

How to Cite Periodicals in MLA Style (7th ed.)

(Sometimes the “cart” goes before the “horse”: An approach to citing resources)

Explanation: Periodicals are **magazines, newspapers, and professional or academic journals.**

Instructions:

(Note: 12 point type required. For space considerations, we use 11 point in examples below).

1. Begin by creating the **Works Cited** list. This list consists of all sources **paraphrased** and **quoted** in a research paper. The list should be arranged in alphabetical order.

Sample Works Cited

Boyum, David, and Mark A.R. Kleiman. "Breaking the Drug-crime Link." *Public Interest* (2003): 19-38, Academic Journal

152. *Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center*. Web. 22 July 2009. PBCC Database

McDonough, John. "Benny, Meet *Downbeat*. *Downbeat*, Benny." *Downbeat* July 2009: 38-43. Print.

Mone, Gregory. "Racing the Sun." *Popular Science* June 2009: 28-29. *Academic Search Complete*. Web. Magazine Professional Journal

23 July 2009.

"The Problem Page for History Mentors (Column) [Margaret Cooper's Lesson]." *Teaching History* (2008): 56-59. *Academic Search Complete*. Web. 23 July 2009. PBCC Database

Salisbury, Susan. "Boca Woman Banks on Biofuel Venture." *The Palm Beach Post* 17 July 2009, final ed.: 1A. *NewsBank Access World News*. Web. 6 August 2009. Newspaper PBCC Database

Tierney, John. "The Immoral Majority." Op-ed. *The New York Times*. New York Times, 31 October 2006. Web. 22 July 2009. Newspaper free on web

Vaknin, Yiftach, et al. "Are Flowers Morphologically Adapted to Take Advantage of Electrostatic Forces in Pollination?" *New Phytologist*. 52.2 (2001): 301-06. *JSTOR*. Web. 22 July 2009. Academic Journal PBCC Database

BASIC ELEMENTS OF CITATION

Magazine Article (Hardcopy)

AuthorLastName, FirstName MiddleNameOrInitial. "Title of Article." *Title of Magazine* Month 20xx: firstpage-lastpage. Print.

Newspaper Article (Hardcopy)

AuthorLastName, FirstName MiddleNameOrInitial. "Title of Article." *Title of Newspaper* dd Month 20xx: editionnumber, sectionnumber, firstpage-lastpage. Print.

Academic Journal Article (Hardcopy)

AuthorLastName, FirstName MiddleNameOrInitial. "Title of Article." *Title of Journal* (20xx): firstpage-lastpage. Print.

Periodical Article (PBCC Online Database)

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

2. Next, cite **paraphrased** and **quoted** sources within your paper according to the entries in the **Works Cited** list. Paraphrased sources are cited using a (1) **signal phrase** or (2) **parenthetical citation**. The examples provided below are tied to the **Sample Works Cited** list on the opposite page.

Signal phrase for Paraphrasing

According to Boyum and Kleiman, our problems cannot be solved unless there are drastic changes in our approach to thinking about problems and solutions. . . .

Parenthetical Citations for Paraphrasing

Example 1

. . . Mentoring a teacher is a challenge, but some positive examples . . . (“Problem” 3).

Example 2

. . . An airplane fueled by the sun will be ready for takeoff in 2011 (Moan 29).

Parenthetical Citation for Quotation

. . . David Boyum and Mark A.R. Kleiman identify the “testing-and-sanctions idea” as being “the only single proposal with the potential to reduce drug-related crime swiftly and dramatically” (38).

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3. For assistance with details of grammar, spelling, and other writing questions, visit the **SLC Writing Lab**.
 4. Finally, consider 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)