MLA Style for Assorted Print/Physical Items

This is a first attempt at an MLA 8th Edition guide for print/physical items that students commonly encounter at Georgia State University's Perimeter College. MLA's punctuation is complex. Where possible copy and paste with a computer rather than using your phone or pencil and paper to keep your references accurate.

Articles in Journals, Magazines, and Newspapers

Article in a scholarly journal: MLA switches to "et al." when an article has more than two authors. Also, not all scholarly journals have both issue or volume numbers. For scientific journals that publish weekly such as Nature, Science, or JAMA, it may be a good idea to use a day month year format for a publication date.

Author(s). "Article Title." Journal Title, vol. #, issue #, date (or day month year), pp. #.

Note: the third reference lacks and issue number, and the article in JAMA has its date in day month year format.


Article in a magazine: The line between credible magazines and scholarly/professional journals is blurry. Magazine references tend to use a day month year system for dates, though this can vary with monthly and bimonthly magazines. You can cite a credible periodical with a lot of information as a scholarly journal.
Author(s). “Article Title.” Journal Title, vol. #, issue #, day month year, pp. #.

Note: the third reference has no author. When an article lacks an author, begin its citation with its title. Also Smithsonian is a bimonthly.


Newspaper article: Newspapers are often published in places that are obscure to your readers, feature inconsistent section names, and page numbers with letters. Examine your articles carefully.

Author(s) (if available). “Article Title.” Newspaper Title [Location to help your reader], day month year, section or edition (if given and often Capitalized), pp. #. (Page number may include letters)

Note: These references include locations and sections. To make it easier for your reader, you can spell out abbreviations, and the second reference has no author.


Books and Parts of Books

An Entire Book: Books can include pamphlets and government documents. Full length books are just longer.

Author(s). Book Title. information about editions, (if necessary) Publisher, date.
Note: Books can have one or more individual authors, or have a group (corporate) author. With more than two authors, MLA uses the first author’s name plus et al. The last reference’s group (corporate) author is also its publisher. To see a book with edition information look at the Parts of Books examples.


Part of a Book: Chapters, collected papers or essays, recipes, and entries in reference books, as well as short stories and poems are all book parts.

Author of Part. (usually available). "Title of Part." Title of Whole Book, information about editions (if necessary), edited by Editor(s), Publisher, Date, pages (may include volume information if necessary).

Note: For entries written by the book’s authors, you do not have to add editors, and most books do not have volume or edition information.


When including a book’s title in another book’s title, take the title OUT OF ITALICS.


**CDs and DVDs**

A DVD or CD: Most CD's students encounter are talking books or instructional rather than music. DVD's can range from documentaries and video instruction to feature films. MLA 8th Edition makes no mention of a physical disk's format.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Segment, Song or Disk Title.</th>
<th>Video Title</th>
<th>Prominent People (can include groups or organizations)</th>
<th>Publisher</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Note: If you are unsure of the role of any prominent people or groups in making your DVD, simply list their names. If you wish to feature a prominent person (usually a musician, composer, author), you may list him/her first as in the last two examples.


