

# MLA STYLE GUIDE

## Format and Documentation

This handout is a quick reference to an more in-depth, expanded version that can be found online: <http://www.occc.edu/writingcenter/pdf/MLA%20Style%20Guide%202016.pdf>.

Last Updated 03 Oct. 2018

### IN-TEXT CITATION

**Documentation** is the method of giving credit to the creator of a source. To correspond with a Works Cited page, you must also make shortened **in-text** citations (also called **parenthetical citations**) within the body of your paper. This mark will directly refer the reader to the documentation information on the Works Cited page. **Every piece of information that is not your own idea or is not considered common knowledge should be cited.**

**Introducing Source:** According to John Green, “The conclusion seemed inescapable” (152).

**Author and page number:** “The conclusion seemed inescapable” (Green 152).

**No page number:** “Vocation is a life calling, a passion” (Goin).

**No author or page number:** “There’s a tendency in life to focus on the negative” (“How to Find”).

### CREATING THE WORKS CITED PAGE

In order to make citing easier, below are five common examples of sources.

#### 1. Book (Single Author)

Green, John. *Paper Towns*. Penguin Random House, 2015.

#### 2. Anthology (Compilation/Textbook)

Rodriguez, Richard. “The Lonely, Good Company of Books.” *The McGraw-Hill Reader: Issues across the Disciplines*, authored by Gilbert H. Muller, edited by Nancy Huebner, 12th ed., customized for Oklahoma City Community College, McGraw-Hill Education, 2014, pp. 189-193.

#### 3. Website (Electronic Sources)

Medendorp, Liz. “2 Broke Girls Is on the Way to Comedy Bankruptcy.” *Popmatters*, 12 Aug. 2015, [www.popmatters.com/review/196304-2-broke-girls-the-complete-fourth-season](http://www.popmatters.com/review/196304-2-broke-girls-the-complete-fourth-season).

#### 4. Journal, Newspaper, and Magazines (Printed Periodicals)

Bell, Trey, editor. “OCCC Gamers Level up at Convention.” *Pioneer* [Oklahoma City], 03 June 2016, p. 1.

#### 5. Database (Digital Libraries and Databases)

Dormer, Terence. “The Commonwealth, Climate Change and Coral Reefs.” *Round Table*, vol. 104, no. 1, Feb. 2015, p. 69. EBSCOhost, doi:10.1080/00358533.2015.1005358.

# Template

All sources in MLA are cited the same. Use this template as a guide for plotting citations.

1. Author(s).	
2. "Title of Work."	
<b>Container 1</b>	
3. <i>Title of Container.</i>	
4. Other Contributors,	
5. Version,	
6. Number,	
7. Publisher,	
8. Publication Date,	
9. Location.	

## Container 2

3. <i>Title of Container,</i>	
4. Other Contributors,	
5. Version,	
6. Number,	
7. Publisher,	
8. Publication Date,	
9. Location.	