

Citing Full-Text Articles from Library Databases

Full-text articles from library databases can be very convenient resources for your research projects. However, creating MLA citations for these sources can sometimes be a little tricky. This guide will help you to identify the information you will need to include in your MLA citations for many of the Libraries' most popular full text databases.

Authoritative directions on how to cite works from library databases can be found in three places:

- *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers* 6th edition – available at the reference desk. See section 5.9.7 (page 229) and 1.4.6d page 28.
- Diana Hacker's books or website <http://www.dianahacker.com/resdoc/>.
- The database help screens. The help screens suggest citations that do not always match what the *MLA Handbook* requires. Before you use the suggested formats from the help screens, you should ask your instructor if this is sufficient.

According to the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers* 6th edition, citations for works from library subscription services should include the following:

- Begin your citations with the standard information for whatever type of resource it is (book, magazine article, newspaper article, journal article, etc.)
- Name of the database underlined
- Name of the service
- Name of the library
- Date of access
- URL of the service's home page in angle brackets (if known)

The following table will provide the name of the database, the name of the service and the URLs the Libraries' most popular databases:

Database Name	Service	URL
<u>ABI/Inform</u>	Proquest	< http://www.proquest.com/ >
<u>Business Source Premier</u>	Ebscohost	< http://search.epnet.com >
<u>Health Reference Center-Academic</u>	InfoTrac	< http://www.galegroup.com >
<u>InfoTrac OneFile</u>	InfoTrac	< http://www.galegroup.com >
<u>JSTOR</u>	Not Applicable—leave blank	< http://www.jstor.org/ >
<u>LexisNexis Academic</u>	LexisNexis	< http://web.lexis-nexis.com/universe >
<u>LexisNexis Congressional</u>	LexisNexis	< http://web.lexis-nexis.com/congcomp >
<u>netLibrary</u>	Not Applicable—leave blank	< http://www.netlibrary.com/ >
<u>Project Muse</u>	Not Applicable—leave blank	< http://muse.jhu.edu/ >
<u>Wilson Select Plus</u>	FirstSearch	< http://firstsearch.oclc.org >

A note about page numbers: If the database does not give you an exact page number range for the article you are citing, you should give the beginning page number followed by a hyphen a space and a period. Even if the database gives you a number of pages, for example 18(14), you cannot be certain that these pages were consecutive and you should cite them with a hyphen. Example: 18- .

A note about CQ Researcher: *CQ Researcher* citations are somewhat different to cite, since the database only contains *CQ Researcher* reports. To cite *CQ Researcher*, follow the directions in the *MLA Handbook* for scholarly journals in an online periodical (page 222). Also, at the top of each report, there is a link to the correct citation format (“**Cite Now**”). If you click on this link in your *CQ Researcher* report and then click on MLA Style in the pop-up window, you will be given the exact citation you need to use for the *CQ Researcher* report you are reading. However, it is important to note that while all of the citation information is correct and in the right order, when you enter it on your works cited page, be sure to double space the entry and indent the second line, like all other MLA citations.