

# Helpful Hints About MLA Formatting & Research

## Heading - Quick View

Mary Ann Affleck  
Professor Ramazinni  
English 234  
14 October 1996

*Note double-spacing throughout.*

The Problem of Light in the Political Novels  
of Joseph Conrad

It has been said that the political novels of Joseph Conrad are  
enjoyed primarily by those who have never read a good Russian novel. It can  
also be said, however, that . . . . .

Annotations: 1" (top margin), 1" (left margin), 1 1/2" (right margin), 1" (right margin for text).

## Works Cited - Quick View

Works Cited

Adams, Jane. "The Middle Ages." Terryville High School. 2 Jan. 2002.

Dawe, James. Jane Austen Page. 15 Sept. 1998 <<http://nyquist.ee.ualberta.ca/~dawe/austen.html>>.

"Edgar Allan Poe." Discovering Authors. Discovering Collection. 2003. Thomson Gale  
19 May 2003 <<http://galenet.galegroup.com/servlet/DC/>>.

Koch, Kenneth, and Kate Farrell. Sleeping on the Wing: An Anthology of Modern  
Poetry with Essays on Reading and Writing. New York: Vintage, 1982.

"M. E. Kerr." Authors and Artists for Young Adults. Eds. Agnes Garrett and Helga  
P. McCue. Vol. 30. Detroit: Gale, 1989.

Rozenweig, Roy, Steve Brier, and Josh Brown. Who Built America? From the  
Centennial Celebration of 1876 to the Great War of 1914. CD-ROM. Burlington,  
VT: Voyager, 1996.

Annotations: Double-space (line spacing), Indent 5 spaces (left margin), 1" (right margin).

## Perfectly formatted first page with In-text Citations – Quick View

Catlin 1

Beth Catlin

Professor Elaine Bassett

English 106

3 August 2009

### Andrew Carnegie: The Father of Middle-Class America

For decades Americans couldn't help but love the red-headed, fun-loving Little Orphan Annie. The image of the little girl moving so quickly from poverty to wealth provided hope for the poor in the 1930s, and her story continues to be a dream of what the future just might hold. The rags-to-riches phenomenon is the heart of the American Dream. And few other people have embodied this phenomenon as much as Andrew Carnegie did in the late 1800s and early 1900s. His example and industry caused him to become the father of middle-class America.

Andrew Carnegie can be looked to as an ideal example of a poor immigrant making his way up to become leader of the capitalist world. Carnegie was born into a poor working-class family in Scotland. According to the PBS documentary "The Richest Man in the World: Andrew Carnegie," the Industrial Revolution was difficult on Carnegie's father, causing him to lose his weaving business. The Carnegie family was much opposed to the idea of a privileged class, who gained their wealth simply by inheritance ("Richest"). This type of upbringing played a large factor in Andrew Carnegie's destiny. In order to appease his mother's desire for material benefits, and perhaps in an effort to heal his father's wounds, Carnegie rejected poverty and cleaved to prosperity.

Carnegie's character was ideal for gaining wealth. His mother taught him to "look after the pennies, and the pounds will take care of themselves;" he later turned this proverb into "watch the costs, and the profits take care of themselves" ("Richest"). Such thrift was integral to his future success. He also believed that "all is well since all goes better" ("Richest"). His theory

## MLA Style for Electronic Sources

### Article from On-Line Computer Service (Also in Print)

Leo, John. "Punishing Hate Crimes." U.S. News & World Report 26 October 1998: 1-2.  
ProQuest. Whittier High School Lib., Whittier, CA. 10 September 2005 <<http://www.elibrary.bigchalk.com>>.

**Note:** Use this format for eLibrary sources.

### Format of On-Line Entry

Author or editor. "Title." Book title. Printer version information. Site title. Volume or issue number. Date posted. Name of subscription service, library name and location. Listserv name. 00 pp. Sponsoring organization. Date accessed <Electronic address>.

### Sample Citations

#### Website (Professional)

ESPN.com. 10 Nov. 1999. ESPN Internet Ventures. 24 Nov. 1999 <<http://espn.go.com>>.

#### Article Within a Website

Devitt, Terry. "Flying High." The Why Files. 9 Dec. 1999. University of Wisconsin, Board of Regents. 4 Jan. 2000 <<http://whyfiles.news.wisc.edu/shorties/kite.html>>.

**Examples of Citations from Electronic Sources – Quick View**





## Wichita State University Libraries

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# Citing Electronic Resources: MLA Style

This handout is a short guide for citing commonly used electronic sources using Modern Language Association (MLA) style. For additional information, consult the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers* (7<sup>th</sup> ed.), available in Quick Reference and in the stacks under call number PE2369.G 5 2009. The Owl at Purdue website also offers formatting guidelines and additional citation examples:

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>

When citing, you must give the reader enough information to locate the source. In MLA style, sources are briefly cited within the text and a full bibliographic entry is included in a Works Cited page at the end. Below are examples of bibliographic entries for electronic sources. Consistency is essential.

Note: With the 7<sup>th</sup> edition, URLs are no longer required for web sources and should only be used if necessary to identify source. If included, it should come at end of citation in angled brackets, <URL>.

### Webpage

If no publication date given, use n.d.

Author (if known). "Title of Page." *Name of Site*. Name of publisher/sponsor of site, date of publication. Medium of publication. Date accessed.

Boyle, Alan. "Engineering's Greatest Challenge: Our Survival." *MSNBC*. Microsoft, 15 Feb. 2008. Web. 12 Sept. 2008.

### Electronic Articles from Subscription Database

Author. "Title of Article." *Periodical Name* Volume.Issue (Publication Date): Pages (if available). *Database name*. Medium of publication. Date accessed.

Taheri, S. "The Genetics of Sleep Disorders." *Minerva Medica* 95.3 (June 2004): 203-212. *Medline*. Web. 8 Sept. 2008

**Beware:** Some databases will automatically generate a citation for you. However, there are often things that need to be changed. Make sure you proofread these and make appropriate changes.

**More Resources on Citing Electronic Sources**

## Free Online Research Databases

Remember, research is like detective work. You must work to find the information that supports your topic. Keep in mind that not all research is good research. In other words, be mindful of the thousands of websites that are created by special interest groups often using the web for propaganda campaigns. The type of research you cite in your paper is what will determine the credibility of your thesis. Do not comprise all of your hard work by quoting and citing non-credible sources. Part of this lesson is to get you to decipher what is worthy in your paper.

Here are FREE online databases. Use specific keywords to produce results closest to your thesis. Remember, you are becoming a mini-expert at your topic... read, learn and enjoy the experience of discovery!

(Note: some databases require you to register)

### **For a full list of Online Research Databases**

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_academic\\_databases\\_and\\_search\\_engines](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_academic_databases_and_search_engines)

### **The Free Library**

<http://www.thefreelibrary.com/>

### **Government Documents – Free Databases**

[http://www.library.fullerton.edu/guides/free\\_databases/Home.php](http://www.library.fullerton.edu/guides/free_databases/Home.php)

### **ERIC – World's Largest digital library of education literature**

<http://www.eric.ed.gov/>

### **Excellent Site for Information on Getting Started with Your Research**

[http://www.classzone.com/books/research\\_guide/page\\_build.cfm?content=web\\_research](http://www.classzone.com/books/research_guide/page_build.cfm?content=web_research)