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Logo



URL

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

Subject

Technical writing—Style manuals;
Authorship—Style manuals.

Accessibility

Free

Language

English

Publisher

The Online Writing Lab (OWL), Purdue University

Brief History

MLA (Modern Language Association) style is most commonly used to write papers and cite sources within the liberal arts and humanities. *The MLA Style Manual* was first published by the Modern Language Association of America in 1985. It was an academic style guide widely used in the United States, Canada, and other countries, providing guidelines for writing and documentation of research in the humanities, especially in English studies; the study of other modern languages and literatures, including comparative literature; literary criticism; media studies; cultural studies; and related disciplines (but not disciplines like history, philosophy, and theology, which follow *The Chicago Manual of Style*).

The Online Writing Lab (OWL) at Purdue University houses writing resources and instructional material provides a free service to the students, members of the community, and users worldwide by providing quick access to the MLA Style manual from 1995.

Scope and Coverage

According to the MLA book catalog description, since first being published in 1985, the *MLA Style Manual* has been the standard guide for graduate students, scholars, and professional writers. MLA style has been widely adopted by schools, academic departments, and instructors for over half a century; the MLA's guidelines are also used by over 1,100 scholarly and literary journals, newsletters, and magazines and by many university and commercial presses, and they are followed throughout North America and in Brazil, China, India, Japan, Taiwan, and other countries around the world. The website of the Online Writing Lab (OWL) provides the guidelines as maintained by MLA style manual in test citations.

Kind of Information

The *MLA Style* produced by the Modern Language Association of America was addressed primarily to academic scholars, professors, graduate students, and other advanced-level writers of scholarly books and articles in humanities disciplines such as English and other modern languages and literatures. Many journals and presses in these disciplines require that manuscripts be submitted following MLA style. The Online Writing Lab (OWL) at Purdue University in this website covers the guidelines of MLA Manual like MLA formatting and style Guide, the basics of MLA in-text citations, MLA formatting quotations, MLA endnotes and footnotes, basic format of MLA works cited page, MLA works cited page: books, periodicals, electronic sources and other common sources, MLA additional resources, abbreviations, sample works cited page, sample paper, MLA tables, figures, and examples and MLA PowerPoint Presentation. To provide ready to use information on this style the site also provides MLA FAQs.

Special Features

- The Online Writing Lab (OWL) at Purdue University also provides access to the APA Formatting and Style Guide.

Arrangement Pattern

The contents related to the MLA style guide are arranged topic wise at the left hand side of the site.

Remarks

The Online Writing Lab (OWL) at Purdue University is doing a great by providing the quick access to the MLA citation style guidelines.

Comparable Tools

- A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations
(<http://www.press.uchicago.edu/books/turabian/manual/index.html>)

- AMA Manual of Style
(<http://www.amamanualofstyle.com/>)

- The Chicago Manual of Style Online
(<http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/home.html>)

- APA Style
(<http://www.apastyle.org/products/index.aspx>)

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