

# Changes to MLA Format

## From the 2009 Handbook

There are a few updates to the MLA style of citation that you should be aware of, but are not yet covered in the virtual workshop itself. Below is a general description of those changes, and explanation of how to format your Works Cited citations accordingly. For more complete information, see the 7<sup>th</sup> edition of the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*.

### I. Titles of Independently Published Works

As per the 2009 edition, MLA style calls for the titles of any independently published work (ie, books, journals or magazines, web-pages, or films) to be *italicized*, rather than underlined. The titles of book chapters or articles still need to be put in quotation marks.

### II. Publication Medium and URLs

- Every entry in your Works Cited list should now include a description of the *medium* of the work's publication. In other words, if you are citing a book, the medium would be "Print." An article you found online would be designated as "Web." Print and Web are the two primary designations; however, other possibilities include: PDF File, DVD, TV.
- URLs are also no longer required in citations

These two updates change the way you create citations for online articles in particular. Below are a few examples of what the new citations will look like.

#### Book:

Brown, Dan. *The DaVinci Code*. New York: Doubleday, 2003. Print.

#### Article on a Web-site:

Works Cited
Article Author. "Title of Article." <i>Title of Website or Web-Magazine</i> . Publisher Name, Date Published. Web. Date Retrieved.

Example:

Yeatman, William. "Global Warming 101: Solutions." *GlobalWarming.org*. The Competitive Enterprise Institute, 4 Feb. 2009. Web. 21 Sept. 2009.

**Journal Article from an Online Database:**

Works Cited

Article Author. "Title of Article." *Name of Journal* Volume.Issue (Year): pages. *Name of Database*. Web. Date Retrieved.

Example:

Tolson, Nancy. "Making Books Available: The Role of Early Libraries, Librarians, and Booksellers in the Promotion of African American Children's Literature." *African American Review*. 32.5 (1998): 9-16. *JSTOR*. Web. 1 Oct. 2002.