



MLA CITATION - SHAKESPEARE

The Modern Language Association (MLA) citation style is used for writing in the arts and humanities. The handbook containing the citation style also discusses research and writing style. There are many copies at LeDoux library: in the Reference Room and at the Front Desk, among others. All copies are for in-library use only. In addition, *Hodges' Harbrace Handbook* also includes a section on MLA style. Section numbers (5.5.10) refer to the MLA Handbook.

The purpose of this handout is to show additional examples of the MLA citation style that are most likely to be needed when writing about Shakespeare. Many of these were created based on similar, but not exact, examples in the manual (sections included for reference).

Style Manual

Modern Language Association. *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*. 7th ed. New York: MLA, 2009. Print.

Call Number: Ref LB 2369 G53 2009

An Edition

A Scholarly Edition (5.5.10):

As the guidebook says "for a 2008 printing of Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, an editor would have selected a version" and likely made corrections or added notes. However, unlike most edited books, the original author is given first, and the editor (or editors) appears after the title.

Shakespeare, William. *The Tempest*. Ed. Horace Howard Furness. New York, Dover, 1964. Print.

Only if your citations are mostly from the editor's work (such as the notes or other "editorial decisions") would you cite the editor first:

Furness, Horace Howard, ed. *The Tempest*. By William Shakespeare. New York, Dover, 1964. Print.

June 9, 2009

Anthology

Work in an Anthology (5.5.6) and A Multivolume Work (5.5.14):

The above example was for citing a play in a book by itself. Another way to get a copy of the play is from an anthology or collection. The rules are different depending on if that anthology has one or many volumes.

One volume:

Shakespeare, William. *Macbeth*. *The Riverside Shakespeare*. Ed. G. Blakemore Evans. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1974. 1306-42. Print.

Multivolume:

Shakespeare, William. *As You Like It*. *The Annotated Shakespeare*. Ed. A. L. Rowse. Vol. 1. New York: Clarkson N. Potter, 1978. 334-89. Print.

In-Text Citation

Citing Common Literature (6.4.8):

Since there are many different editions of Shakespeare's plays, it is not helpful to use the normal citation style of author and page number inside a paper. Instead cite by divisions - in the case of the plays, list act, scene, and line numbers. Use regular, not Roman, numerals. Also, the MLA guide has official abbreviations for the plays in section 7.7.2.

...first admits this worry to himself, "Our fears in Banquo / Stick deep" (*Mac*. 3.1.48-49) and begins to plot murder.

...dodges the questions:

JAQUES. What stature is she of?

ORLANDO. Just as high as my heart. (*AYL* 3.2.285-86)

...as in Ariel's entrance:

All haile, great Mafter, graue Sir, haile: I come

To anfwer thy beft pleasure; be't to fly,

To fwim, to diue into the fire: to ride

On the curld clouds: to thy ftrong bidding, taske

Ariel, and all his Qualitie. (*Tmp*. 1.2.221-25)

<p>DISABLED STUDENTS: Any student who is a "qualified individual with a disability" as defined by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and Title II of the ADA and who will need accommodated service, must register and request services through the Office of Academic Assistance Programs, S-150.</p>
--