

**MLA FORMAT**  
**Citing Web Pages**  
*library.pjc.edu*

The formats shown here are based on guidelines from the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers, 6<sup>th</sup> ed., 2003, Section 5.9.2, pages 216-217. Additional online MLA format guides are available at <http://library.pjc.edu/citing.shtml>

Use the following as a guide for items to include in your citation. Not all of these elements will apply to every Web site. Some Web sites will include other information such as editors or version numbers. Pick the important items for your document—those that would allow someone to search for this document via a Web search engine or directory. Refer to the MLA Handbook or the online web site for more examples.

Use **double spacing** on your **Works Cited** page. Use a **hanging indent format**; that is, set the first line flush left and indent subsequent lines. If it is necessary to divide a URL between two lines, break it after a slash or before a period.

**Citing an article or document within a Web site:**

*Last name, first name of author (if given). "Title of the article, or document within the Web site (if applicable and in quotes)." Date the document was created or last updated. The title of the complete Web site (underlined). Name of any sponsoring institution or organization (if given). Date you accessed the page (with no period following) <Web address in brackets>. (include the protocol http://)*

**Examples:**

Harms, Susan. "Dietary Supplements: What You Should Know." 20 Jan. 2005. Health Talk & You. University of Minnesota. 30 Jan. 2008 <http://www.healthtalk.umn.edu/healthtalk/topics/supplements/home.html>.

"Final Rule Promotes Safe Use of Dietary Supplements." 22 June 2007. FDA Home Page. U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services. 14 Jan. 2008 <http://www.fda.gov/consumer/updates/dietarysupps062207.html>.

*(Be sure to give the Web address of the **specific** article or document within the Web site. Note that the first date is the publication date of the Web page and the second date is the date you accessed the page.)*

The **minimum** amount of information needed to document a Web site is:

*Title of the Web site. Date of access <Web address>.*

*Note: The information that you need to cite a Web page is usually given in the header and footer of the Web document. If you are not sure what to use as the title of the Web page (usually listed in the header), right click the mouse and left click on Properties (Internet Explorer). The Web page title is usually listed at the top. If the Web page does not list a date (usually in the footer), cite only the date that you accessed the document. The Modern Language Association recommends downloading or printing your Web document, so that you can verify it if it is inaccessible at a later date.*

*If the document appears to be part of a larger site and you are not sure of the sponsor or associated institution, look for a link on the page that will get you to the home page. If there is no link on the page, note that the Web address usually contains the sponsoring institution or organization. Delete the file name sections of the URL from right to left back to the first slash (/), which will bring you to the domain name of the server that holds the document.*

**Always check with your instructor to be sure that you are citing your references correctly.**