Citing Sources in the Body of Your Paper

To give in-text credit to your sources, use these examples. Use the author name if given. If there is no author, use the title or beginning of the title (example below). Place the parenthetical reference at a pause in your sentence, or at the end if possible, inside the closing period (unless it is a block quote, see examples on page 3). Try to place the reference near the point being documented. The number in the parenthetical reference is the page number. Note that no punctuation is used between the author’s name and the page reference. If citing a source with no page numbers, use the author's name only (Tompkins). The Works Cited page entry will note that the source does not have page numbers.

- **If you have one author, either name the author in your sentence or include the author in the parentheses:**

  One online film critic stated that Fitzcarraldo is “…a beautiful and terrifying critique of obsession and colonialism” (Garcia, “Herzog: a Life”).


- **If the work has two or three authors, name them all in your sentence or include them in the parentheses:**

  Rico and Mano point out many books that are appropriate for multicultural education (Rico and Mano, “Multicultural Education in Today's Society”).


- **If a corporation or institution is the author, cite the main title of the website. If it is a very long name, try to include the name in the text so reading is not interrupted by an extended parenthetical reference:**

  Their mission in part “is to improve government decision making and public policy...” (National Research Council).

- **If there is no author, use the title of the source in your sentence or in parentheses. Use only the first few words if the title is long; use the full title if the title is short. Italicize the title if it is a book title and use “quotation marks” if it is an article:**

  Amphibian populations are in decline in many areas of the world (“Amphibians”).

- **If you have multiple authors, it would appear as follows:**

  The Purdue OWL is accessed by millions of users each year. Its “MLA Formatting and Style Guide” is one of the most popular resources (Stolley et al.).


**Works Cited Page**

The works cited page should be displayed at the end of your slideshow or document.

**The general format for Internet citations:**

Last name, First name of author. “The Title of the Article.” Internet site name. Publisher or sponsor of the website, Day Month Year of publication. Web. Day Month Year accessed.

Example: