MLA Citation Style Basics

**This is an overview. ALWAYS check the full MLA Handbook (The Modern Language Association Handbook for Writers of Research Papers. 7th Edition.) for complete information**

Basic Book
Author’s name. Title of book. Publisher’s location: Publisher’s name. Medium.

Basic Periodical
Author’s name. “Title of Article.” Title of Periodical Date or year of publication: Page numbers. Medium.

Article from a Database
Author’s name. “Title of article.” Name of periodical, volume and issue numbers. Date of publication. Pages. Name of database. Medium. Date of access.

Basic Website
Author’s name. “Title of document.” Title of website. Sponsor of website. Updated date. Medium. Date of access.
NOTE: If there is no update date, insert “n.d.” in the update date position.

In-Text Citations
For in-text citations, the author’s name and the page number should be given— either with a signal phrase and (parenthetical citation) or in a (parenthetical citation).

Book
VanZee asserts that “the tradition of women’s oppression and self-liberation is embedded deep in the literature of our American culture” (123).

Periodical
Between 2000 and 2004, college tuition has drastically increased in the Midwest, forcing students to obtain more extracurricular work and increased debt by 200% (Fuller 24).

Website
“My study has found that students are achieving 10% lower, on average, on assessments,” states Amy Fuller, “than four years ago” (24).