

# Guide to Using MLA Style: In-Text Citations

MLA (Modern Language Association) is a type of documentation style that is used for the pedagogical disciplines in the humanities.

## In Text Citations

- Most in-text citations follow the same format: (Author's last-name page-number).
- If there is no author, then the title of the work can replace it.
- If there are two authors, the last names of both will need to be listed. If there are more than two authors, after the first author's name, add "et al." to represent the other authors.
- If the author's name or name of the work appears in the sentence, it does not need to appear in the in-text citation.
- The citation immediately follows the quotation, and punctuation comes after the citation.
- Even if not quoting a source directly, use an in-text citation to cite an author's original ideas.

Wordsworth states that Romantic poetry was marked by a "spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings" (263).

Romantic poetry is characterized by the "spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings" (Wordsworth 263).

Wordsworth extensively explores the role of emotion in the creative process (263).

For more information, visit [Purdue OWL's MLA Formatting and Style Guide here.](#)



Georgia College Writing Center  
writing.center@gcsu.edu  
Mon. - Thur. 9am - 7pm | Fri. 9am - 2pm  
Sat. 2pm - 4pm | Sun. 2pm - 4pm\*

Schedule an appointment through the Unify portal

\*All Writing Center appointments are virtual for Spring 2021

