

MLA: Documenting an Article from a Library Subscription Service

Introduction

St. Louis Community College Libraries offer access to many databases provided by web-based subscription services. From these databases, you can search for and access electronically duplicated articles from numerous journals, newspapers, magazines, encyclopedias, and books, as well as other sources. To document such an article in your list of works cited, you give the author, title of the article, the print publication information, and the electronic publication information.

Author. Begin the source with the name(s) of the author(s), with the first or only author's name reversed from alphabetizing.

“Title of Article.” Give the title of the article (enclosed in quotation marks).

Print Publication Information. Continue the source with the print publication information, which varies depending on the source. Many sources in the commonly used databases are articles from scholarly journals or general periodicals. For articles, print publication information includes the title of the periodical (underlined but not followed by a period), publication date (followed by a colon), and page numbers.

Electronic Publication Information. End the source with the electronic publication information: the name of the database (underlined), the name of the subscription service providing the database, the library where you accessed the source (including city and state if not evident from the library's name), the date you accessed the source (not followed by a period), and the URL (enclosed in angle brackets). If a URL is too long and complicated, give the URL of service's search page shown in the examples.

Basic Entry

Scholarly Journal: The basic entry for an article printed in a scholarly journal and accessed from a library subscription service database is shown below. The volume and issue numbers (separated by a period) and the year of publication (enclosed in parentheses) are included with the print publication information:

Author. “Title of Article.” Title of Periodical volume.issue (year of publication): page numbers. Name of Database. Name of Subscription Service. Name, city, and state abbreviation of library providing access. Date of access <URL>.

General Periodical: The basic entry for an article printed in a general periodical (i.e., newspaper, magazine, or other serialized publication) and accessed from a library subscription service database is shown below. The full date of publication is included with the print publication information, but the volume and issue number are omitted:

Author. "Title of Article." Title of Periodical date of publication: page numbers.
Name of Database. Name of Subscription Service. Name, city, and state
abbreviation of library providing access. Date of access <URL>.

Examples

Academic OneFile: Articles in this database, provided by Thomson Gale, are from both scholarly journals and general periodicals. Cite print publication information accordingly.

Kennard, William E. "The Revolution Is Being Televised—on the Internet." Black Issues in Higher Education 10 Dec. 1998: 112. Academic OneFile. Thomson Gale. St. Louis Community College Libraries, MO. 22 May 2007 <<http://www.galegroup.com/>>.

Academic Search Elite: Many articles in this database, provided by EBSCOhost, are from scholarly journals, but some are from general periodicals. Cite print publication information accordingly.

Hicks, Troy, et al. "Rethinking the Purposes and Processes for Designing Digital Portfolios." Journal of Adolescent and Adult Literacy 50.6 (2007): 450–58. Academic Search Elite. EBSCO. St. Louis Community College Libraries, MO. 23 May 2007 <<http://www.epnet.com/>>.

CQ Researcher Online: The articles in this database, provided by CQ Press, appear in the serial periodical *The CQ Researcher*, printed 44 times a year (weekly except for 8 weeks). CQ is an abbreviation for Congressional Quarterly, a publisher of Congressional news, policies, and political issues. Cite print publication information like a general periodical.

Masci, David. "The Future of Marriage." CQ Researcher 7 May 2004: 397-420. CQ Researcher Online. CQ Press. St. Louis Community College Libraries, MO. 23 May 2007 <<http://library.cqpress.com/cqresearcher/cqresrre2004050700>>.

Discovering Collections: Articles in this database, provided by Thomson Gale, originate from different sources: some are articles from periodicals and books, and some come from a variety of other sources. Cite print publication information accordingly.

The example below is for an article that originally appeared in a book and was then reprinted under the same title in another publication. The citation begins with the original print publication information. "Rpt. in" (reprint in) is followed by the secondary print

publication information. Finally, the citation ends with the electronic publication information.

Sedley, Stephen, "An Immodest Proposal: Animal Farm." Inside the Myth: Orwell, Views from the Left. Ed. Christopher Norris. Lawrence & Wishart, 1984. 155-62. Rpt. in DISCovering Authors. Online ed. Gale, 2003. Discovering Collection. Thomson Gale. St. Louis Community College Libraries, MO. 23 May 2007 <<http://galenet.galegroup.com/servlet/DC/>>.

EBSCOhost: A subscription service, providing many databases. See examples under *Academic Search Elite* and *MasterFILE Premiere*.

Issues & Controversies @ FACTS.com: Articles in this database, provided by Facts on File News Services, appear in the serial periodical *Issues and Controversies on File*, which is printed semi-monthly. Because the author is usually unknown, begin the source with the title of the article. Cite print publication information like a general periodical; however, page numbers are not listed in the database, so omit it/them and the colon that comes after the date.

"Cloning." Issues and Controversies on File 18 July 2005. Issues & Controversies @ FACTS.com. Facts on File News Services. St. Louis Community College Libraries, MO. 23 May 2007 <<http://www.2facts.com>>.

LexisNexis: A subscription service, providing several databases. See examples under *LexisNexis Academic*.

LexisNexis Academic: Sources in this database, provided by LexisNexis, cover a wide range of print and nonprint sources. Cite source accordingly.

"Policies vs. Vision." Editorial. St. Louis Post-Dispatch 18 Oct. 2000, five star lift ed.: B6. LexisNexis Academic. LexisNexis. St. Louis Community College Libraries, MO. 31 Aug. 2004 <<http://web.lexisnexis.com/>>.

MasterFILE Premiere: Articles in this database, provided by EBSCOhost, are mostly from general periodicals.

Samuels, Allison. "Rising Up." Newsweek 24 Nov. 2003: 78-79. MasterFILE Premiere. EBSCO. St. Louis Community College Libraries, MO. 23 May 2007 <<http://www.epnet.com/>>.

NewsBank: A subscription service, providing several databases. The database *America's Newspapers* includes articles from international, national, and local newspapers, including the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*.

Bonwich, Joe. "Claiming a Steak: It's Unclear Where They Started, But Pork Steaks Are Here to Stay in St. Louis." St. Louis Post-Dispatch 23 May 2007, 3rd ed.: L1. America's Newspapers. NewsBank. St. Louis Community College Libraries, MO. 24 May 2007 <<http://infoweb.newsbank.com/>>.

Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center: Articles in this database, provided by Thomson Gale, originate from different sources: most are reprinted articles from periodicals, some are excerpts from books, and a few come from other sources. To complicate matters, the articles are often given a different title when reprinted in any of dozens of books in one of the five series: Current Controversies Series, Opposing Viewpoints Series, At Issues Series, Literary Companion Series, or Contemporary Issues Companion Series.

The example below is for an article that originally appeared in a magazine under a different title. The citation begins with the print publication information of the book in the Current Controversies Series. "Rpt. of" (reprint of) is followed by the original print publication information. Finally, the citation ends with the electronic publication information.

Anderson, George M. "Alternatives to Mandatory Detention Will Protect the Rights of Illegal Immigrants." Immigration. Ed. Louise I. Gerdes. Current Controversies Series. Greenhaven P, 2005. Rpt. of "Punishing the Immigrant," *America* 19 Feb. 2001: 20. Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center. Thomson Gale. St. Louis Community College Libraries, MO. 9 May 2007 <<http://galenet.galegroup.com/servlet/OVRC>>.

Thomson Gale (formerly InfoTrac): A subscription service, providing several databases. See examples under *Academic OneFile*, *Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center*, and *Discovering Collections*.