvarez." *Encyclopedia of World Biography*, 2nd ed. 17 Vols. Gale Research, 1998. In *History*  *Resource Center*. Farmington Hills, MI: Gale. Web. 10 Feb. 2010, “Julia Alvarez” *Contemporary Literary Criticism-Select.* In *Gale Literary Databases*. Web. 10 Feb. 2010.  |

**Entire Web Site:** *The URL is not required, but it is helpful.*

|  |
| --- |
| **Editor, author, or compiler last name, first name (if given). Name of Site. Version number. Name of institution/organization affiliated with the site (sponsor or publisher), date of resource creation (if given). Medium of publication. Day Month Year of access. <URL>**Potts, Sienna M. *Julia Alvarez.* Julia Alvarez, 2010. Web. 10 Feb. 2010. <www.JuliaAlvarez.com> |