

Getting Help

The Harper College Library and Writing Center can both help with citations.

Library	Writing Center
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visit us in Building F second floor • Call with questions: 847-925-6769 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visit us in Building F first floor • Call for an appointment: 847-925-6796

Other resources for citing:

- *MLA Handbook*, 8th edition—Harper has copies in the Library and Writing Center; most public libraries will have copies as well
- Other style guides—You may have other types of citing or writing help guides that cover citations. Just be sure they address MLA 8th edition.
- OWL at Purdue (Online Writing Lab)—Great online source for MLA style information (<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>)
- Google—Style guides don't cover every type of source. The MLA 8th edition is designed to be more flexible, but sometimes you want to see examples.
 - Try searching Google for the type of source and “MLA citation” (e.g., “epic poem MLA citation” or “film MLA citation”).
 - Look for examples from reputable sites like libraries or schools, and check to be sure that they are using MLA 8th edition and not an earlier version.

A note on citation generators:

There are many websites and tools out there that create citations for you, like EasyBib or Citation Machine. Some tools are better than others, but even the best tools make **a lot** of mistakes. (They are particularly bad at citing complicated sources like the ones you use in HUM 120.) Plus, you often have to fill in all the information about the core elements yourself anyway.

There is nothing wrong with trying a citation generator, but be sure to check the citation against what you have learned about MLA style. Do not assume the citation that was created is correct, because errors are common!

Formatting Citations

Remember that your Works Cited or Bibliography must:

- Have either Works Cited or Bibliography centered at the top (ask your instructor which is required for your class)
 - Works Cited = ONLY sources you actually cited in the body of your paper
 - Bibliography = all works you consulted during your research, even if you did not end up citing them
- Be in alphabetical order
- Be double spaced, just like the rest of your paper
- Have hanging indents (first line of citation left justified and all subsequent lines indented)

Here are a few videos that might help if you aren't familiar with these formatting functions.

If you use MS Word...

Double space: <https://goo.gl/LrRM5k>

Hanging indent: <https://goo.gl/JtMXwq>

If you use Google Docs...

Double space: <https://goo.gl/FMbqXg>

Hanging indent: <https://goo.gl/keDYzL>

If you use another word processing program, consult the help information for that program, or stop by the Library or Writing Center for help.