



DIRECTED LEARNING ACTIVITY

MLA Works Cited List

OBJECTIVE:

Properly documenting outside sources is an important part of academic writing that requires additional research. This activity will introduce you to the basics for creating a works cited list and help you understand how to utilize resource guides. Although this activity focuses on MLA documentation style, the skills and strategies could be applied to other formats as well.

ACTIVITY:

1) Review one of the following books on MLA-style works cited lists. Both books are available in the Writing Center.

Fowler, H. Ramsey, and Jane E. Aaron. The Little, Brown Handbook. 9th ed. New York: Pearson, 2004.

[See “Preparing the MLA List of Works Cited,” (pp. 709-739)]

Hacker, Diana. A Writer’s Reference. 5th ed. Boston: St. Martin’s, 2003.

[See “MLA List of Works Cited,” section MLA-4b (pp. 348-377)]

2) Once you have a better understanding of the requirements for a MLA works cited list, check out the sources on reserve at the Writing Center front desk. You will need your Chaffey Photo ID card to check out the books in the materials box. (Note: You may be citing articles or chapters in certain sources instead of the entire source.) In addition, check out a computer to cite the online sources listed in the box.

3) Type up and revise your works cited page on computer. Be sure to follow the requirements for the format as stated in the resource guides. Refer to the Writing Center’s Word handouts on “Formatting MLA or APA Style Papers” and “Hanging Indents and Hyperlinks” for assistance with works cited formatting issues.

REVIEW:

Discuss your works cited list with a tutor during your scheduled appointment time, focusing on explaining your process and any difficulties that you encountered dealing with the variety of resources. Be prepared to utilize this experience in future class discussions and assignments that incorporate properly documenting outside sources.