Library Research
Finding, Citing & Using Information

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3 Parts (anticipation of 3 pg. literary analysis)

- locating scholarly secondary sources
- using MLA 8th edition (updated style)
- tips for incorporating sources, especially direct quotes

Library Guide:
- in CatCourses
- @ Library website
- http://libguides.ucmerced.edu/gasp153_mcmillon
Review - Access to Resources

- What is needed to access library databases from off-campus locations?
- How might you locate the full-text of an article in a database?
- What information is needed to order a book through Interlibrary Loan?*
PART I: Finding Information

- Scholarly, secondary sources in this subject area
About Scholarly Sources

- Both books and journal articles can be scholarly sources. (T or F)
- Scholarly books are classified as peer-reviewed. (T or F)
- What are three key characteristics of scholarly sources?

http://libguides.ucmerced.edu/gasp153_mcmillon/search-strategies
Secondary Sources

What is the most accurate description of a secondary source?
1. documents created at the time of the event being researched
2. documents analyzing, interpreting or assessing an event
3. documents that summarize or pull together documents that describe or analyze the event

http://library.ucmerced.edu/rpt/knowledge_cycle_10
About Sources …

- A playwright’s diary is an example of a secondary source? (T or F)
- A specialized encyclopedia about 20th century U.S. theatre is a secondary source. (T or F)
- A scholar’s analysis of the play *A Raisin in the Sun* would be considered a secondary source. (T or F)
- A newspaper article reviewing the first performance of a play would be a secondary source. (T or F)
For your three page, literary analysis …

- What kind of information do you anticipate needing?
- Where might you locate that information?
Information Need: Example

- I want to find some analysis or criticism of Baraka’s play *The Dutchman*.
  - How should we construct our initial search?
  - What other search strategies might we consider?
  - Try a search in Melvyl.
  - Try a search in Academic Search Complete.

See Strategies tab > Use Search Strategies
Search Activity

Divide into three groups. Use literature databases.

Literature Resource Center (Gale)
LION (Literature Online)
MLA International Bibliography

1. How does this database organize its information sources?
2. What kind of information is available in the database?
3. Is there full-text of resources? / Can you get to full-text?
4. Can you generate citations in MLA style in this database? Do these citations look accurate?
PART II: Citing Information

- using MLA 8th edition
- substantial changes as of April 2016
- used in liberal arts and humanities
MLA Style

- MLA style uses in-text parenthetical citations and a corresponding Works Cited page? (T or F)
- Both first and last names of authors are spelled out in the Works Cited? (T or F)
- p or pp is used in parenthetical citations to indicate the page numbers. (T or F)
MLA 8th edition

- more changes to Works Cited entries than to parenthetical in-text citations
- provides an overall citation format to use with ALL source types
  - For example, you don’t necessarily have to know if the item is a newspaper or a blog posting BUT you do have to identify elements for any source.
MLA 8th edition, order of elements

1. Author.
2. Title of source.
3. Title of container, [no container if a book]
4. Other contributors, [such as translators or editors]
5. Version, [edition]
6. Number, [such as vol. and no.  NOW REQUIRED]
7. Publisher,
8. Publication date,
9. Location. [refers to page numbers, doi etc.]

TIP: If an element is not available, you skip it.

TIP: If a source has more than one container then you may repeat elements 3-9.

Example: a journal article is in a journal source (container 1) which may be in a database (container 2).
What are other changes?

- A handle or screen name can be used for the author (if no author name).
  - **Example:** @smexaminer
- Now you use vol. and no. for journal articles
  - **Example:** vol. 47, no. 2 (previously 47.2)
- Include URLs but do not use http:// or https://. DOIs (digital object identifiers) are preferred.
  - **Example:** doi:#####
- In Works Cited, p. is used for citing a page number and pp. for citing a range of pages.
- Do not spell out University Press, use UP instead.
  - **Examples:** Cambridge UP or U of California P
What is optional?

- date you viewed or accessed an online source
- publisher - if already included in another element e.g. in the title of a website
What is no longer required?

- Do not use angle brackets <> with URLs.
- Do not include the source medium. e.g. Print, Web
- Do not include the city of publication, *only* if deemed important.
Does this citation correctly follow MLA 8th edition style?

Article
Does this citation correctly follow MLA 8th edition style?

**Book**
Play
PART III: Using Information

- integrating quotations
Integrating Quotations

- Avoid Dropped Quotes
- Anchor Your Quotes
- Possible Formula: In (title of source), (author) argues/describes/writes, “quote” ( ).
- Use descriptive & accurate verbs
- Sandwich Your Quote

http://libguides.ucmerced.edu/gasp153_mcmillon/quoting
Sandwich Your Quote

How to make a delicious Quotation Sandwich

Introduce the quotation.
Who said it? Tell us something about the author so we know why this quote is important.
Set it up. Choose words that accurately reflect the tone or attitude of the author.

"Insert the Quotation."

Explain the quotation.
What is the author saying? What does it mean? Why is it important?
Again, use words that reflect the author’s tone.
What is done successfully in this example?

Excerpt:
Frantz Fanon, in Black Skin, White Masks, extols the power of language rather than political activism to solve what he terms the "color problem," suggesting that this problem exists primarily in language itself: "From all sides dozens and hundreds of pages assail me and try to impose their wills on me. But a single line would be enough. Supply a single answer and the color problem would be stripped of all its importance." (13) Fanon implies in this passage that if language is transformed - if the answer to this "problem" is found - the issue of race will simply disappear. This assumption is based on Fanon's naive trust in the Freudian psychoanalytic method.