Citations – why use them?

Basically, if you do not use a citation, you are committing the crime of plagiarism. This is where you are using someone else’s words or ideas as your own. A citation tells the reader where you have gotten your ideas and/or quotes. It consists of the title of the work, the author(s) name, date of publication, and then depending on the format (book versus journal versus website, etc.), publisher, volume, page numbers, URL, etc.

Book – One Author

General Format:
Author last name, First name. Title of book. Publisher, Publication date.

Example:

Author name in text: …as Knockwood demonstrates (18-25) …
Author name in reference: …this point has been argued (Knockwood 18-25)…
Citing entire text: …but Knockwood has offered another view …

Book – Two Authors

**Give author names in the same order as on the title page, not necessarily in alphabetical order.

General Format:
Author last name, First name, and Author name. Title of book. Publisher, Publication date.

Example:

Author name in text: …as Jordan-Fenton and Poklak-Fenton describe (25) …
Author name in reference: …as has been published (Jordan-Fenton and Poklak-Fenton 50) …
Citing entire text: …as Jordan-Fenton and Poklak-Fenton’s work describes …

Book – Three or More Authors

***Names are given in the order in which they appear on the cover page

General Format:
Author last name, First name, et al. Title of book. Publisher, Publication date.

Example:

For in-text citation, follow your Works Cited. E.g., if you use “et al” in works cited, use this also in-text.
Author name in text: …as Weygandt et al.(28) alerted …
Author name in reference: …as has been formulated (Weygandt et al. 28).
Book – Corporate Group as Author

**General Format:**
Organization name. *Title of book*. Publisher, Publication date.

**Example:**

***When a work is published by an organization that is also its author, begin the entry with the title, skipping the author element, and list the organization only as publisher.***

**Example:**

**Author name in text:** …as the American Psychological Association (35-37) determined…
**Author name in reference:** … as has been determined (American Psychological Association 40).

***It is always best to include a long name in text to not interrupt readability with a long reference.***

➢ If the Corporate Group is often abbreviated, introduce this abbreviation in your first citation:
**Author name in text:** …as the American Psychological Association (APA 35-37) determined …
**...and in subsequent citations:** … as has been stated by APA (40).
**Author name in reference:** … as has been discovered (American Psychological Association [APA] 35-37)…
**… and in subsequent citations:**… as documented (APA 40) in recent research …

**Edited Book – One Editor**

**General Format:**
Editor last name, First name, editor. *Title of edited book*. Edition (if any). Publisher, Publication date.

**Example:**

**Author name in text:** … as Eastman related (12) …
**Author name in reference:** …as has been stated (Eastman 12-14).

**Edited Book – Two or more Editors**

**General Format:**
Editor last name, First name, and Editor, editors. *Title of edited book*. Edition (if any), Publisher, Publication date.

**Example:**


**Author name in text:** ...Others, like Slater and Yarbrough, hold the opposite view…(210-15) … Others, like Greenwood et al. argue differently …(264)

**Author name in reference:** … Others hold the opposite view (e.g., Slater and Yarbrough 210-15)… … Others hold the opposite view (e.g., Greenwood et al. 264-268) …
Article or Chapter in an Edited Book or Anthology

General Format:
Author last name, First name. “Title of article or chapter.” Title of book. Edited by Editor’s Name(s), Publisher, Publication date, Page numbers.

Example:

Author name in text: ...Clark has documented this point (83-85) …
Author name in reference: … this point has already been argued (Clark 83-85).

Translated Book – One or Two Translators

***If you are focusing on the work rather than the translation, cite as you would any other book, and add “Translated by” after the title.

General Format:
Translator last name, First name, and Translator, translator(s). Title of translated book. By Author’s name, Publisher, Publication date.

Example:

Author name in text: …as Ratt wrote (24-25)…
Author name in reference: …this was mentioned before (Ratt 24-25)…”

Graphic Novel

***Many graphic novels are the work of collaboration. According to the MLA 7th edition, “Begin the entry for such a work with the name of the person whose contribution is most relevant to your research, following it with a label identifying the person’s role. List other collaborators after the title in the order in which they appear on the title page, also with labels identifying their roles (166).” This is still relevant in the 8th edition.

For example, if you were mostly referencing an illustrator in your paper, in your works cited list, you would use the illustrator’s name first.

General Format:
Author last name, First name, role. Title. Title of series (if applicable), number in series (if applicable), Role and Name. Publisher, Publication date.

Example:

OR, if the author is more relevant to your work, you would format it thus:

***Some graphic novels are part of a series and have their own title.

Example:

Author name in text or reference: Depending on your focus, the author or illustrator may be cited.
General Format:
Author last name, First name, and Author name. “Title of article.” *Title of Journal*, Volume number, issue number, Publication date, page numbers.
*** For more than 3 authors, use Author last name, First name, et al.

Example:


Author name in text: … as Moran and Roach discuss …(482) …
Author name in reference: … as has been explained … (Bhawra et al. 85) …

Online Journal Article through database

General Format:
Author last name, First name, and Author name. “Title of article.” *Title of Journal*, Volume number, issue number, Publication date, page numbers. *Name of Database*, URL or DOI. Accessed date.

Example:

Author name in text: …as Forget suggested …(2) …
Author name in reference: … as has been discovered (Forget 2)…

In General: a digital file is able to be viewed independently from the web. This could be a PDF file, a document that a colleague has produced, an image you received as an attachment, a sound recording, or an electronic book.

E-Books from Database

General Format:
Author last name, First name. *Title of book*. Publisher, Publication date. *Title of Database*. URL or DOI. Accessed date.

**A DOI is a Digital Object Identifier that will always link back to a work even when a URL stops working.

Examples:


Author name in text: …Coates has argued this point (58-62)…
Author name in reference: … as has been projected (Wilson and Stewart 19) …
E-Book
***If the work is a PDF file with page numbers, cite the page numbers in text. Otherwise, do not cite page numbers as they may not appear consistently to others. If the work has stable chapters, those may be cited.

General Format:
Author last name, First name. Title of book. E-book or type of device, Publisher, Publication date.

Example:

Author name in text: … as Bear Chief mentions (108) …
Author name in reference: … this point has already been mentioned (Bear Chief, ch. 3).

E-book Chapter
***If the work is a PDF file with page numbers, cite the page numbers. Otherwise, do not cite page numbers as they may not appear consistently to others. If the work has stable chapters, those may be cited.

General Format:
Author last name, First name. “Title of chapter.” Title of book. Editor, compiler or translator (if applicable). Publisher, Publication date, Pages. Title of Database, URL or DOI. Accessed date.

Example:

Author name in text: … as Gilley related (226-27) …
Author name in reference: … as has been recorded (Gilley 226-27) …

Electronic sources

Website
***MLA 8th edition requires that URLs and DOIs be used.
***Not all information in the General Format may be available. Include as many of the following components as possible.
***When providing the URL, copy the full URL from your browser but do not include the http:// or https:// (MLA Handbook, 8th ed., p. 110)

General Format:
Name of author, editor, compiler or translator. Name of Website. Name of publisher, institution, organization or sponsor of the site, date of publication/copyright, URL or DOI. Accessed date.

***If there is no author, editor, compiler, or translator just start the reference with the the title of the work.

Example:

Author name in text: …as stated on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada website …
Author name in reference: …as has been discussed (Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada)
Website Document

***If the document is a PDF document that has stable page numbers, page numbers may be referenced.

General Format:
Name of author, editor, or organization. Title of document. Publisher, Publication date. Title of the database or Website. URL or DOI. Accessed date.

Example:

***Since this is a corporation that is often abbreviated, an abbreviation of their name can be introduced.
In text – 1st citation: … as pointed out in the National Aboriginal Capital Corporations Association [NACCA] (6)…
In text – subsequent citations: … as revealed by the NACCA (7)…
In reference – 1st citation: … as seen (National Aboriginal Capital Corporations Association [NAACA] 6)
In reference – subsequent citations: … as has been published (NAACA 7)…

Page on a Website

General Format:
Name of author, editor, compiler or translator. “Title of Webpage.” Name of overall website. Name of publisher/institution/organization or sponsor of the site, date of publication/copyright. URL or DOI. Accessed date.

Example:

Author name in text: … as stated on the National Reading Campaign’s website ……
Author name in reference: … as has been discussed (National Reading Campaign)…

Audio visual – DVD/Film not Online

General Format:
Last name, First name of the creator. Title of motion picture. Role of other contributors and their name(s), Version, Numbers, Publisher, Publication date.

*** Versions can include an uncut version, unrated version, widescreen, etc.
*** A student who discusses a TV show, film, or other collaborative work in a general way, without focusing on an individual’s contribution to it, typically cites no author. (MLA Handbook, 8th ed., p. 33)
Example:

Author name in text: …as discussed by Jones, Assu and Bear (Haida Gwaii)…
Author name in reference: … as shown (Haida Gwaii)…

***If you are citing the contribution of a particular individual, begin with that person’s name.
Example:

Author name in text: …as discussed by Bear in in “Haida Gwaii” …
Author name in reference: … as “Haida Gwaii” has shown (Bear)…
Audio visual – DVD/Film Online or Through Databases

General Format:
Last name, First name of the creator. “Title of the film or video.” Title of the website, role of contributors and their First name Last name, Version, Numbers, Publisher, Publication date, URL.

Example:

Author name in text … as Diamond has pointed out …
Author name in reference: … as shown in “Reel Injun” … (Diamond)

Podcasts

General Format:
Host’s Last name, First name. “Title of Podcast Episode.” Title of overall Podcast, Episode number (if given), Website Hosting if different from podcast title, Day Month Year of Episode, URL of Episode. Accessed date.

Example:

Author name in text: … as Geneviève Morin discussed …
Author name in reference: … as has been discussed (Morin) …

Blog

General Format:
Author of Blog last name, Author first name. “Title of Blog post.” Website Publisher/sponsor/owner of site, Day Month Year Published, URL. Accessed date.

Example:

Author name in text: … as shown by Katrina Swift ….
Author name in reference: … as photos can document … (Swift).

Radio or Television Program

General Format:
“Title of episode or segment, if appropriate.” Title of the program or series, Role of contributors and their name(s), number of season or episode, Publisher/Network/Channel, Publication date.

Example:

Author name in text: … “Myth or Science 3: You Are What You Eat” discusses …
Author name in reference: ...as Dr. Gardy has pointed out … (“Myth or Science 3: You Are What You Eat”).
Twitter

General Format:
Twitter Handle (First and Last Name if Known). “Entire text of tweet, without changing capitalization or grammar.” Twitter, Day Month Year of Tweet, Time of Tweet, URL.

Example:
@GCIndigenous (GovCan – Indigenous). “The #IndigenousFriends app is helping Indigenous students build support networks and access culturally appropriate services. The app is available for students enrolled at @yorkuniversity and @umanitoba and continues to grow!” Twitter, 28 Aug. 2018, 1:00 p.m., twitter.com/GCIndigenous/status/10345311963263671328.

Author name in text: …GovCan - Indigenous tweeted that The Indigenous Frieds app is helping build support networks and is now available at York University and the University of Manitoba.
Author name in reference: … the new Indigenous Friends app has been adopted by 2 more Canadian universities (@GCIndigenous).

Facebook

General Format:
Author last name, First name or Account Name. Description of Post. Facebook, Day Month Year of Post, URL.

***If there is no title to the post, use a few words to summarize the post to distinguish it from other posts on the page.

Example:

Author name in text: …The First Nations University of Canada has stated their commitment to helping Saskatchewan fire evacuees.
Author name in reference: … Many have stated they are committed to helping Saskatchewan fire evacuees (First Nations University of Canada).

Streaming Video on Website

General Format:
Author last name, Author first name. Title of video. Role of contributors and their First name Last name, Publication date. Service Name, URL. Accessed date.

***In this case, “Author” could be who the video upload is attributed to, or the compiler, director, editor, narrator or performer.

Example:

Author name in text: ... as discussed by Huey …
Author name in reference: …as has been discussed in “America’s Native Prisoners of War” … (Huey)

Youtube

General Format:
Last name, First name of creator. “Title of the film or video.” Title of the website, role of contributors and their name, Publication date, URL.

Example:
Personal Interview

General Format:
Interviewee last name, First name. Personal interview. Interviewer. Day month year.

Example:

Author name in text: … as was discussed by Rose-Marie Gaudet ...
Author name in reference: ... as had been revealed (Gaudet)…

Radio or Television/Published Interview

General Format:
Interviewee last name, First Name. “Title of the interview (if known).” Interview by Interviewer (if known). Title of publication. (Follow with appropriate bibliographic information for the type of medium [DVD, Radio, Television, Newspaper]). Date.

Example:

Author name in text: … but Campbell has offered a different view (page number only if a print publication).
Author name in reference: … and as #IndianLovePoems so poetically addresses .. (Campbell).

Live Performance

General Format 1:
“Title of Performance, work or description.” Role of contributor First name and Last name, Performing Group, Date of performance, Performance location, City.

Example:

***If the source is an unexpected type of work, you may identify the type with a descriptive term.

General Format 2:
Performer Last name, First name. “Title of Performance, work or description.” Date of performance, Performance location, City. Descriptive term.

Example:
Government Publications - Print

*** when entering Government names, the arrangement goes from largest entity to smallest

**General Example:**
Name of government, Name of Agency. *Title of Document: Subtitle if Given.* Edition if given and is not first edition, Publisher, Publication Date. (You may include at the end the number and session of Parliament).

**Example One:**

**Author name in text:** … as Canada’s *Statement of the Government of Canada on Indian Policy, 1969* revealed …(8)
**Author name in reference:** … as had been decided (Canada 8) …

**Example two:**

**Author name in text:** … as Canada’s *Minutes of proceedings of the Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs, Northern Development and Natural Resources* announced …(22)
**Author name in reference:** … as has been debated … (Canada 22)

**Online Government Website or Publication – No Personal Author**

**General Format:**
*Title of Document: Subtitle if Given.* Edition if given and is not first edition, Name of Government Department, Agency or Committee, Publication Date, URL. Accessed date.

**Example:**


**Author name in text:** … as *The Marshall Inquiry: Royal Commission on the Donald Marshall, Jr. Prosecution* concluded (15) …
**Author name in reference:** … as had been concluded … (*The Marshall Inquiry* 15)

**Online Government Publication – Personal Author**

**General Format:**
Author(s) Last name, First name. *Title of Document: Subtitle if Given.* Edition if given and is not first edition, Name of Government Department, Agency or Committee, Publication Date, URL. Accessed date.

**Example:**


**Author name in text** … as identified by Erik Anderson …(14)
**Author name in reference:** … as has been presented (Anderson 14) …
Newspapers / Magazines

***When entering the title of a newspaper, the city is entered in square brackets if it is not in the title of the newspaper. This does not apply for national newspapers.

Newspaper / Magazine Article

***If a newspaper/magazine article does not have an author begin the reference with the title of the article.

General Format:
Author last name, First name. “Title of article.” Title of Newspaper [City – if not in the local newspaper title], day month year published, page(s).

Example:
Benjoe, Kerry. “A time for kids to shine and be themselves.” The Leader-Post [Regina], 4 Apr. 2015, A4.

Author name in text: …as Benjoe observes …(A4) …
Author name in reference: …as has been reported (Benjoe A4) …

Example:

Author name in text: ..as “U of S Celebrates 100th anniversary of first Métis graduate” pointed out… (18)
Author name in reference: … as has been reported (“U of S Celebrates” 18) …

Newspaper Article – Online

General Format:
Author last name, First name. “Title of article.” Title of Website. Name of publisher/sponsor, day month year of posting/publication, URL. Accessed date.

Example:

Author name in text: … as Cuthand pointed out …
Author name in reference: … as has been reported (Cuthand 2015)…

Example:

Author name in text: … as “A new dawn for Aboriginal education?” pointed out …
Author name in reference: … as has been reported (“A new dawn” 2015) …

Thesis – Print

General Format:
Author’s Last Name, First Name. Title of dissertation or thesis. Dissertation or thesis type, University’s name, Year.

Example:

Author name in text: …as Edwards addresses (112-115) …
Author name in reference: …only one scholar has seen this (Edwards 112-115)…
Thesis – Digital Copy from Database

**General Format:**
Author’s Last Name, First Name. *Paper Title*. Year. University’s name, Dissertation or thesis type. *Database or Website*, URL. Accessed date.

**Example:**

**Author name in text:** … as MacInnis (34) made clear …
**Author name in reference:** … as was stated (MacInnis 34-35) …

**Artwork in Exhibition**

**General Format:**
Artist last name, First name (use Unknown if artist is not known). *Title of work (if known)*. *Exhibit title (if applicable)*, exhibit opening and closing dates, Place exhibit took place, City in which exhibit took place.

**Example:**

**Author name in text:** … as Janvier’s work shows …
**Author name in reference:** … colours in the work indicate joy … (Janvier).

**Artwork in Museum / Collection**

**General Format:**
Artist last name, First name (use Unknown if artist is not known). *Title of work*. Date of composition, Collection, City.

**Example:**

**Author name in text:** … Sainte-Marie’s use of pixilation on historic photos …
**Author name in reference:** … modern manipulation of historic photos … (Sainte-Marie).

**Artwork Online**

**General Format:**
Artist last name, First name (use Unknown if artist is not known). *Title of work (if known)*. Date of composition. *Website name*, Date image was posted online (if known), URL. Accessed date. Photo credit: Photographer’s name.

**Example:**

**Author name in text:** … Reid’s sculptural interpretation of myth …
**Author name in reference:** … the sculptural marvel of *Spirit of Haida Gwaii* … (Reid).

* If a work is not titled, such as a piece of furniture, provide a brief description not italicized or in quotation marks such as: Chair of stained oak.