



Intro to MLA Style

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What is MLA Style?

- guidelines developed by the Modern Language Association (MLA)
- tells you how to cite other sources, use abbreviations and numbers, etc.
- appears in the *MLA Handbook* (8th edition)

MLA STYLE: CITING YOUR SOURCES

What is citing? Why do we cite?

citing = referring to your source

i.e. telling the reader where the words and information in your paper came from

We cite in order to:

- avoid plagiarism
- respect the author
- help the reader
- show how our ideas relate to existing research

How do we cite in MLA?

2 parts

- works cited list
- in-text citation

Works Cited List

- starts on a new page (usually the last page)
- lists all sources you used
- contains complete publication information about each source

Core Elements in a Works Cited Entry

- Author.
- Title of Source.
- Title of Container(s).,
- Other contributors,
- Version,
- Number,
- Publisher,
- Publication date,
- Location.

Works Cited Entry

Books

Haddon, Mark. *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*. Doubleday Canada, 2002.

Edwards, Justin D., and Nicolas Tredel, editors. *Postcolonial Literature: A Reader's Guide to Essential Criticism*. Palgrave Macmillan, 2008.

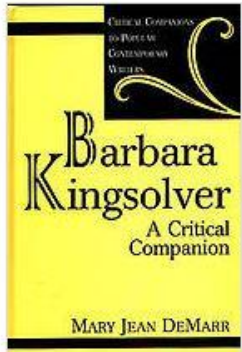
DeMarr, Mary Jean. *Barbara Kingsolver: A Critical Companion*. Greenfield, 1999. Critical Companions to Popular Contemporary Writers Series. *Ebrary*, <http://site.ebrary.com/lib/unblib/detail.action?docID=5005112>.

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Barbara Kingsolver : a critical companion

Author: [Mary Jean DeMarr](#)

Publisher: Westport, Conn. : Greenwood Press, 1999.

Series: [Critical companions to popular contemporary writers.](#)

Edition/Format: eBook : Document : English [View all editions and formats](#)

Database: WorldCat

Summary: Introducing readers to Kingsolver, the author devotes a chapter to her life and work showing how the two are deeply intertwined. The text subsequently analyzes each novel in terms of plot and [Read more...](#)

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Barbara Kingsolver : A Critical Companion

by DeMarr, Mary Jean

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Series Foreword

Acknowledgments

Barbara Kingsolver: Life and Works

Politics and Genres

The Bean Trees

Animal Dreams

BIBLIOGRAPHIC INFO

TITLE	Barbara Kingsolver : A Critical Companion
CONTRIBUTOR	DeMarr, Mary Jean
PUBLISHER	Greenwood Press
DATE PUBLISHED	August 1999
LANGUAGE	English
PAGES	171
DOCUMENT TYPE	Book
LO SUBJECT HEADINGS	Kingsolver, Barbara -- Criticism and interpretation. Feminism and literature -- United States -- History -- 20th century. Women and literature -- United States -- History -- 20th century. Political fiction, American -- History and criticism. Feminist fiction, American -- History and criticism.
LC CALL NUMBER	PS3561.I496 -- Z64 1999eb
DEWEY DECIMAL NUMBER	813/.54
PRINT ISBN	9780313306389
EBOOK ISBN	9780313007606
OCLC NUMBER	49730791

Exercise

Link, Kelly. *Stranger Things Happen*. Small Beer Press, 2001.

Works Cited List

Selection from a Book

Bishop, Elizabeth. "The Man-Moth." *Norton Anthology of Modern Poetry*, edited by Richard Ellman and Robert O'Clair, 2nd ed., W.W. Norton, 1973, pp. 876-78.

Coady, Lynn. "Books That Say Arse." Introduction. *Victory Meat: New Fiction from Atlantic Canada*, edited by Lynn Coady, Anchor Canada, 2003, pp. iv-xii.

Works Cited List

Journal Articles

Kisane, James, and John M. Kisane. "Sherlock Holmes and the Ritual of Reason." *Nineteenth-Century Fiction*, vol. 17, no. 4, 1963, pp. 353-62.

Gordon, Neta. "Sign and Symbol in Barbara Gowdy's *The White Bone*." *Canadian Literature*, vol. 185, Summer 2005, pp. 76-90. *Academic Search Premier*, <https://login.proxy.hil.unb.ca/login?url=http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=aph&AN=18209699&site=ehost-live&scope=site>.



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Sign and Symbol in Barbara Gowdy's *The White Bone*.

Authors: [Gordon, Neta](#)¹

Source: [Canadian Literature](#). Summer2005, Issue 185, p76-90. 15p.

Document Type: Literary Criticism

Subject Terms: *FABLES
TALES

Reviews & Products: [WHITE Bone, The \(Book\)](#)

People: [GOWDY, Barbara](#)
[BOXER, Sarah](#)
[WALTERS, Margaret](#)

Abstract: This article discusses the book "The White Bone," by Barbara Gowdy and gives the many opinions of writers and that can take the readers in an alternate world seen only through the eyes of an alien. Margaret Walters of the "T fable which is an opinion shared by many other reviewers. Sarah Boxer from the "New York Times" was a bit mor that could really be misread and understood by other readers.

Author Affiliations: ¹Brock University

ISSN: 0008-4360

Accession Number: 18209699

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[Detailed Record](#)

[PDF Full Text \(917KB\)](#)

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[Cited References \(18\)](#)

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Exercise

Reiter, Paula J. "Doctors, Detectives, and the Professional Ideal: The Trial of Thomas Neill Cream and the Mastery of Sherlock Holmes." *College Literature*, vol. 35, no. 3, Summer 2008, pp. 57-95. *Project MUSE*, <https://muse.jhu.edu/article/240456>.

Works Cited

- Bishop, Elizabeth. "The Man-Moth." *Norton Anthology of Modern Poetry*, 2nd edition, edited by Richard Ellman and Robert O'Clair, W.W. Norton, 1973, pp. 876-78.
- Coady, Lynn. "Books That Say Arse." Introduction. *Victory Meat: New Fiction from Atlantic Canada*, edited by Lynn Coady. Anchor Canada, 2003, pp. iv-xii.
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- Edwards, Justin D., and Nicolas Tredel, editors. *Postcolonial Literature: A Reader's Guide to Essential Criticism*. Palgrave Macmillan, 2008.
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- Haddon, Mark. *The Curious Incident Of The Dog In The Night-Time*. Doubleday Canada, 2002.
- Kisane, James, and John M. Kisane. "Sherlock Holmes and the Ritual of Reason." *Nineteenth-Century Fiction*, vol. 17, no. 4, 1963, pp. 353-62.

In-Text Citation

in-text citation = referring to sources inside your paper (i.e. not at the end)

- * use in-text citation whenever you mention ideas, information, words or opinions from another source**

In-Text Citation

2 things to include:

1. last name of author(s)
2. page numbers (for quotations or specific facts)

In-Text Citation

e.g. One critic notes that the cities in these novels are often “complex metaphors for interior space” (Vallorani 365).

e.g. Vallorani notes that the cities in these novel are often “complex metaphors for interior space” (365).

e.g. Barbara Gowdy pushes the boundaries of the flesh in her collection of short stories, *We So Seldom Look on Love*. Many of Gowdy’s characters have bodies that are grotesque, abnormal, or in some way open to the world.

Format – Block Quotation (Prose)

no quotation marks

suggested, as well, that Freud's affectionate and very caring treatment of his dog is indicative of certain repressed longings to nurture, and that one should take this into account when giving voice to his theories on the essential reality of our rather solipsistic (according to Freud) collective interiorities. (Faus 103) Weston, in a recent essay, defended the biographic approach in this manner:

Indent
Quotes
" "

By looking more closely at some of the more personal details and seemingly insignificant "turns" in private lives, we sometimes hit upon elements that reveal the underpinnings of a theory. When we are talking about ideas and philosophic stances that have shaped a good deal of 20th Century thought and political practice, whatever we can uncover to help further our understanding of the sources of these critical should certainly be brought into scholarly inquiry. (104) we, certainly, times at which such inquiries seem relevant. But, really, do we gain anything by studying which sort of ties Goddess wore to dinner? Or which pens Flack preferred? Does anyone need to be told, as we were in that memorable essay on Gertrude Stein published in

in-text citation comes after period, not before

MLA Citation Resources

- download presentation slides from [Writing Centre Resources Moodle page](#)
- book an appointment with the Writing Centre
writingcentre.stu.ca