

## FORMATTING

- Double-space the entire document, including block quotes and Works Cited.
- Set all four margins at 1 inch (or 2.5 cm).
- Use a readable 12pt font, such as Times New Roman.
- Create a running head at the top of each page, with your last name and the page number in the top right corner,  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch from the top of the page.
- Indent the first line of each paragraph.
- Use *italics* throughout the essay to indicate titles of longer works (i.e.: books, journals, movies, etc.)

## QUOTATIONS

If a direct quote is fewer than four lines, enclose it in quotation marks:

Warner says that “citing quotes is important” (1).

If a direct quote is four or more lines, format it as a block quote (new paragraph, indented 0.5” from the left margin):

In regards to student research, Ratsoy notes:

Whether through a student undergraduate conference, a guest lecture in a class, a teaching and learning centre workshop, or a peer-reviewed conference on or off-campus, when students co-present, their belief in the significance of their research is affirmed by the audience’s interest in it. (8).

Communicating learned information with fellow academics allows students to reflect on their learning and invite new perspectives.

## INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE

Writers are encouraged to **think critically** about their language, contexts, and audience(s).

- Consider **omitting** terms referring to **identity** if the terms are **not relevant**. (e.g., “Muslim doctor” and “bisexual mother” can simply be written as “doctor” and “mother.”)
- Reword for **gender neutrality** (e.g., “humankind” rather than “mankind”).
- Be **precise** to avoid generalizations or perpetuate stereotypes. (e.g., “Secwepemc land” rather than “First Nations’ land”)
- Use the pronoun **“they”** instead of “he/she”

## FIRST PAGE

- Your name goes in the upper left corner.
- Your instructor’s name goes below your name.
- The name and number of the course go below your instructor’s name.
- The date goes below the course name and number.
- The title of your paper is centred below the date.

Akiyama 1

Masaaki Akiyama

Professor Clark

English 1100

10 May 2023

Negotiating with Nature: Apex Predators  
in Canadian Literature

In recent years, images of apex predators, such as tigers, have appeared in the work of prominent Canadian writers, such as Yann Martel.

## WORKS CITED

The Works Cited list begins on a separate page with “Works Cited” centred at the top.

- Alphabetize works by last name of the first listed author.
- Format each work with a hanging indent (i.e. with the 2nd and subsequent lines indented)

Akiyama 4

Works Cited

Boggs, Colleen Glenney. “Public Reading and the Civil War Draft Lottery.” *American Periodicals*, vol. 26, no. 2, 2016, pp. 1-24.

Miller, D. A. *Jane Austen, or The Secret of Style*. Princeton UP, 2003.

# MLA IN A NUTSHELL



This guide covers only the most common situations. For more information on MLA style check out these online resources:

Works Cited  
Interactive  
Quick Guide:



The TRU Library’s  
MLA Libguide:



Note: This guide is based on the *MLA Handbook, 9th Edition*. Always check with your instructors to see if their requirements differ from those described here.

 **THOMPSON RIVERS UNIVERSITY**  
Library

 **THOMPSON RIVERS UNIVERSITY**  
Writing Centre

## IN-TEXT CITATIONS

An **in-text citation** appears in the text of a paper to indicate that a source is being cited, and directs your reader to your Works Cited page. MLA format follows the **author-page format**; this may be the author's last name, or you may use a shortened title or the description of the work. If you are quoting or paraphrasing a specific part of the work, use a **location marker** such as a page number or time stamp.

Use **parenthetical citations** to refer to the works of others. Typically, you will place the author's last name and the page number in parentheses; however, you may also refer to the author directly in your sentence:

Price claims ... (168-69). *or* ... (Price 168-69).

If another indicator is used in your source instead of page numbers, use the appropriate label, and place a comma after the author's name in parenthetical citations:

... (Price, chs. 3-4). *or* (Price, paras. 5-8).

**Indirect** sources: an indirect source is a source cited within another source. Do your best to locate the original or **primary** source and cite directly from it; however, if you can't, use "qtd. in", and the **indirect** or **secondary** source:

Munro described herself as "... " (qtd. in Price 60).

### Three or More Authors

... (Singh, et al. 19-25).  
Singh, Ross, Peters, and Otieno argue ... (19-25).  
*or* Singh, et al., argue ... (19-25).

### Corporate Author

Use the shortest noun phrase in parenthetical citations:  
The Native Women's Association of Canada urges... (7).  
... (Native Women's Association 7).

### Online Source (No Pages)

... (Sanborn).  
... ("Creating").

### Personal Communication

Use narrative citation integration, like so:  
In her email, Goddard mentions...

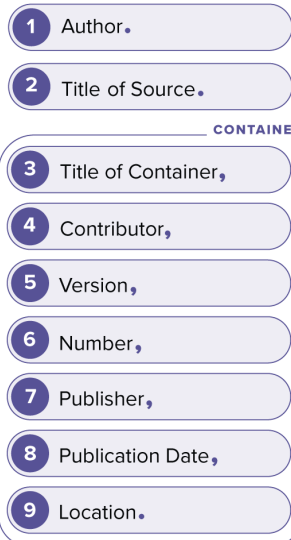
### Artificial Intelligence/GenAI (such as ChatGPT)

[Note: Do not refer to AI as the author; instead, use a shortened version of the Title of Source in your Works Cited, such as the prompt you used.]

...("Describe the symbolism").

## WORKS CITED

For Works Cited entries, use the MLA template of **Core Elements** (facts about your source), with punctuation (periods and commas) as shown here:



Leave out any elements that cannot be found. However, you must include the **Title of Source**. If there is no title, use your own description.

Works can be self-contained, have one container or multiple containers. For **self-contained works**, leave out the Title of Container, but fill in elements 4-9 (as applicable). For a **work with two containers**, fill out elements 3-9 of the template again (as applicable).

### Journal Article (Within a Database) [Two Containers]

Andrews, Jennifer, and Priscilla L. Walton. "Rethinking Canadian and American Nationality: Indigeneity and the 49th Parallel in Thomas King." *American Literary History*, vol. 18, no. 3, 2006, pp. 600-617. *Academic Search Complete*, doi:10.1093/alh/ajl001.

### Journal Article (Open Access) [One Container]

Dressler, Roswita. "Exploring Linguistic Identity in Young Multilingual Learners." *TESL Canada Journal*, vol. 32, no. 1, 2014, pp. 42-52, [www.teslcanadajournal.ca/index.php/tesl/article/view/1198](http://www.teslcanadajournal.ca/index.php/tesl/article/view/1198).

### Book (Print) [Self-Contained]

Miller, D. A. *Jane Austen, or The Secret of Style*. Princeton UP, 2003.

### eBook (Ebrary or Google Books) [Two Containers]

Scheuermann, Mona. *Reading Jane Austen*. Palgrave Macmillan, 2009. *ProQuest Ebrary*, [site.ebrary.com/lib/trulibrary/detail.action?docID=10400079](http://site.ebrary.com/lib/trulibrary/detail.action?docID=10400079).

### Chapter in an Edited Book (Print) [One Container]

Price, Martin. "Austen: Manners and Morals." *Jane Austen*, edited by Harold Bloom, Chelsea House, 1986, pp. 163-178.

### Government Report (Online) [Self-Contained]

Heisz, Andrew. *Income Inequality and Redistribution in Canada: 1976 to 2004*. Statistics Canada, 2007, [www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/11f0019m/11f0019m2007298-eng.htm](http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/11f0019m/11f0019m2007298-eng.htm).

### News/Magazine Article (Online) [One Container]

Khan, Sheema. "Allophilia: Beyond Tolerance Lies True Respect." *The Globe and Mail*, 28 Feb. 2013, [www.theglobeandmail.com/opinion/allophilia-beyond-tolerance-lies-true-respect/article9130024](http://www.theglobeandmail.com/opinion/allophilia-beyond-tolerance-lies-true-respect/article9130024).

### Video (Online) [One Container]

Adichie, Chimamanda Ngozi. "The Danger of a Single Story." *YouTube*, uploaded by TED, 7 Oct. 2009, [youtu.be/D9Ihs241zeg](http://youtu.be/D9Ihs241zeg).

"Indigenous Style In a Nutshell - Thompson Rivers University." *YouTube*, uploaded by TRU Student Life, 12 Oct. 2021, [youtu.be/AZrm7BKCEwQ](http://youtu.be/AZrm7BKCEwQ).

### Episode of a Series (Online) [One Container]

"Hush." *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, season 4, episode 10, WB, 14 Dec. 1999. *Netflix*, [www.netflix.com/title/70133793](http://www.netflix.com/title/70133793).

### Personal Communication

Goddard, Jenna. Email to the author. 18 Dec. 2024

### Artificial Intelligence/GenAI (such as ChatGPT)

"Describe the symbolism of the green light in the book *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald" prompt. *ChatGPT*, 13 Feb. version, OpenAI, 8 Mar. 2023, [chat.openai.com/chat](http://chat.openai.com/chat).

[Note: MLA is designed to be *flexible*, so use the **Core Elements** to represent the AI tool, your prompt, and your process as specifically as possible.]