



Citing Government Information Sources Using MLA Style

Sample citations based on the *MLA Handbook*, 8th edition, 2016.

The citations on this handout are recommended examples for entries in a works cited list. They have not been approved by the editorial board of the Modern Language Association. Consult your instructor or editor for specific elements of citation style. Citations should always be double-spaced on a works cited list (the citations here are single-spaced in order to save space).

Citing Sources in the Text of Your Manuscript or Paper: In-text Citations

MLA recommends "parenthetical documentation" of sources, whereby a cited author and specific page numbers are noted in parentheses in the text of your paper or manuscript, e.g., (Fairbanks 32) or (Rubenstein 101-102). Such citations refer to an alphabetically arranged list of works cited, placed at the end of your paper. See Part 1 of the *MLA Handbook* for examples of in-text citations.

Citing URLs in Web Publications

Always follow the requirements of your instructor or editor regarding URLs in citations. MLA's editors suggest inclusion of URLs in citations. Even if a URL is outdated and no longer functions, it tells your reader where you found a source (*MLA Handbook* 48).

Citation Sources: Useful Links

- Style Guides for Research Papers: guides.library.unr.edu/general/citing
- MLA Style: Website of the Modern Language Association: www.mla.org/style
- Introduction to Basic Legal Citation (Cornell Law School): www.law.cornell.edu/citation

Explanation of Formats for Legal Citations

In this guide, citations to legal information sources such as *US Reports*, the *US Code*, the *Federal Register* and *Code of Federal Regulations* are given in two formats. The first is the legal citation style used in *The Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citation*, 19th ed. (Harvard Law Review Association, 2010). The second format conforms closely to the examples in Diane Garner's *The Complete Guide to Citing Government Information Resources: A Manual for Social Science & Business Research* (3rd ed., rev. by Debora Cheney. Congressional Information Service, 2002). Where Garner's sample citations to legal information differed significantly from MLA style, a citation was constructed to conform to MLA standards for a source published in a non-government periodical, such as a popular magazine.

CITY GOVERNMENT PUBLICATION (RENO, NEVADA)

Reno [Nevada]. *Opportunities for Citizen Participation in Reno City Government: Boards, Commissions and Committees*. Reno, 1995.

CITY GOVERNMENT PUBLICATION (CHICAGO, IL: TWO RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES)

Commission on Chicago Landmarks, and Chicago Department of Planning and Development. *Chicago Historic Resources Survey: An Inventory of Architecturally and Historically Significant Structures*. Chicago Department of Planning and Development, 1996.

INTERNATIONAL TREATY

"Peace Corps: Agreement Between the United States of America and Georgia." *Treaties and Other International Acts*, Series 13147, US Department of State [2003], www.state.gov/documents/organization/130244.pdf. Tbilisi, signed 24 April 2001. Accessed 23 August 2016.

NATO PRESS RELEASE

"Statement on Kosovo: Press Release S-1(99)62." *NATO Official Home Page*, North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, 1999, www.nato.int/docu/pr/1999/p99-062e.htm. Accessed 21 May 1999.

STATE AGENCY, PAPER IN A PUBLISHED CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

Rust, Charles H. "Current and New Marketing Technology (Electronic)." *Proceedings of the International Beef Cattle Symposium, January 15-17, 1991, Heritage Inn, Great Falls, Montana*, Special Report 42, Montana State University, 1991, pp. 171-183.

STATE AGENCY PUBLICATION (NEVADA)

Nevada, Department of Transportation. *Travel Demand Analysis of Selected Small Urban Areas of Nevada*. Nevada. Department of Transportation [1996].

UNITED NATIONS PUBLICATION (OFFICIAL RECORD)

United Nations, Economic and Social Council. *Commission on Human Rights, Resolution 1998/70. Situation of Human Rights in Afghanistan. Official Record/Readex*, 21 April 1998, 54th session, supplement no. 3.

US-AMERICAN INDIAN TREATY

"Treaty With the Cherokee, 1785." *Indian Affairs: Laws and Treaties. Vol. II, Treaties*, compiled by Charles J. Kappler, Government Printing Office, 1904, pp. 8-11. 28 Nov. 1785.

US CENSUS DATA (VIA AMERICAN FACTFINDER)

"DP04. Selected Housing Characteristics, 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates. Gabbs CDP, Nevada." *American FactFinder*, Bureau of the Census, 2016, factfinder.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/ACS/14_5YR/DP04/1600000US3225900. Accessed 19 August 2016.

US CODE**Uniform System Citation (Bluebook):**

16 U.S.C. Sec. 668 (1988).

Recommended Garner-style Citation:

"Protection of Bald and Golden Eagles." Title 16 *US Code*, sec. 668, Government Printing Office, 1988, pp. 839-846.

(US) CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS**Uniform System Citation (Bluebook):**

Admission of Refugees, 8 C.F.R. pt. 207 (1992).

Recommended Garner-style Citation:

"Admission of Refugees." Title 8 *Code of Federal Regulations*, pt. 207, 1992, pp. 104-106.

US CONGRESS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. EXECUTIVE DOCUMENT RETRIEVED FROM A LICENSED ONLINE DATABASE (READEX)

United States, Congress. *Message of the President of the United States, Communicated to the Two Houses of Congress at the Beginning of the First Session of the Fifty-third Congress. August 8, 1893. Archive of Americana. US Congressional Serial Set, 1817-1980*, Readex, Record Number: 110C936A96680DB0. Accessed 18 June 2008. Originally published by the Government Printing Office, 1893, 53rd Congress, 1st session, House Executive Document 1, Serial Set Vol. 3150, Session Vol.1.

US CONGRESSIONAL BILL IN ELECTRONIC FORMAT (FDsys: Federal Digital System)

United States, Congress, Senate. *S. 1100, A Bill to Require State and Local Government Approval of Prescribed Burns on Federal Land During Conditions of Drought or Fire Danger. FDsys, Congressional Bills*, 2015, www.gpo.gov/fdsys. 114th Congress, 1st session. Accessed 29 October 2015. Introduced in the US Senate 27 April 2015.

US CONGRESSIONAL HEARING

United States, Congress, Senate, Committee on Governmental Affairs. *Pentagon Rules on Media Access to the Persian Gulf War. Hearing. 20 Feb. 1991*. Government Printing Office, 1991. 102nd Congress, 1st session.

US FEDERAL AGENCY. COUNTRY COMMERCIAL GUIDE

Doing Business in Brazil: 2015 Country Commercial Guide for US Companies. US & Foreign Commercial Service and US Department of State, 2015, www.iberglobal.com/files/2015/brazil_ccg.pdf. Accessed 19 August 2016.

US FEDERAL AGENCY. DATASET

"US Import and Export Merchandise Trade Statistics, 1998-2004." *USA Trade Online*, Bureau of the Census, Foreign Trade Division, 2014, usatrade.census.gov/data. Accessed 15 September 2014.

US FEDERAL AGENCY. GRAPHIC IMAGE FILE

"First Color Image from Rover Spirit." *Mars Exploration Rover Mission*, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, 2004, marsrovers.jpl.nasa.gov/gallery/press/spirit/20040106c/P2302-540-361_br.jpg. Accessed 9 January 2004.

US FEDERAL AGENCY REPORT WITH CORPORATE AUTHOR

United States, National Park Service. *Final General Management Plan, Environmental Impact Statement. Glacier National Park: Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park, the World's First International Peace Park, a World Heritage Site.* National Park Service, 1999.

US FEDERAL AGENCY REPORT WITH PERSONAL AUTHORS

Borrie, William T., and James A. Harding. *Effective Recreation Visitor Communication Strategies: Rock Climbers in the Bitterroot Valley, Montana.* US Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station [2002], www.fs.fed.us/rm/pubs/rmrs_rn015.pdf. Accessed 12 January 2016.

US FEDERAL AGENCY. STATISTICAL TABLE

"Table 96 - Public High School Graduates, by State: 1969-70 to 1990-91." *Digest of Education Statistics 1991*, Government Printing Office, 1991, p. 104.

(US) FEDERAL REGISTER**Uniform System Citation (Bluebook):**

Equal Employment Opportunity for Individuals with Disabilities, Final Rule, 56 Fed. Reg. 35725-35755 (July 26, 1991) (to be codified at 48 C.F.R. pt. 52).

Recommended MLA-style Citation:

"Equal Employment Opportunity for Individuals with Disabilities, Final Rule." *Federal Register*, vol. 56, 26 July 1991, pp. 35725-35755.

US PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION REPORT

United States, Presidential Commission on the Space Shuttle Challenger Accident. *Report to the President.* The Commission, 1986. 5 vols.

US PRESIDENTIAL PAPERS (MICROFILM EDITION)

Cleveland, Grover. "Message of the President of the United States. Paper Communicated to the Two Houses of Congress, Washington. D.C. August 8, 1893." *Grover Cleveland Papers*, series 6, sub series A, reel 85, Library of Congress, 1965.

(US) PUBLIC LAW**Uniform System Citation (Bluebook):**

Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003, Pub. L. No. 108-173, 117 Stat. 2066 (2003) (codified at 42 U.S.C. 1395 (2014)).

Recommended Garner-style Citation:

"A Bill to Amend Title XVIII of the Social Security Act to Provide for a Voluntary Program for Prescription Drug Coverage Under the Medicare Program, to Modernize the Medicare Program, and for Other Purposes (Brief title: Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003)." *United States Statutes at Large*, vol. 117, 2003, pp. 2066-2480. Public Law 108-173, 18 Dec. 2003.

US SUPREME COURT DECISION**Uniform System Citation (Bluebook):**

Brown v. Board of Education, 347 U.S. 483 (1954).

Recommended MLA-style Citation:

"Brown v. Board of Education." *US Reports*, vol. 347, pp. 483-500. Decided 17 May 1954.

US SUPREME COURT DECISION RETRIEVED FROM AN ONLINE SERVICE (LEXIS-NEXIS)

"Bush and Cheney v. Gore, et al. Supreme Court of the US." *Lexis-Nexis Academic*, 2000, US LEXIS 8430. Accessed 25 Aug. 2016. Decided 12 Dec. 2000.
(no Uniform System citation is provided for this decision, since *Lexis-Nexis* is not a primary source)

(US) WORLD FACTBOOK

"Mexico." *World Factbook*, The Central Intelligence Agency, 2014,
www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/index.html. Accessed 10 Aug. 2014.

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