

# MLA FORMAT QUICK GUIDE Academic Resource Center

# **IN-TEXT CITATIONS: THE BASICS**

Direct Quotes: (Author's Last Name Page #)

<u>Ex</u>: Dreams express a "profound aspect of personality" and this expression reveals that Margaret had a desire to nurture (Foulkes 184).

**Punctuation is placed** after the citation!

Paraphrases: Same as above, but without quotation marks.

<u>Ex</u>: Dreams work to express different areas of human personality and this expression reveals that Margaret has a desire to nurture (Foulkes 184).

## Block Quotes

More than 4 lines of quoted text must be formatted in a separate paragraph. Quotation marks are not used and the quote is indented an extra 1/2in.

Ex: She begins the narrative of her unraveling marriage with ellipses:

...the shape of my hair, dark strands carving out parentheses and asides on the floor; sound waves, the patterns of a woman's voice stating an argument against pitch silence, of those waves reconstructing space across the screen up and down like heartbeats... the chatter of the TV, the clicking of the computer keyboard, pages turning in a book...two curled bodies sleeping in opposite directions... (Trenka 11).

# **IN-TEXT CITATIONS: SPECIAL CASES**

• Work Without an Author: Use the title of the work and the page number in the citation.

<u>Ex</u>: A recent report notes that "extreme weather events are likely to increase as the climate warms" ("Impact of Global Warming" 6).

✤ More than One Author (Authors' Last Names and Page #)

<u>Ex</u>: Two or more  $\rightarrow$  (Smith and Kim 9). Three or more  $\rightarrow$  (Edwards et al. 11).

Citing a Play: Mark line breaks with a slash. Give the act number, scene number and line number(s) in the citation (Act. Scene. Line(s))

<u>Ex</u>: Hamlet confides to his friend Guildenstern, "I am but mad north-north-west. When / the wind is southerly I know a hawk from a / handsaw" (2.2.396-398).

Poem: Mark line breaks with a slash and cite line numbers if only speaking about one poem in an essay. If speaking about more than one poem, add the author or poem name if poems are by the same author.

<u>Ex</u>: Cullen concludes "Of all the things that happened there / That's all I remember" (lines 11-12).

Do you always need to include the author's name in the citation?

If the author is stated in the sentence, it does not need to be included in the citation.

<u>Ex:</u> According to Foulkes' study, dreams express a "profound aspect of personality" (184).

Note that the quote is not a full sentence; only use what is necessary!

#### WORKS CITED PAGE

### Sooks

Author's Last Name, First Name. Title. Publisher, Publication Date.

Ex. Said, Edward W. Culture and Imperialism. Knopf, 1994.

## Periodical or Collection of Essays

Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of Essay." *Title of Collection*, edited by Editor's Name(s), Publisher, Year, Page Range of Entry.

Ex. Bagchi, Alaknanda. "Conflicting Nationalisms: The Voice of the Subaltern in Mahasweta Devi's Bashai Tudu." *Tulsa Studies in Women's Literature*, vol. 15, no. 1, 1996, pp. 41-50.

#### ✤ Webpage

Author(s) Name. "Article or Webpage Title." *Title of Website*. Publisher, Publication or Posting Date. Location (pages, paragraphs and/or URL, DOI or permalink). Date you accessed the material.

Ex. Lundman, Susan. "How to Make Vegetarian Chili." *eHow,* www.ehow.com/how\_10727\_make-vegetarian-chili.html. 12 June 2017.