

The Writing Lab

MLA Works Cited for Books:

Printed Books, e-Books, Audiobooks, Dictionary/Thesaurus/Encyclopedia Entries

Handout courtesy of Angela Gulick

A Note about Authors

Use this guide to determine how many authors' names to list in your Works Cited entries.

Number of Authors	Works Cited Entry Beginning
No Named Author	<i>Title of Book.</i> Or "Article Title." >>> Alphabetize by the first major word of the title not counting A, An, and The.
Book with One Author	Author's Last Name, First Name Middle Initial.
Book with Two Authors	Author's Last Name, First Name, Middle Initial., and First Name Middle Initial. Last Name of second author.
Book with Three or More Authors	Author's Last Name, First Name Middle Initial., et al. >>> et al. = and others
Book with Group Author	Name of Group Author.

Italicizing a Title versus "Enclosing a Title in Quotation Marks"

If your source is a smaller work out of a larger work (a chapter, article, or essay out of a book), enclose the title in "quotation marks." If your source is the entire work (the book title itself), *italicize the title.*

Book with One Author

Author's Last Name, First Name Middle Initial. *Title of Book.* Publisher, year of publication. **If there is no author listed, cite the source by the first major word of the title, not counting the words A, An, and The.**

Fitzhugh, Louise A. *Harriet the Spy.* Harper and Row, 2017.

Book with Two Authors

Author's Last Name, First Name Middle Initial., and Author's First Name Middle Initial. Last Name. *Title of Book.* Publisher, year of publication.

Doud, Brian J., and Jonathan L. Hostager. *Life among the Pines: True Tales of Trailer Park Life.* Cool Ranch Books, 2014.

Book with Three or More Authors

Author's Last Name, First Name Middle Initial., et al. *Title of Book.* Publisher, year of publication. **Note: "et al." in Latin means "and others."**

Miller, Yvonne A., et al. *Adventures at Dugan's Deli.* Iowa State University UP, 2011.

Book with Group Author (Government Agency, School, Business, or Association)

Name of Organization. *Title of Book.* Publisher, year of publication.

American Heart Association. *The New American Heart Association Cookbook.* Random House, 2021.

Article from an Anthology or Edited Collection

Article author's Last Name, First Name Middle Initial. "Title of Article." *Title of Book,* edited by Editor's First Name Middle Initial. Last Name, edition number, Publisher, year of publication, page range.

Hawthorne, Nathaniel G. "The Birthmark." *Major Writers of Short Fiction,* edited by Ann D. Charters, 4th edition, Bedford Books of St. Martin Press, 1993, pp. 500-511.

Book with an Author and an Editor

Author's Last Name, First Name Middle Initial. *Title of Book*. Edited by Editor's First Name Middle Initial. Last Name, Publisher, year of publication.

Atwood, Margaret J. *The Handmaid's Tale*. Edited by Charlene D. Koenigs, Century Books, 2021.

e-Book

Author's Last Name, First Name Middle Initial. *Title of Book*. e-Book ed., Publisher, year of publication.

Sedaris, David N. *Holidays on Ice*. e-Book ed., Little, Brown and Company, 2008.

e-Book Published on a Website

Author's Last Name, First Name Middle Initial. *Title of Book*. Publisher, year of publication, URL.

Wortinger, Ann M. *Nutrition and Disease Management for Veterinary Technicians and Nurses*. John Wiley & Sons, 2015, www.intelligentsia.com/Academic/Wortinger/4615452.

e-Book Published on an App

Author's Last Name, First Name Middle Initial. *Title of Book*. Publisher, year of publication, App.

Dillon, Annie S. *Trouble in Paradise: Bullying and Adolescent Girls*. Wildcat Press, 2020. App.

Audiobook

Author's Last Name, First Name Middle Initial. *Title of Book*. Narrated by First Name Middle Initial. Last Name, audiobook ed., Publisher, year of publication.

Lileks, Robert T. *Kitchen Disasters and Other Confessions of a Pastry Chef*. Narrated by Megan I. Gallagher, audiobook ed., HarperAudio, 2019.

Specific Entry in an Online Dictionary, Thesaurus, or Encyclopedia

"Title of Entry." *Title of Reference Book*, Publisher, year of publication, URL.

Dictionary:

"Shenanigans." *Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary*, Merriam-Webster, 2019, www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/shenanigans.

Thesaurus:

"Bliss." *New American Roget's College Thesaurus*, Berkley Publishing, 2018, www.rogetsthesaurus.com/browse/bliss.

Encyclopedia

"The Beatles." *The World Book Encyclopedia*, Scott Fetzer Company, 2022, www.worldbookonline.com/wb/beatles.

Specific Entry in a Print Dictionary, Thesaurus, or Encyclopedia

"Title of Entry." *Title of Reference Book*, edition number, Publisher, year of publication, page number(s).

Dictionary:

"Shenanigans." *Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary*, 12th ed., Merriam-Webster, 2019, p. 811.

Thesaurus:

"Bliss." *New American Roget's College Thesaurus*, 3rd ed., Berkley Publishing, 2018, p. 281.

Encyclopedia

"The Beatles." *The World Book Encyclopedia*, 2022 ed., Scott Fetzer Company, 2022, pp. 322-329.

For more handouts and PowerPoint Presentations on writing topics, go to <https://spark.parkland.edu/wl/>

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