MLA Bibliographic Citation Style Guide

MLA (Modern Language Association) style is the citation style that is widely used by academic institutions, including UNM-Los Alamos. Below are patterns and actual examples for citing common information formats.

The patterns and examples are based on the MLA Formatting and Style Guide, 8th edition, as presented in the Purdue Owl website. For more detailed information on citing these formats as well as other formats not included here, please consult the Purdue Owl website.

Book (Print)

Pattern:

[Author last name], [First name] [Middle initial]. [Title of book]. [Publisher], [Publication year].

Example:


Book (Online)

Pattern:

[Author last name], [First name] [Middle initial]. [Title of book]. [Publisher], [Publication year]. [Title of database or carrier], [URL]. [Accessed day] [Month abbreviation] [Year].

Example:

**Book Chapter (Print)**

Pattern:

[Author last name], [First name] [Middle initial]. "[Title of chapter/essay]." [Title of book], [Publisher], [Publication year], [Page number range].

Example:


**Book Chapter (Online)**

Pattern:

[Author last name], [First name] [Middle initial]. "[Title of chapter/essay]." [Title of book], [Publisher], [Publication year], [Page number range]. [Title of database or carrier], [URL]. [Accessed day] [Month abbreviation] [Year].

Example:


**Reference Source – more than one volume (Print)**

Pattern:

[Editor last name], [First name] [Middle initial]. [Title of Reference Source]. [___ ed]., [Name of publisher], [year of publication]. [total number of vols].

Example:

Entry in a Reference Source (Print)

Pattern:

["Title of Article"]. [Title of Reference Source]. [edition (if available)]. [Published Year].

Example:


Entry in a Reference Source (Online)

Pattern:

[author of entry’s last name], [First name] [Middle initial]. ["Title of Article"]. [Title of Reference Source], [edition (if available)], [edited by ….], [vol. #], [Publisher], [Published Year], [page number range], [Title of database or carrier], [URL]. [Accessed day] [Month abbreviation] [Year].

Note: if no author is indicated for the specific entry, begin the citation with the title of the entry.

Example:


Periodical Article (Print)

Pattern:

[Author last name], [First name] [Middle initial]. ["Title of article"]. [Title of Periodical], [Volume number], [Issue number], [Published Year], [Page number range].

Example:

**Periodical Article (Online)**

**Pattern:**

[Author last name], [First name] [Middle initial]. "[Title of article]." [Title of Periodical], [Volume number], [Issue number], [Published Year], [Title of database or carrier], [URL]. [Accessed day] [Month abbreviation] [Year].

**Example:**


**Website**

**Pattern:**

[Author/editor last name], [First name] [Middle initial]. [Title of web site]. [Version number (if available)], [Organization name], [Date of web site (day, month abbrev. Year) if available], [URL]. [Accessed day] [Month abbreviation] [Year].

**Note:** if no author is apparent for the web page/site, the first element of the citation will be the *title*.

**Example:**

**Image (Online)**

Pattern:

[Artist last name], [First name]. [Title of work], [Date of creation]. [Copyright holder or name of institution housing the work (if available)]. [Title of database or carrier], [URL]. [Accessed day] [Month abbreviation] [Year].

**Note:** if no artist name is available, the first element of the citation will be the *title*.

**Example:**


**Sound Recording**

Pattern:

[Composer/artist’s last name], [first name] [middle initial]. [Title of recording]. [Other significant contributors/performers, separated by commas], [Name of performing ensemble], [Name of Conductor/Director], [Label name], [year of release].

**Examples:**


Video Recording

Pattern:

[Title of film]. [Director/Composer/Producer name], [Principal perf. names], [Studio/Company name], [date].

Examples:


Video Recording (Online)

Pattern:

[Title of film]. [Director/Producer name], [Principal perf. names], [Studio/Company name], [date]. [Title of database or carrier], [URL]. [Accessed day] [Month abbreviation] [Year].

Example: