

MLA 9th Edition, 2021:

Updates to the Sierra Writing Center, 8th Edition, 2016, MLA Handbook

Overview

For the most part, there were no major changes in the new *MLA Handbook*, 9th edition. However, there are several changes regarding Works Cited entries, which are detailed below. Also included are some helpful links to videos that go over the changes.

- URLs
 - Generally, the protocol, i.e. <http://> or <https://>, can be omitted on the Works Cited page. However, the MLA 9th edition mentions that the writer can leave the <http://> or <https://> if they wish to hyperlink the URL and their word processor will not hyperlink without the <http://> or <https://> (195).
 - If a URL is more than three full lines, students can truncate them, leaving at least the host (196).
- DOIs
 - <https://doi.org/> should precede every DOI on the Works Cited page (194).
- Dictionary Entries
 - Include the abbreviated part of speech (italicized) and number (in parentheses) for dictionary entries (328).
 - Example:
"Home, *N.* (1)." *The American Heritage Dictionary*, 3rd ed., Houghton Mifflin, 1985, p. 649.
- Emails
 - Rather than include the subject line of an e-mail in the title source element, the 9th edition suggests a description that includes the recipient of the e-mail. Writers can reference themselves as "author" in the title source element (124).
 - Example:
Stephens, John. E-mail to the author. 14 May 2021.
- Access Date for Online Sources
 - Access dates are only needed if there is no upload date, publication date, or if the work no longer exists online (211).
- Tweets
 - Start the Works Cited entry with the author's name, not handle (which should be in brackets). However, if the name and the handle are the same, writers can omit the handles. However, if a URL is not available, retain the handle (118).
 - Example:
Obama, Barack [[@BarackObama](#)]. "We don't give up, we get up. We innovate; we adapt; we learn new skills. We keep going. #JobsNow." *Twitter*, 12 Feb. 2013.

- Apps
 - One big takeaway from MLA 9th is that the context in which a source is accessed matters. For example, if students use an app to access a source (such as Netflix or Hulu), they should include the name of the app at the end of the source (329).
 - Example:
Dark Knight. Directed by Christopher Nolan, performances by Christian Bale and Heath Ledger, Warner Bros., 2009. *Netflix* app.

- TV shows
 - Include the season and episode numbers (159).
 - Example:
“Billy the Kid.” *American Experience*, narrated by John Maggio, directed by Michael Murphy, season 24, episode 1, PBS, 19 Feb. 2013, pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/films/billy/player/.

- Video Games
 - Include the version and developer (342).
 - Example:
Minecraft. Version 1.17, Mojang Studios, 8 June 2021.

- Video titles on sharing sites, like YouTube
 - Video titles on sharing sites should be in quotes and not italics (329).
 - Example:
“How Corporations Ruined Food.” *YouTube*, uploaded by Real Stories, 17 Nov.

- Annotated Bibliographies
 - Beneath the source, annotations should be formatted as block, tabbed half an inch beyond the hanging indent (226). See our annotated bibliography handout for an example.

Videos

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-dYeNmnhZHU>

<https://youtu.be/WoCYwIbf6e8?t=347>

Work Cited

MLA Handbook. 9th ed., Modern Language Association of America, 2021.