

How to Cite Books in MLA Style (7th ed.) (link to [Libraries](#))

Books should be cited in entirety unless one is an edited book containing separate sections or chapters, each with its own author(s) (see [Reference Materials handout](#)). To differentiate chapters or sections of a book, do so in the in-text citation (see MLA 7th, 6.4.8, pp. 226-29). Instructions for citing:

Create the “Works Cited” list consisting of all sources **paraphrased** and **quoted** in a research paper. The list should be arranged in alphabetical order.

TIP! If it is difficult to identify author(s) of a book, consider if: (1) the book is written by a **corporate author** and no single author is identifiable or (2) the book is a **reference book**.

Sample Works Cited

1 Palm Beach State database

- Booth, Wayne C., Gregory G. Colomb, and Joseph M. Williams. *The Craft of Research*. Chicago: Chicago UP, 2008. Print.
- Brown, John L. and Grant P. Wiggins. *Making the Most of Understanding by Design*. Alexandria: Assoc. for Supervision and Curriculum Development, 2004. *netLibrary eBooks*. Web. 23 July 2009. **1**
- Modern Language Association. *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*. 7th ed. New York: MLA, 2009. Print.
- Obama, Barack. *The Audacity of Hope: Thoughts on Reclaiming the American Dream*. New York: Crown, 2006. *Amazon Kindle file*.
- O’Rourke, P.J. *On the Wealth of Nations*. New York: Grove, 2007. *Google Book Search*. Web. 22 July 2009.
- Shorey, Paul. *The Assault on Humanism*. Boston: Atlantic Monthly, 1917. *Historical Monographs Collection*. Cornell U. Library. Web. 4 August 2009.
- Sloan, Frank A., et al. *Drinkers, Drivers, and Bartenders: Balancing Private Choices and Public Accountability*. Chicago: Chicago UP, 2000. Print.

BASIC ELEMENTS OF CITATION

Entire Book (Hardcopy)

AuthorLastName, FirstName MiddleNameOrInitial. *Title of Book*. xnd ed. CityOfPublication: Publisher, 20xx. Print.

Entire Book (Palm Beach State Online Database)

[Use sample above, but replace **Print** with following]: *DatabaseName*. Web. [Accessed] dd Month yyyy.

Cite **paraphrased** and **quoted** sources within text of a paper according to the entries in the **Works Cited** list. Examples below are linked to the **Sample Works Cited** list on this sheet.

Signal phrase

O'Rourke's satirical approach to 18th-century economics theorist Adam Smith leaves the reader to interpret the good and bad characteristics of banking industry regulation (63). ...

Paraphrase

Considering numerous recent events in the publishing industry, one must learn about the ethics and credibility of authors... (Booth, Colomb, and Williams 80).

Quotation

The main point of the concept, *understanding by design*, is "that students learn actively, not passively" (Brown and Wiggins 15).

1. For assistance with details of grammar, spelling, and other writing and speech outlining questions, visit the **SLC Writing Lab**. Also see **The Bedford Handbook**.
2. Several guidelines from the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, 7th ed. (2009):
 - No underlining; use italics instead (see 3.3, pp. 78-9)
 - When to include URL
 - if, without it, reader could face difficulty finding source
 - **if your instructor requires it**
 - **Flexibility of MLA style:** "improvise" when unanticipated features encountered
 - **"Be consistent..."** with styles when writing all citations
 - **Verification of websites:** chance of "disappearing sites, ... download, ... print, [or email] ..." retrieved references and save for later – just in case (5.6.1, pp. 182-3)