MLA Documentation: The Works Cited Page

MLA stands for the Modern Language Association. MLA style is generally used to document research in English and other humanities courses. The two parts to MLA documentation include the following:

1. **Parenthetical notation/citation**: citing all sources summarized, paraphrased, or quoted within your written text

Last Name 1

Student's Full Name

Professor Bucks

English 123

21 April 2006

Langston Hughes: Biographical Influences in "Theme for English B"

But that is what I want to be, a writer, recording what I see, commenting upon it and distilling from my own emotions a personal interpretation. (Langston Hughes, qtd. in Miller 18)

Langston Hughes's "Theme for English B" illuminates tensions that are germane to the poet's race, family life, education, and socio-economic status. Hughes's life experiences surface most notably in the poem's theme and tone. The poem presents a conflict—a black, college-age student writing a composition for a white "instructor"—that mirrors the racial strife abundant in American society during Hughes's time (Hughes 1). Through the writing process, the poem's speaker struggles to formulate identity, as evinced through the question "Me—who?" (Hughes 20). Critics classify Hughes's work into poems of social and "racial protest" and poems of "racial affirmation" (DiYanni 522-523). "Theme for English B," however, does not nestle neatly within either category as it exudes a more complicated tone of both pride and frustration.

2. **Works Cited page**: listing full bibliographic information of the sources cited (on a separate page which is numbered consecutively as the last page of your paper)

Last Name 8

Works Cited

DiYanni, Robert, ed. "Langston Hughes." *Modern American Poets: Their Voices and Visions*.

2nd ed. New York: McGraw, 1994. 521-523. Print.

Hughes, Langston. "Theme for English B." *The Bedford Introduction to Literature: Reading,*

Thinking, Writing. Ed. Michael Meyer. Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2002. 1107-1108.

Print.

Miller, R. Baxter. "Langston Hughes." *Dictionary of Literary Biography*. Ed. Peter Quatermain.

Vol. 48. American Poets, 1880-1945, Second Ser. Bruccoli Clark/Gale, 1986. 218-235.
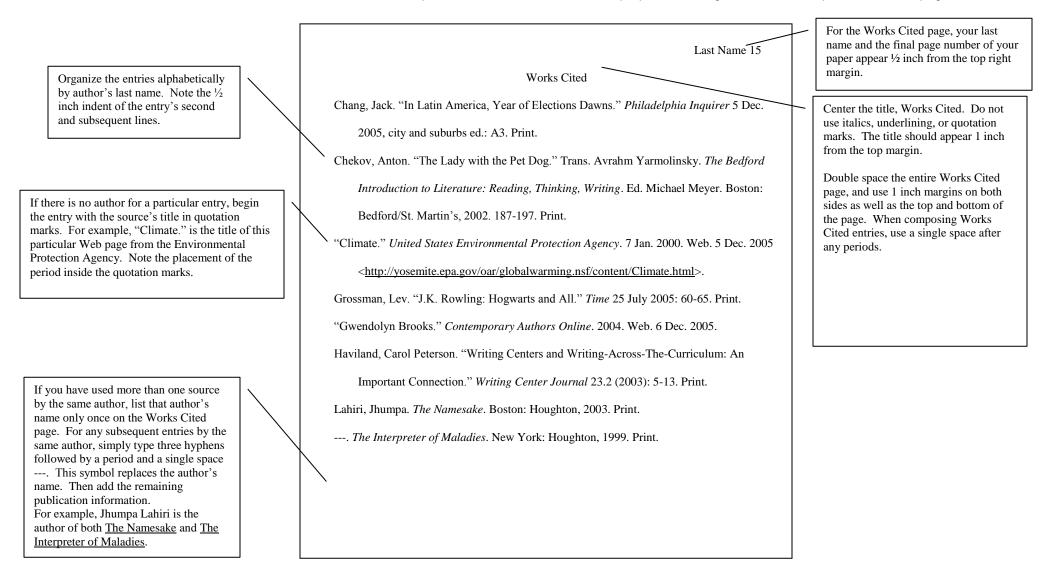
Print.

Types of Sources

*Important Note: This list designates *only some possible sources*. Each source has a unique MLA documentation format, so carefully review your materials. The remainder of this handout includes sample Works Cited entries as well as the information required to compile those entries for each of the below sources (in subsequent order). These sample entries demonstrate *only the basic model of citation*. Your sources will likely differ. Be aware, for instance, that various online sources also have different formats, for instance a Web site sponsored by the government. Therefore, it is crucial that you consult the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers* (7th Edition) to ensure that you correctly cite your specific sources. The BCCC Library and the Tutoring Center have copies of the handbook for your reference (though this book cannot be borrowed or checked out from either department).

- Books
- Journals (periodicals)
- Sources from a Library Subscription Service (databases)
- Online Sources
- Anthologies (a collection of works)
- Magazines
- Newspapers
- Films
- Television Shows
- Interviews
- E-mails
- Lectures, Speeches, Addresses, or Readings

Formatting the Works Cited Page

The Works Cited page is the final (and separate) page of a research paper and includes your last name and the page number in the upper right-hand margin. The title Works Cited should appear in the center of the page (without quotations or underlining/italics). Double space your entries and organize them alphabetically by authors' last names. If no author appears for a particular article or Web site, for instance, begin the Works Cited entry with the title, eliminating articles such as "a" or "the" from the title.

To format your Works Cited page correctly, follow the MLA's specific guidelines for spacing, font size, margin size, and organization of entries. Refer to the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers for additional information on proper formatting. Below is a sample Works Cited page.

Organize the entries alphabetically by author's last name. Note the ½ inch indent of the entry's second and subsequent lines.

If there is no author for a particular entry, begin the entry with the source's title in quotation marks. For example, "Climate." is the title of this particular Web page from the Environmental Protection Agency. Note the placement of the period inside the quotation marks.

If you have used more than one source by the same author, list that author's name only once on the Works Cited page. For any subsequent entries by the same author, simply type three hyphens followed by a period and a single space ---. This symbol replaces the author's name. Then add the remaining publication information.
For example, Jhumpa Lahiri is the author of both The Namesake and The Interpreter of Maladies.

For the Works Cited page, your last name and the final page number of your paper appear ½ inch from the top right margin.

Center the title, Works Cited. Do not use italics, underlining, or quotation marks. The title should appear 1 inch from the top margin.

Double space the entire Works Cited page, and use 1 inch margins on both sides as well as the top and bottom of the page. When composing Works Cited entries, use a single space after any periods.

Last Name 15

Works Cited

Chang, Jack. "In Latin America, Year of Elections Dawns." *Philadelphia Inquirer* 5 Dec.

2005, city and suburbs ed.: A3. Print.

Chekov, Anton. "The Lady with the Pet Dog." Trans. Avrahm Yarmolinsky. *The Bedford*

Introduction to Literature: Reading, Thinking, Writing. Ed. Michael Meyer. Boston:

Bedford/St. Martin's, 2002. 187-197. Print.

"Climate." *United States Environmental Protection Agency*. 7 Jan. 2000. Web. 5 Dec. 2005

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/oar/globalwarming.nsf/content/Climate.html>.

Grossman, Lev. "J.K. Rowling: Hogwarts and All." *Time* 25 July 2005: 60-65. Print.

"Gwendolyn Brooks." *Contemporary Authors Online*. 2004. Web. 6 Dec. 2005.

Haviland, Carol Peterson. "Writing Centers and Writing-Across-The-Curriculum: An

Important Connection." *Writing Center Journal* 23.2 (2003): 5-13. Print.

Lahiri, Jhumpa. *The Namesake*. Boston: Houghton, 2003. Print.

---. *The Interpreter of Maladies*. New York: Houghton, 1999. Print.

Book with a Single Author

Information for the Works Cited Entry

To properly compile a Works Cited entry for a book with one author, you will need the following information:

- Author's name
- Title of book
- Editor(s) (if any)
- City of Publication (If more than one city appears, use the first listed.)
- Publisher
- Date of publication (copyright year—usually the most recent)
- The medium in which your source was published (i.e. print, web)

Book with a Single Author
Formatted Example

The formatted entry for the Works Cited page appears below. Notice the left alignment and the single spacing after punctuation (including periods).

Fitzgerald, F. Scott. *The Great Gatsby*. New York: McGraw, 1925. Print.

Follow these steps to complete the Works Cited entry for a book with one author.
1. First, type the author's last name, a comma, and first name (followed by a period):

Fitzgerald, F. Scott.

2. Then, type the book's title, italicized, (followed by a period):

The Great Gatsby.

3. Next, list the place of publication (if more than one city, choose the first listed), followed by a colon:

New York:

4. Include the abbreviated publisher's name, followed by a comma. Ex. Publisher's full name: McGraw-Hill, Inc.

McGraw,

5. List the copyright date, followed by a period for the end of the entry:

1925.

6. Finally, include the form in which the source appears:

Print.

*See the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers* by Joseph Gibaldi for a listing of abbreviations for several publishers.

> Book with Multiple Authors
>
> Works Cited Information and Formatted Examples

- For a book with two authors, such as *The Allyn and Bacon Guide to Peer Tutoring* by Paula Gillespie and Neal Lerner, use this format:

Gillespie, Paula, and Neal Lerner. *The Allyn and Bacon Guide to Peer Tutoring.* Boston: Allyn and Bacon, 2000. Print.

For the author named first, list the last name, comma, first name, followed by another comma and the word *and*. Then include the second author's whole name: first name, followed by the last name and a period. Next, include all relevant publication information as for a book with a single author (city of publication, publisher, copyright date, medium).

- For a book with three authors, for instance *The Instructor's Manual to Accompany the Longman Reader* by Judith Nadell, John Langman, and Eliza Comodromos, follow the same format as with two authors, except separate the first and second authors' names with a comma. Then insert the word *and* before the third author. Next, include all relevant publication information. Notice the double spacing and indentation of the second line in the below entry. The book's edition (6th) is also noted.

Nadell, Judith, John Langan, and Eliza Comodromos. *Instructor's Manual to Accompany the Longman Reader*. 6th

   ed. New York: Longman, 2002. Print.

- For a book with four or more authors, follow this format: list the first author's last name, comma, first name, comma, and the abbreviation et al. (followed by a period). Et al. is Latin for "and others." Also use et al. to designate more than four editors. Next, list all relevant publication information to complete the entry.

Funk, Robert, et al.

Be sure to follow the MLA guidelines for proper spacing, punctuation, and formatting.

Journal Article

Information for the Works Cited Entry

To properly compile a Works Cited entry for a journal article, you will need the following information:

- Author's name
- Title of article
- Title of journal
- Volume number
- Issue number (if given)
- Date of publication
- Page numbers
- Medium of the journal (print)

*Note: You will need the above information to format a Works Cited entry for a journal article **in print**. MLA documentation requires a different format for **online journal articles**. See the example for "Source from a Library Subscription Service."

Journal Article

Formatted Example

Hendriksen, Sharon Ishiki, et al. "Assessing Academic Support: The Effects of Tutoring on Student Learning Outcomes."

Journal of College Reading and Learning 35.2 (2005): 56-65. Print.

1. First, list the author or authors. Follow the guidelines for listing the author(s) of a book: Hendriksen, Sharon Ishiki, et al.

*Note: The phrase "et al" indicates that there are more than three authors. (Et al means "and others.")

2. Next, list the title of the article in quotation marks. Include the proper punctuation after the title (usually a period):

"Assessing Academic Support: The Effects of Tutoring on Student Learning Outcomes."

3. Then write and italicize the title of the journal. No punctuation follows the title: *Journal of College Reading and Learning*

4. List the relevant publication information, including the volume number and issue number (if given), separated by a period. Then list the year of publication (in parentheses) and insert a colon. Write the article's page numbers followed by a period: 35.2 (2005): 56-65. Finally, list the medium in which the source was published: Print.

Be sure to follow the MLA guidelines for proper spacing, punctuation, and formatting.

Source from a Library Subscription Service (Databases)

Information for the Works Cited Entry

To write the Works Cited entry for a source taken from a database, such as EBSCOhost, you will need the following information:

- Author's name (if given)
- Title of article
- Title of journal, book, magazine, etc.
- Month and Year
- Page numbers
- Name of database (Ex. Academic Search Elite)
- Date you accessed material (date, month, year)

Source from a Library Subscription Service

Formatted Example

Blend, Benay. "Intersections of Nature and Self in Chicana Writing." *Bucknell Review* 44.1 (2000): 56-71. *Literature Online*

 Reference Edition. Web. 5 Dec. 2005.

This publication is an article from a journal. Therefore, follow the MLA guidelines for citing a journal article, including the volume number, issue number, and page numbers.

Blend, Benay. "Intersections of Nature and Self in Chicana Writing." *Bucknell Review* 44.1 (2000): 56-71.

*Note: Because this source is from a database that the BCCC Library subscribes to, add the below information to the citation:

1. Name of database (italicized and followed by a period): *Literature Online Reference Edition*.

2. Medium of the article: Web.

3. Date you accessed the material (date, month, year): 5 Dec. 2005   (Abbreviate months except May, June, and July.)

Be sure to follow the MLA guidelines for proper spacing, punctuation, and formatting.

Online Source

Information for the Works Cited Page

To properly compile a Works Cited entry for an online source, you will need the following information:

- Author's name (if provided)
- Article title, Web page title, book title, etc.
- Any print publication information (if given)
- Name of any editor or other individual who has modified or compiled the text
- The Web site's title (if given)
- Date when electronically published or most recently updated
- Organization who sponsors the Web site (if given)
- Date of access by the user

Note: There are many types of online sources, for instance books, journals, and Web sites. The above entry provides general guidelines. Refer to the *MLA Handbook* or the *Simon and Schuster Handbook for Writers* for more specific information on citing a particular source.

Online Source

Formatted Example

"Georgia O'Keeffe." *American Masters*. 2003. Web. 6 Dec. 2005

      <http://www.pbs.org/wnet/americanmasters/database/okeeffe_g.html>.

This Web page provides biographical information about Georgia O'Keeffe, a prominent artist. The user accessed this information directly **from the PBS Web site, not from a database**. Only include a URL in a citation if the reader may not be able to find the source without it.

1. No specific author is listed, so the entry begins with the title of the Web page in quotation marks and followed by a period: "Georgia O'Keeffe." (Note the placement of the period inside the quotation marks.)

2. *American Masters* is the name of a television series on the PBS network, so the title is italicized. A period follows the name of the series: *American Masters*.

3. The Web page has a copyright date of 2003. Note that the year is also followed by a period.

4. Not the medium that this source appears in: Web.

4. The user accessed this Web site on December 6, 2005, which should be noted as follows: 6 Dec. 2005 (Abbreviate months except May, June, and July.)

5. If necessary, include the URL of the exact Web page viewed (in angle brackets and followed by a period):

    <http://www.pbs.org/wnet/americanmasters/database/okeeffe_g.html>.

Be sure to follow the MLA guidelines for proper spacing, punctuation, and formatting.

Anthology

Information for the Works Cited Entry

To properly compile a Works Cited entry for an anthology, you will need the following information:

- Author's name (author of the particular story, poem, essay, etc. within the anthology)
- Title of work
- Title of anthology
- Volume number
- Editors (if any)
- City of publication (If more than one city appears, use the first listed.)
- Publisher
- Date of publication (copyright year—usually the most recent)
- Page numbers of the specific story, poem, or essay (in its entirety)
- Medium

Anthology

Formatted Example

Smith, Barbara. "Toward a Black Feminist Criticism." *All the Women Are White, All the*

Blacks Are Men, but Some of Us Are Brave: Black Women's Studies. Ed. Gloria T.

Hull, Patricia Bell Scott, and Barbara Smith. Old Westbury, NY: Feminist P, 1982. 157-175. Print.

1. List the author followed by the essay, poem, or article title (usually in quotation marks). Then list the anthology's title (italicized and followed by a period). Barbara Smith is the author of "Toward a Black Feminist Criticism," an essay in the anthology *All the Women Are White, All the Blacks Are Men, but Some of Us Are Brave: Black Women's Studies*.

2. List the editors, designated by the abbreviation Ed. (first name followed by last name). Gloria T. Hull, Patricia Bell Scott, and Barbara Smith are the editors of this anthology, a collection of essays and bibliographies.

3. The format for listing the city of publication, publisher, and date of publication is the same as in a book entry. However, to cite a selection in an anthology, include the relevant page numbers of the specific poem, essay, or article that you are referencing. Follow this with the medium in which the source is published.

Be sure to follow the MLA guidelines for proper spacing, punctuation, and formatting.

Magazine

Information for the Works Cited Page

To properly compile a Works Cited entry for a magazine, you will need the following information:

- Author's name
- Title of article
- Title of magazine
- Date of publication (date, month, year)
- Page numbers
- Medium

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┌─────────────────────────┐
│        Magazine         │
│                         │
│    Formatted Example    │
└─────────────────────────┘
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Zakaria, Fareed. "Amid Disaster, New Confidence." *Newsweek* 17 Jan. 2005: 35. Print.

1. List the author's name (followed by a period): Zakaria, Fareed.
   If the article is unsigned, or without an author, begin the entry with its title (in quotation marks and followed by a period).

2. Then list the article (in quotation marks and followed by a period): "Amid Disaster, New Confidence."

3. Next, list the magazine's title (italicized): *Newsweek*

4. Include the date, month, and year of publication followed by the article's page number(s). No volume or issue number is necessary in the entry. (Abbreviate all months except May, June, and July.) Finally, list the medium in which the source is published.

**Note: The above example is for a weekly magazine. Refer to the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers or the Simon and Schuster Handbook for Writers* to review the specific rules for citing weekly, bimonthly, or monthly magazines.

Be sure to follow the MLA guidelines for proper spacing, punctuation, and formatting.

Newspaper

Information for the Works Cited Page

To properly compile a Works Cited entry for a newspaper, you will need the following information:

- Author's name
- Title of article
- Title of newspaper
- Date of publication (date, month, year)
- Section number (Ex. A4)
- Medium

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┌─────────────────────┐
│      Newspaper      │
│                     │
│  Formatted Example  │
└─────────────────────┘
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Rivlin, Gary. "New Orleans Election in Doubt." *New York Times* 3 Dec. 2005, late ed.: A15. Print.

Consult the *MLA Handbook* or the *Simon and Schuster Handbook for Writers* for the specific rules that govern citing information in various types of newspapers (page documentation, letters to the editor, local newspapers, daily newspapers, etc.). For instance, the above example is an entry for a late edition newspaper.

1. First, list the author's name (followed by a period): Rivlin, Gary.   If the article is unsigned, or without an author, begin the entry with its title (in quotation marks and followed by a period). Do not use the articles "a," "an," or "the" if one of these words is the first in the title.

2. List the newspaper's title (italicized): *New York Times*

3. Then include the date of publication and the newspaper's edition, if specified (for instance, late edition) followed by a colon: 3 Dec. 2005, late ed.:

4. Add the section and page number(s) of the particular article (followed by a period): A15.

5. Finally, add the medium in which the article was published: Print.

Be sure to follow the MLA rules for proper spacing, formatting, and punctuation.

Film (DVD, Video Tape, Slide Show)

Information for the Works Cited Entry

To properly compile a Works Cited entry for a film, you will need the following information:

- Film title
- Director of film
- Lead actors or narrator
- Film Distributor
- Year the film was released
- Type of film format (DVD, video recording, etc.)

*Note: With MLA documentation, television programs are cited differently than films.

Be sure to follow the MLA guidelines for proper spacing, punctuation, and formatting

> ### Film (DVD, Video Tape, Slide Show)
> ### Formatted Example

Rodgers & Hammerstein's Flower Drum Song. Dir. Henry Koster. Perf. Nancy Kwan, James Shigeta, and Benson

       Fong. MCA Home Video, Inc., 1990. Videocassette.

1. First, list the title of the film, italicized and followed by a period: *Rodgers & Hammerstein's Flower Drum Song*.

2. Next, list the name of the film's director, followed by a period: Dir. Henry Koster.

   *Note: the abbreviation 'Dir.' precedes the Director's full name.

3. If you are citing a film that is a DVD, video tape, or slide show format, include the film's original release date, if possible and if significant. The original release date for *Rodgers & Hammerstein's Flower Drum Song* is not included in the above entry.

*Note: If information regarding actors, producers, or writers is relevant to your particular citation, add this information before the distributor's name.

4. Include the name of the film's distributor followed by a comma and the release date of the particular DVD, video, etc.: MCA Home Video, Inc., 1990.

5. If you are citing a film that is a DVD, videocassette, or film, designate that specific film type, followed by a period: Videocassette.

Be sure to follow the MLA guidelines for proper spacing, punctuation, and formatting.

Television Show

Information for the Works Cited Entry

To properly compile a Works Cited entry for a television show, you will need the following information:

- Episode title
- Title of the program
- Title of the series (if any)
- Network
- Local Station and City
- Date of broadcast
- Medium

Television Show

Formatted Example

"The One Where Dr. Ramoray Dies." *Friends.* NBC. WNBC, New York. 21 Mar. 1996. Television.

1. First, list the episode title in quotation marks (note the period inside the quotation marks): "The One Where Dr. Ramoray Dies."

2. Next, list the title of the television program italicized, followed by a period: *Friends.*

3. Then list the title of the series (if any). The above example is not a series. An example of a series is PBS's Great Performances.

4. The name of the network should be listed next, followed by a period: The network is also NBC, so it is only listed once.

5. The name (use the call letters) of the local station and its city should then be listed, followed by a period: WNBC, New York.

6. List the broadcast date of the episode (followed by a period): 21 Mar. 1996. (Abbreviate all months except May, June, and July.)

7. Finally, list the medium in which the source was broadcast: Television.

Be sure to follow the MLA guidelines for proper spacing, punctuation, and formatting.

Interview (Face-to-Face or Telephone)

Information for the Works Cited Entry

To properly compile a Works Cited entry for a personal interview, you will need the following information:

- Name of individual you interviewed
- Interview format (telephone, in person)
- Date the interview took place

Be sure to follow the MLA guidelines for proper spacing, punctuation, and formatting

Interview (Face-to-Face or Telephone)

Formatted Example

Street, John. Personal interview. 22 Aug. 2006.

1. First, list the name of the person interviewed, last name followed by a comma and first name (followed by a period): Street, John.

2. Next, designate the type of interview (followed by a period): Personal interview.

*Note: If you spoke with the individual over the phone, MLA requires that you designate the interview as follows: Telephone interview.

3. Then list the date on which you interviewed the individual (followed by a period): 22 Aug. 2006. (Abbreviate months except May, June, and July.)

Be sure to follow the MLA guidelines for proper spacing, punctuation, and formatting.

<div style="border: 1px solid black; text-align: center;">

E-mail

Information for the Works Cited Entry

</div>

To properly compile a Works Cited entry for an e-mail, you will need the following information:

- Name of individual who composed the message
- Message title/e-mail subject line
- Overview of the e-mail's content and mention of the person(s) who received it
- Message's date
- Medium

*Note: The MLA Handbook includes specific directions on citing instant messages, or synchronous mail, as well as downloads and Web postings.

Be sure to follow the MLA guidelines for proper spacing, punctuation, and formatting.

E-mail

Formatted Example

Howard, Ryan. "Re: Phillies Baseball Contract." Message to Bill Giles. 25 July 2006. E-mail.

1. First, list the name of the person who wrote the email, last name followed by a comma and first name (followed by a period): Howard, Ryan.

2. Next, include the title of the e-mail (from the subject line) in quotation marks (followed by a period): "Re: Phillies Baseball Contract."

3. Then give a description of the correspondence that includes the message's recipient (followed by a period): Message to Bill Giles.

4. List the e-mail's date (followed by a period): 25 July 2006. (Abbreviate months except May, June, and July.)

5. Finally, list the medium: E-mail.

Be sure to follow the MLA guidelines for proper spacing, punctuation, and formatting.

Lecture, Speech, Address, or Reading

Information for the Works Cited Entry

To properly compile a Works Cited entry for lecture, speech, address, or reading, you will need the following information:

- Speaker's Name
- Title of presentation in quotation marks (if known)
- Event or meeting name
- Sponsoring group
- Place
- Date of the lecture, speech, address, or reading
- Descriptive label

Lecture, Speech, Address, or Reading

Formatted Example

Example of a Speech:

Tomlinson, Carol Ann. "Differentiating for Success: Strategies for Supporting Students who Struggle in College."

NADE 30th Annual Conference. NADE. Philadelphia Marriott Downtown, Philadelphia. 16 Feb. 2006. Speech.

Example of a Lecture:

Jones, Katherine. Lecture. English Composition II Class. Bucks County Community College, Newtown, PA. 22

Aug. 2006. Lecture.

1. First, list the speaker's name, last name first, comma, and then first name (followed by a period): Tomlinson, Carol Ann.

2. Next, list the title of the lecture, speech, address, or reading (if you know it) in quotation marks with the period *inside* the quotation marks: "Differentiating for Success: Strategies for Supporting Students who Struggle in College."

    If you do not know the title, then use a descriptive label, such as Lecture, Speech, etc. (followed by a period). See the above *Example of a Lecture*.

3. Then list the event or meeting name, followed by a period: NADE 30th Annual Conference.

4. The sponsoring group should be listed next, followed by a period: NADE.

5. The place that event took place should be listed after the sponsoring group, followed by a period: Philadelphia Marriott Downtown, Philadelphia.

6. List the date that the speech, lecture, etc. took place (followed by a period): 16 Feb. 2006. (Abbreviate all months except May, June, and July.) Finally, include a desctiptive label. For example: Address, Speech, Lecture.

Be sure to follow the MLA guidelines for proper spacing, punctuation, and formatting.