

MLA Style: ELECTRONIC DATABASES

This handout provides information on using MLA style to cite articles from electronic databases. This information is not all-inclusive. For a complete guide to citing sources, see Joseph Gibaldi's *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, 6th ed., available in Begley Library and the Learning Center/Writing Lab.

To cite a work from an electronic database, include the following information:

- Author, if given (last name, first name)
- Article title (in quote marks)
- Publication title (underlined or italics)
- Volume number, if given
- Date of publication
- Page number or range
- Edition, if given
- Name of database, underlined
- Name of database service (underlined or italics)
- Name of library through which database accessed
- Location (city, state) of library through which database accessed
- Date article accessed (day, month, year)
- URL of database (only if instructor requires)

General Format

When using MLA style to cite an article from an electronic database, you need to know if the article is from a journal, a magazine, a newspaper, a book, or other source. Ask a Librarian, Learning Center staff member, or your instructor if you need assistance.

Note: The inclusion of a URL (Web Address) is optional unless required by your instructor. If required, add the URL at the end of the citation enclosed in angle brackets. If a URL is included and spans two lines of your citation, divide it after a backslash.

Example: <http://www.lexisnexis.com/>

Journal Article from an electronic database

Author's name. "Title of the Article." Journal Title volume number (year of publication): page numbers. Name of database. Database service. Name of library, city, state abbreviation. Date of access <URL of database>.

- *Include the URL of the database only if the instructor requires it.*
- *If the database provides only the starting page number of an article's original print publication, give the number followed by a hyphen, a space and a period: "192- ."*

Magazine Article from an electronic database

Author's name. "Title of the Article." Magazine Title Complete date of publication: page numbers. Name of database. Database service. Name of library, city, state abbreviation. Date of access <URL of database>.

- *Include the URL of the database only if your instructor requires it.*

Newspaper Article from an electronic database

Author's name. "Title of Article." Newspaper Title [city of publication, if not included in the name of a locally published paper] Complete date, edition: page number(s). Name of database. Database service. Name of library, city, state abbreviation. Date of access <URL of database>.

- *Include the URL of the database only if your instructor requires it.*
- *If there is no edition, put the colon after the date, followed by the page number(s).*
- *For nationally published newspapers (e.g., Wall Street Journal) you need not add the city of publication.*
- *If the article is not printed on consecutive pages, write only the first page number and a plus sign, leaving no intervening space. (e.g., B7+)*

Specific Examples

Academic Search Premier (Journal)

Powers, Vicki. "Keeping Work and Life in Balance." T & D 58 (2004): 32-35. Academic Search Premier. EBSCOHost. SCCC Lib., Schenectady, NY. 17 June 2005.

ARTstor (Image)

Monet, Claude. Haystacks. 1890. ARTstor. ARTstor, Inc. SCCC Lib., Schenectady, NY. 20 June 2005.

ARTstor is an image database. For more information on citing images in electronic format, see Joseph Gibaldi's MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers.

ArticleFirst (Magazine)

Rodale, Maria and Ellen Phillips. "Greener and Cleaner." Audubon 01 March 1999: 80. ArticleFirst. OCLC. SCCC Lib., Schenectady, NY. 05 July 2006.

Business & Company Resource Center (Magazine)

Vence, Deborah L. "Ad Campaign, Simplicity Drive Sales of Apple iPod." Marketing News 15 Dec. 2004: 16- . Business and Company Resource Center. Thomson Gale. SCCC Lib., Schenectady, NY. 20 June 2005.

Career & Vocational Database (Journal)

Penman, Stephen H., and Xiao-Jun Zhang. "Accounting Conservatism, the Quality of Earnings, and Stock Returns." Accounting Review 77(2) (2002): 237- . Career and Vocational Database. Thomson Gale. SCCC Lib., Schenectady, NY. 21 June 2005 .

CINAHL Plus (Journal)

Murdock, JE. "LPN to RN Articulation: A Collaborative Solution." Connecticut Nursing News 73(2000): 14. CINAHL Plus. EBSCOHost. SCCC Lib., Schenectady, NY. 06 July 2006.

CINAHL Select (Magazine)

Evans, Melanie. "Another Nursing Shortage." Modern Healthcare 11 Apr. 2005: 36-37. CINAHL Select. EBSCOHost. SCCC Lib., Schenectady, NY. 06 July 2006.

CLASE/Periodica (Magazine)

Kondratyev, K. "New Assessments of Global Climate Change." Atmosfera July 1991: 177-188. ClasePeriodica. OCLC. SCCC Lib., Schenectady, NY. 05 July 2006.

CQ Researcher (Journal)

Greenblatt, Alan. "Upward Mobility." CQ Researcher Online 15 (16) (2005): CQ Researcher. CQ Press. SCCC Lib., Schenectady, NY. 20 June 2005.

Custom Newspapers (Newspaper)

Johnson, Kevin. "Favorite Son." St. Louis Post-Dispatch (MO) 11 Aug. 2005: 17. Custom Newspapers. Thomson Gale. SCCC Lib., Schenectady, NY. 06 July 2006.

EBooks Index (Book)

Asayesh, Gelareh. Saffron Sky: A Life Between Iran and America. Boston: Beacon Press, 1999. EBooks Index. OCLC. SCCC Lib., Schenectady, NY. 05 July 2006.

ECO Electronic Collections Online Index (Journal)

Gonzalez-San Josb, Luisa. "Relationships Among Colorimetric Parameters of Rosb Wines Evaluated by Different Methods." Journal of Wine Research 17 (2006): 35-43. ECO. OCLC. SCCC Lib., Schenectady, NY. 05 July 2006.

Education Research Complete (Journal)

Dillon, Steve. "Assessing the Positive Influence of Music Activities in Community Development Programs." Music Education Research 8 (2006): 267-280. Professional Development Collection. EBSCOHost. SCCC Lib., Schenectady, NY. 17 June 2005.

ERIC (Unpublished Document - Lecture or Conference topic)

Ryckebusch, Jenna-Lyn, et al. "Single Versus Dual Paycheck: Married Parents' Attitudes about Maternal Employment." Ursinus College, PA, 2003. ERIC. EBSCOHost. SCCC Lib., Schenectady, NY. 17 June 2005.

HarpWeek (Magazine)

"The Present Peril." Harper's Weekly 24 June 1865: 386. HarpWeek. HarpWeek, LLC. SCCC Lib., Schenectady, NY. 22 June 2005.

Health Reference Center – Academic (Magazine)

"Vitamins: The Quest for Just the Right Amount." Harvard Health Letter June 2004: 1. Health Reference Center - Academic. Thomson Gale. SCCC Lib., Schenectady, NY. 22 June 2005.

Health Source: Nursing/Academic Edition (Journal)

Zepf, Bill. "Drug Therapy for Patients with Alzheimer's Disease." American Family Physician 71 (2005): 1999- . Health Source: Nursing/Academic Edition. EBSCOHost. SCCC Lib., Schenectady, NY. 22 June 2005.

Hospitality & Tourism Index (Magazine)

Berusch, Brian. "Work Begins on Waikiki Beach Walk Project." Travel Weekly 16 May 2005: 30. Hospitality and Tourism Index. EBSCOHost. SCCC Lib., Schenectady, NY. 22 June 2005.

Informe (Journal)

Duncan, Robert H. "Embracing a Suitable Past: Independence Celebrations under Mexico's Second Empire, 1864-6." Journal of Latin American Studies 30 (1998): 249- . Informe! (Revistas en Español). Thomson Gale. SCCC Lib., Schenectady, NY. 22 June 2005.

LexisNexis Academic (Newspaper)

Baird, Susanna. "Blogging about Boston's Best Burritos He Tracks Tastes and Takes Names." Boston Globe 5 June 2005, 3rd ed.: 12+. LexisNexis Academic. LexisNexis. SCCC Lib., Schenectady, NY. 20 June 2005.

Literature Resource Center (Journal)

Janik, Del Ivan. "History and the 'Here and Now': The Novels of Graham Swift." Twentieth Century Literature 35 (1989): 74-88. Literature Resource Center. Thomson Gale. SCCC Lib., Schenectady, NY. 20 June 2005.

MasterFILE Premier (Journal)

Powers, Vicki. "Keeping Work and Life in Balance." T & D 58 (2004): 32-35. MasterFILE Premier. EBSCOHost. SCCC Lib., Schenectady, NY. 17 June 2005.

Medline (Journal)

Cappello, S.A., et al. "Prenatal Ultrasound Has Led to Earlier Detection and Repair of Ureteropelvic Junction Obstruction." The Journal of Urology 174 (2005): 1425-8. Medline. EBSCOHost. SCCC Lib., Schenectady, NY. 05 July 2006.

Military & Government Collection (Magazine)

Hosenball, Mark. "North Korea and Iraq: Trumped-up Threats?" Newsweek 03 July 2006: 11. Military & Government Collection. EBSCOHost. SCCC Lib., Schenectady, NY. 05 July 2006.

National Newspaper Index (Newspaper)

Buisier, Mohamed. "Death in Darfur." The Wallstreet Journal 02 June 2006, Eastern Edition: A18. National Newspaper Index. Thomson Gale. SCCC Lib., Schenectady, NY. 6 July 2006.

New York Newspapers (Newspaper)

Anderson, Eric. "Report Card Compares Hospitals' Stays and Costs." Times Union [Albany, NY] 27 June 2006: A18. New York Newspapers. Thomson Gale. SCCC Lib., Schenectady, NY. 6 July 2006.

New York Times full text archive (1851-2001) (Newspaper)

"Yankees to Build Stadium in Bronx; How the Yankees' Stadium Will Look When Completed." New York Times 6 Feb. 1921: 20. Historical Newspapers the New York Times (1851 - 2001) Proquest. SCCC Lib., Schenectady, NY. 20 June 2005.

Opposing Viewpoints (Magazine)

Mennetts, Leslie. "Computers Can Make Students More Interested in Learning." Family PC 8 (2001): 76- . Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center. Thomson Gale. SCCC Lib., Schenectady, NY. 5 May 2005.

PapersFirst (Journal)

Lee, J. "Controlling and Enhancing the Information Society in the United States." International Federation for Information Processing 179 (2005): 87-98. PapersFirst. OCLC. SCCC Lib., Schenectady, NY. 05 July 2006.

Pre-CINAHL (Journal)

Jacobs, P.M. "Streamlining an RN-BSN Program for Nurses." Nursing Education Perspectives 27 (2006): 144-7. Pre-CINAHL. EBSCOHost. SCCC Lib., Schenectady, NY. 05 July 2006.

Proceedings First (Papers – Lecture or Conference topic)

Gannot, Israel. "Optical Fibers and Sensors for Medical Diagnostics and Treatment Applications VI." Electronic Imaging Conference. The International Society for Optical Engineering. San Jose Convention Center, San Jose, CA. 15 Jan. 2006. Proceedings. OCLC. SCCC Lib., Schenectady, NY. 05 July 2006.

Professional Development Collection (Journal)

Jacobson, Linda. "Teach for America Goes to Preschool." Education Week 25 (2006): 8. Professional Development Collection. EBSCOHost. SCCC Lib., Schenectady, NY. 05 July 2006.

PsycARTICLES (Journal)

Chapell, Mark S., et al. "Test Anxiety and Academic Performance in Undergraduate and Graduate Students." Journal of Educational Psychology 97 (2005): 268-274. PsycARTICLES. APA Online. SCCC Lib., Schenectady, NY. 20 June 2005.

Regional Business News (Magazine)

Henricks, Mark. "How to Read Like an Entrepreneur." Crain's Chicago Business 12 June 2006: 28. Regional Business News. EBSCOHost. SCCC Lib., Schenectady, NY. 05 July 2006.

ScienceDirect (Journal)

Fielding, Christopher R., and Jan Alexander. "Fossil Trees in Ancient Fluvial Channel Deposits: Evidence of Seasonal and Longer-Term Climatic Variability." Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology 170 (2001): 59-80. Science Direct. Elsevier. SCCC Lib., Schenectady, NY. 20 June 2005.

SUNY DSpace Digital Collections (Image)

Ferriss, Hugh. Metropolis of Tomorrow. 1929. SUNY DSpace. DSpace. SCCC Lib., Schenectady, NY. 06 July 2006.

SUNY DSpace is an image database. For more information on citing images in electronic format, see Joseph Gibaldi's MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers.

Virtual Reference Library (Less Familiar Reference Book/Encyclopedia)

Alienikoff, T. Alexander. "Immigration and Alienage." Encyclopedia of the American Constitution. Eds. Leonard W. Levy and Kenneth L. Karst. 2nd ed. 6 vols. Detroit: Macmillan Reference, 2000. Virtual Reference Library. Thomson Gale. SCCC Lib., Schenectady, NY. 6 July 2006.

World Almanac (Familiar Reference Book/Encyclopedia)

"Costa Rica." The World Almanac and Book of Facts. 2006. World Almanac. OCLC. SCCC Lib., Schenectady, NY. 05 July 2006.

Parenthetical Documentation

A parenthetical reference to a source listed on the Works Cited list is required in the body of the text whenever you quote someone directly or paraphrase someone's words, facts or ideas.

GENERAL FORMAT: Author's last name in parentheses followed by the page(s).

Citing a Single Author

Teach For America planning to place 150 early-childhood "corps members" (Jacobson 8).

This parenthetical reference would point the reader to the following source on your works cited list:

Jacobson, Linda. "Teach for America Goes to Preschool." Education Week 25 (2006): 8. Professional Development Collection. EBSCOHost. SCCC Lib., Schenectady, NY. 05 July 2006.

Two Authors

Plant fossils have proved useful in the palaeoenvironmental analysis of ancient fluvial successions, providing information that can elucidate palaeohydrological, palaeoecological and palaeoclimatic conditions at the time of sediment accumulation (Fielding and Alexander 59).

This parenthetical reference would point the reader to the following source on your works cited list:

Fielding, Christopher R., and Jan Alexander. "Fossil Trees in Ancient Fluvial Channel Deposits: Evidence of Seasonal and Longer-Term Climatic Variability." Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology 170 (2001): 59-80. Science Direct. Elsevier. SCCC Lib., Schenectady, NY. 20 June 2005.

Three Authors (Wildhorn, Boyd, and Murphy 799).

More Than Three Authors (Beringer et al. 425-426).

Newspaper Article (Lohr C1).

No Author List the title (shortened) as it is in your works cited page (quotes or underlined) & the page(s).

B12 may lower homocysteine levels ("Vitamins" 1).

This parenthetical reference would point the reader to the following source on your works cited list:

"Vitamins: The Quest for Just the Right Amount." Harvard Health Letter June 2004: 1-3. Health Reference Center - Academic. Thomson Gale. SCCC Lib., Schenectady, NY. 22 June 2005.

No Page Number or One Page List the author only.

(Carter).

Multiple Sources by Same Author Place a comma after the author's name, shortened title and page.

(McPherson, Ordeal 142).

Title or Author's Name in the Text You do not need to repeat the name within the (); page only.

Frederick Douglass argued that it represented a moral and political victory for liberty (186).

Notes: Place the parenthetical citation as near as possible to the material it documents, before the punctuation mark that concludes the sentence. You do not need to cite references that are common knowledge, such as the years Lincoln was president.

Sample Works Cited Page

Heading is centered – List is alphabetized by author’s last name or title if no author -
First line of the entry is at the left margin; extra lines indented ½” or 5 spaces – Double-spacing throughout

Snyder 11

Works Cited

- Alienikoff, T. Alexander. “Immigration and Alienage.” Encyclopedia of the American Constitution. Eds. Leonard W. Levy and Kenneth L. Karst. 2nd ed. 6 vols. Detroit: Macmillan Reference, 2000. Virtual Reference Library. Thomson Gale. SCCC Lib., Schenectady, NY. 6 July 2006.
- Chapell, Mark S., et al. “Test Anxiety and Academic Performance in Undergraduate and Graduate Students.” Journal of Educational Psychology 97 (2005): 268-274. PsycARTICLES. APA Online. SCCC Lib., Schenectady, NY. 20 June 2005.
- “Costa Rica.” The World Almanac and Book of Facts. 2006. World Almanac. OCLC. SCCC Lib., Schenectady, NY. 05 July 2006.
- Fielding, Christopher R., and Jan Alexander. “Fossil Trees in Ancient Fluvial Channel Deposits: Evidence of Seasonal and Longer-Term Climatic Variability.” Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology 170 (2001): 59-80. Science Direct. Elsevier. SCCC Lib., Schenectady, NY. 20 June 2005.
- Henricks, Mark. “How to Read Like an Entrepreneur.” Crain’s Chicago Business 12 June 2006: 28. Regional Business News. EBSCOHost. SCCC Lib., Schenectady, NY. 05 July 2006.
- Jacobson, Linda. “Teach for America Goes to Preschool.” Education Week 25 (2006): 8. Professional Development Collection. EBSCOHost. SCCC Lib., Schenectady, NY. 05 July 2006.