



APA & MLA CITATION COMPARISON

There are two main citations styles used for research papers: the American Psychological Association (APA) citation style and the Modern Language Association (MLA) citation style. There are many copies of the handbooks containing each citation are at LeDoux library: in the Reference Room, at the Front Desk and at the computers in the Lobby. All copies are for in-library use only. In addition, *Hodges' Harbrace Handbook* also includes a section each style. The purpose of this handout is to compare the two using the same resources, to show both their similarities and differences.

Style Manuals

APA:

American Psychological Association. (2010). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.). Washington, DC: Author.

Call Number: Ref BF 76.7 P83 2010

Note: the manual has several contradictory rules and examples. The following distinctions are based on personal analysis of the rules and examples in the manual. Please check the Citation Station regularly for updates or more information.

MLA:

Modern Language Association. *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*. 7th ed. New York: MLA, 2009. Print.

Call Number: Ref LB 2369 G53 2009

October 21, 2009

Books

APA:

Campbell, J. P. (2001). *Student companion to Zora Neale Hurston*. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press.

Medlik, S., & Ingram, H. (2000). *The business of hotels* (4th ed.). Oxford, United Kingdom: Butterworth-Heinemann.

MLA:

Campbell, Josie P. *Student Companion to Zora Neale Hurston*. Westport: Greenwood, 2001. Print.

Medlik, S., and Ingram, H. *The Business of Hotels*. 4th ed. Oxford: Butterworth-Heinemann, 2000. Print.

Note: First names were not given for the Medlik & Ingram book.

Inside a Book/Reference Books

APA:

Ross, D. M. (2004). Everyday use. In C. May (Ed.), *Masterplots II: Short story series* (Rev. ed., Vol. 3, pp. 1228-1230). Pasadena, CA: Salem Press.

Wearden, J. (1996). Carpet. In J. Turner (Ed.), *The dictionary of art* (Vol. 5, pp. 828-842). Oxford, United Kingdom: Oxford University Press.

MLA:

Ross, Diane M. "Everyday Use." *Masterplots II: Short Story Series*. Ed. Charles May. Rev. ed. Vol. 3. Pasadena: Salem, 2004. 1228-30. Print.

Wearden, Jennifer. "Carpet." *The Dictionary of Art*. Ed. Jane Turner. Vol. 5. Oxford: Oxford UP, 1996. 828-42. Print.

October 21, 2009

Articles

APA:

Owens, M. (1996). The function of signature in "A good man is hard to find". *Studies in Short Fiction*, 33(1), 101-106.

Wagner, D., Byrne, M., & Kolcaba, K. (2006). Effects of comfort warming on preoperative patients. *AORN Journal*, 84(3), 427-448.

MLA:

Owens, Mitchell. "The Function of Signature in 'A Good Man is Hard to Find'." *Studies in Short Fiction* 33.1 (1996): 101-06. Print.

Wagner, Doreen, Michelle Byrne, and Katharine Kolcaba. "Effects of Comfort Warming on Preoperative Patients." *AORN Journal* 84.3 (2006): 427-48. Print.

Database Articles

APA:

Cervo, N. (1992). Jackson's "The Lottery". *Explicator*, 50(3), 183-185. Retrieved from Academic Search Premier database.

Manning, S. (2005). Young leaders: Growing through mentoring. *Gifted Child Today*, 28(1), 14-20. Retrieved from Professional Development Collection database. (EJ684167)

MLA:

Cervo, Nathan. "Jackson's 'The Lottery'." *Explicator* 50.3 (1992): 183-85. *Academic Search Premier*. Web. 22 Nov. 2006.

Manning, Sandra. "Young Leaders: Growing through Mentoring." *Gifted Child Today* 28.1 (2005): 14-20. *Professional Development Collection*. Web. 23 Oct. 2006.

October 21, 2009

Websites

APA:

The new edition no longer has a section for "Internet documents". Instead, most are listed by the type of resource: periodical, book, report, or more. The following examples show some of the most commonly used online resources. When citing a source not covered by the manual or handouts, try to cover the most important elements: author, year of publication, title, and publishing or retrieval information. Please check the Citation Station regularly for updates or more information.

American Academy of Family Physicians. (2006, August). *Anemia: When low iron is the cause*. Retrieved from <http://familydoctor.org/009.xml>

Padgett, J. B. (2008, November 11). William Faulkner. In *The Mississippi writers page*. Retrieved from http://www.olemiss.edu/mwp/dir/faulkner_william/index.html

MLA:

The new edition (2009) of the MLA handbook has made many changes in how to cite websites. For most sites, this involved simplifying the number of parts required. However, there are still a few extra rules that are not shown with these examples. Please be sure to look over section 5.6 when citing any type of online/electronic resource, and always ask if you have any questions.

Note: URLs should be included "only when the reader probably cannot locate the source without it or when your instructor requires it."

"Anemia: When Low Iron is the Cause." *familydoctor.org*. American Academy of Family Physicians, Aug. 2006. Web. 24 Oct. 2006.

Padgett, John B. "William Faulkner." *The Mississippi Writers Page*. Dept. of English, U of Mississippi, 11 Nov. 2008. Web. 4 June 2009.

<p>DISABLED STUDENTS: Any student who is a "qualified individual with a disability" as defined by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and Title II of the ADA and who will need accommodated service, must register and request services through the Office of Academic Assistance Programs, S-150.</p>
--