

## Changes in MLA—2009

Paper formatting in general (page margins, headings, etc.) and in-text citations will remain the same as in the 6th edition of the handbook. What will change are the entries on the Works Cited page.

### Major Changes:

**No more underlining.** MLA now requires *italicizing* the titles of independently published works (e.g. books, films, websites, and poems published independently -think *Beowulf*). Quotation marks are still used as appropriate for verbatim quotes, article titles for periodicals, and short poems.

**No more URLs.** Unless a website is not easily found by searching for it on a search engine or the publisher requires that all citations list the web address, the URL (e.g. <http://www.writingsimplified.com>) is no longer required as part of an online work's citation.

**Identification of the publication medium.** Now the end of every citation will include a word describing its format (except citations for web pages, which will end with their date of access). Some examples include Print, CD, TV, and Web.

**More abbreviations.** Instead of writing nothing when citing a source that has no publisher, date published, or page numbers, you now write **n.p.** (for no publisher), **n.d.** (for no date), and **n.pag.** (for no pagination).

### Examples of the new format:

Gaiman, Neil. *Stardust*. New York: HarperCollins, 1999. Print.

Munroe, Randall. "Swine Flu." *xkcd*. 26 April 2009. Web. 28 April 2009.

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