

# Essays and Referencing in MLA

## *A short guide*

It is important to use the house style and referencing in all your MLA essays, so here is a short guide to what is needed. (There is a much more detailed version available on our web page, and at <https://intranet.winchester.ac.uk/information-bank/skillsnet/Documents/University%20Harvard%20Referencing%20Guide%20Revised%207-9-16.pdf>)

### **Essays need to have**

- 12 pitch size
- Calibri font
- Line spacing 1.5 or double (but not single!)
- Indented quotations over 40 words
- All quotations with a reference immediately after them, e.g. (Marx, 1970, 24).
- Book titles in italics
- Reference list at the end

### *Here is an example*

Adorno and Horkheimer's *Dialectic of Enlightenment* presents modern consciousness as a self-defeating totality. There is, they argue, no form of thought available to modernity which can be used as a critique of modernity which is not already determined by the enlightenment principles of equivalence, identity and non-contradiction. They claim that

Every spiritual resistance it [enlightenment] encounters serves merely to increase its strength... Whatever myths the resistance may appeal to, by virtue of the very fact that they become arguments in the process of opposition, they acknowledge the principle of dissolvent rationality for which they reproach the enlightenment. Enlightenment is totalitarian (Adorno and Horkheimer, 1979, 6)

The inescapable consequence of this totality is that critique - rational *activity* - and enlightenment - rational *knowledge* - are never unified. As they put it, 'myth is already

enlightenment; and enlightenment reverts to mythology' (Adorno and Horkheimer, 1979, xvi). This is their formulation of the recurring contradiction which is the dialectic of enlightenment.

## **References**

*(for books)*

Horkheimer, M. and Adorno, T.W. (1979) *Dialectic of Enlightenment*, London, Verso.

*(for articles)*

Ransom, S. (1992) Towards the learning society, *Educational Management and Administration*, 20.2, pp.68-79.

*(for chapters within books)*

Hoskin, K. (1990) Foucault under examination: the crypto-educationalist unmasked, in: S. J. Ball, (ed.) *Foucault and Education* London, Routledge.

*(for electronic sources)*

There are no firmly established rules for citing electronic sources, other than that they comply with the golden rule of accuracy and consistency. Modified Harvard conventions can be applied to electronic sources in this way:

## **World Wide Web**

Author's last name and initials., *Title of Article*, date of publication or last revision, full http address, (date of visit); e.g.

Norman Chester Centre: *Sir Norman Chester Centre for Football Research*, 15.04.99, <http://www.le.ac.uk/snccfr/researchy/fsheets/fofs6.html> (13.11.99)