These are some of the rules contained in the MLA 9th edition format.
Before submitting your article, you must make sure that you follow the MLA format. We suggest you buy the book: *MLA Handbook*. 9th ed., Modern Language Association of America, 2021 (there is an online and printed version).

Text Formatting **(formato de texto)**

Capitalize the name of a literary period, cultural movement, or school of thought only when it could be confused with a generic term.

Frankfurt school   New Criticism   New German Cinema

Literary genres and forms are generally not capitalized.

ghazel   magical realism   terza rima

If a period is required after a title that ends with a quotation mark, place the period before the quotation mark.

The study appears in *New Perspectives on* "*The Eve pf St. Agnes*."
Last night I read Elizabeth Bishop's poem "In the Waiting Room."

If the title appears inside quotation marks, the comma should appear inside the quotation marks.

In D.H. Lawrence's poem "The English Are So Nice!," its title and example of irony, the narrator constantly qualifies the praise lavished on the poem's subject.

You must verify in all the text that the period, semicolon, comma, are inside the quotation marks. Use **Ctrl + f,** to search for the following: ." :" ," ;"

Three consecutive periods must be separated: . . . (. . .)

Styling Titles (estilos en los títulos)

In your prose, most titles should be *italicized* or enclosed in quotation marks. In general, italicize the titles of long-form works, which are often but not always self-contained and independent of other works (e.g., anthologies, television and streaming series).
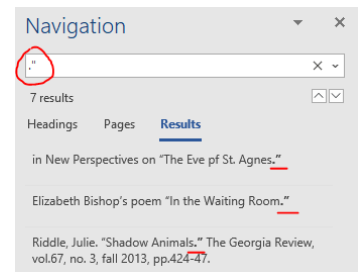
Use "quotation marks" for the titles of short-form works (e.g., poems, short histories, songs) and works contained in other works (e.g., an essay in and edited collection, an episode of a television or streaming series).

DASHES AND PARENTHESES Guiones y paréntesis (—)

Dashes and Parentheses indicate an interruption in thought. They are used to provide additional information, clarify a word or statement, or set apart other kinds of commentary from the main text.

Para encontrar el guion largo basta con juntar dos guiones cortos o puedes encontrarlo en la parte superior de la barra donde dice "Insert" y luego "Symbol":
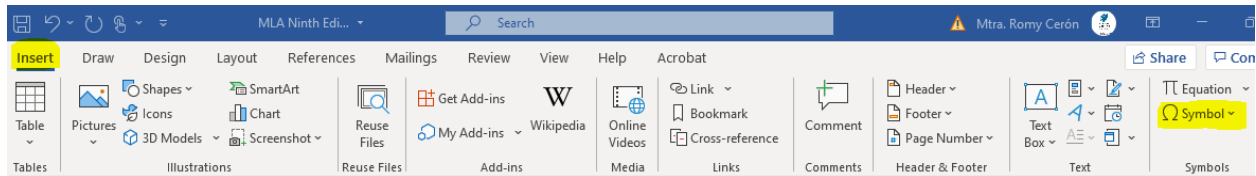
To prevent misreading

Use dashes or parentheses to set off a parenthetical element that contains a comma and that might be misread if set off with commas.

> The qualities of Corinne's character—honor, patience, and kindness—are lacking in her fellow countrywoman, the play's antagonist.

To introduce an elaboration or an example

Use a single dash before a phrase like *for example*, *that is*, or *namely* when the phrase introduces an elaboration of what was just said.

> She argues against limiting her speech to the court to only one style—for example, a formal register.
> The figure may by its insistence become performative—that is, may produce the appearance of newness.
> The play's lead had one thing on her mind—namely, making up for lost time.

HYPHENS Guiones cortos (-)

Hypens indicate the relation between words by joining two or more words. They also join prefixes to words.

When to hyphenate compound adjectives before a noun

Adverbs

A compound adjective that begins with an adverb such as *better*, *best*, *ill*, *lower*, *little*, or *well* is hyphenated when it comes before a noun.

> **ill-**prepared student
> **well-**earned applause

The same type of compound is unhyphenated when it appears after the noun it modifies.

> The flowers were well arranged.

Number-noun combinations

A compound adjective formed from a number, including an ordinal number, and a noun is hyphenated.

> fifteen-day trips
> thirteenth-century architecture

When an adjective appears before a compound adjective like *thirteenth-century*, attach it with a hyphen.

> early-thirteenth-century architecture

Hyphens with prefixes (guion corto con prefijos)

The dictionary shows that many words formed with a prefix do not use a hyphen. Here are some examples:

antiwar	overpay	semiretired
coworker	postwar	subculture
multinational	prescheduled	unambiguous
nonjudgmental	reinvigorate	underrepresented

The dictionary often shows when words formed with a prefix require a hyphen. Here are some examples:

anti-academic   **non-**biblical   **co-**occuring

APOSTROPHES

Apostrophes are used to form some plurals and to indicate possession.

Singular and plural nouns

To form the possessive of a singular noun, add an apostrophe and and *s*.

   a poem**'s** meter

To form the possessive of a plural noun ending in **-s**, add only an apostrophe.

   firefighter**s'** trucks

To form the possessive of a noun that ends in **-s** in both the singular and plural form, add an apostrophe.

   ethic**s'** contribution to philosophy (la contribución de la ética a la filosofía).

To form the possesive of an irregular plural noun not ending in -*s*, add an apostrophe and an *s*.

   women**'s** studies

Use an apostrophe to form the plurals of letter grades

   She got three **A's** this semester.

Plural abbreviations and numbers

Do not use an apostrophe to form the plural of an abbreviation or a number

PhDs
1960s
Fours
TVs

QUOTATION MARKS (comillas)

Quotation marks are used to quote from a source and to style the titles of some works.
Quotation marks can be placed around a word or phrase to indicate skepticism, disapproval, or purposeful misuse.

> A silver dome concealed the robot's "brain."
> Many "experts" offer advice on training babies to sleep on a schedule.

Use quotation marks to indicate when you have translated a foreign word or phrase. Place the translation in double quotation marks with parentheses or in single quotation marks without parentheses.

> The first idiomatic Spanish expression I learned was *irse todo en humo* ("to go up in smoke").
> The first idiomatic Spanish expression I learned was *irse todo en humo* 'to go up in smoke.'

SLASHES (diagonales)

The slash, or diagonal, is rarely necessary in formal prose, except between two nouns paired as opposites.

> Examining fundamental binaries like good/evil, East/West, and aged/young…

ITALICS IN PROSE (versalitas en el texto)

Italics are used in prose to indicate when words and letters are referred to as words and letters and to distinguish words in languages other than English.
Italicize words and phrases that are referred to as words:

> The word *albatross* probably derives from the Spanish and Portuguese word *alcatraz.*
> When scholars refer to *open access*, they could be referring to various models of publication.

Foreign Words in an English-Language Text

In general, italicize foreign words used in an English-language text.

> The Renaissance courtier was expected to display *sprezzatura*, or nonchalance, in the face of adversity.

There are exceptions to this rule include quotations in another language:

> "Julius Caesar said, 'Venid, vidi, vici'"

Non-English language titles of works like poems, short histories, and articles published within larger works, which are placed in quotation marks and not italicized ("Unidad," the title of a poem by Pablo Neruda) and proper nouns as the "Kremlin."

Citing a work listed by title

Despite and apparent decline in reading during the same period, "the number of people doing creative writing—of any genre, not exclusively literary works—increased substantially between 1982 and 2002" (*Reading* 3).

Work cited

Reading at Risk: *A survey of Literary Reading in America*. National Endowment for the Arts, June 2004.

When author and title are not enough

If two or more works by and author have the same title or if works listed by title have the same title, additional information is needed in the citations so that the reference will lead clearly to the works-cited-list entry.

Citation

The dedication is preserved in only three manuscripts (Christine, Livre [Willard and Hicks] 3-4).

Works cited

Christine de Pizan. *Le libre des trois vertus*. Translated by Liliane Dulac. Voix de femmes au
        Moyen Age, edited by Danielle Regnier-Bohler, Rober Laffont, 2006, pp. 534-698.
——. *Le livre des trois vertus.* Edited by Charity Cannon Willard and Eric Hicks, Champion,
        1989.

THE LIST OF WORKS CITED

Common abbreviations in publishers' names
If the name of an academic press contains the words *University* and *Press* or a foreign language equivalent, use the abbreviation *UP* or the equivalent in the publisher's name.

In the source   **In your entry**
Oxford University Press   Oxford **UP**
SUNY Press *or* State University of New York Press   State **U** of New York **P**

 A self -contained work: a book read in print

Author. + *Title of Source.* + Publisher, + Publication Date (Use the most recent copyright date).

Gikandi, Simon. *Ngugi wa Thiong'o*. Cambrige UP, 2000.

A self-contained work: a movie watched in a theater

Title of Source. + Contributor, + Publisher, + Publication Date.

Star Wars: The Last Jedi. Directed by Rian Johnson, Walt Disney Studios, 2017.

To document two or more works by the same author, give the author's name in the first entre only. Thereafter, in place of the name, type three em dashes (or, if using hyphens).

Borroff, Marie. *Language and the Poet: Verbal Artistry in Frost, Stevens, and Moore*. U of
    Chicago P, 1979.
———. "Sound Symbolism as Drama in the Poetry of Robert Frost." *PMLA*, vol. 107, no. 1, Jan.
    1992, pp. 131-44. *JSTOR*, https://doi.org/10.2307/462806.

In the example below, Ignacio M. Sánchez Prado is the editor of the book, not the writer of all the essays, so his name is followed by the label *editor*.

Sánchez Prado, Ignacio M., editor. *Mexican Literature in Theory*. Bloomsbury Academic, 2018.

When a work is published without and author's name, do not list the author as Anonymous. Instead, skip the Author element and begin the entry with the work's title.

Lazarillo de Tormes. Medina del Campo, 1554.

Two autors

When a source has two authors, include them in the order in which they are presented in the work. To include a label such as *editors* or *translators*, add a comma after the second author's name and add the label.

Dorris, Michael, and Louise Erdrich. *The Crown of Columbus*. HarperCollins Publishers, 1999.

Gilbert, Sandra M., and Susan Gubar, editors. *The Female Imagination and the Modernist Aesthetic*. Gordon and Breach Science Publishers, 1986.

Three or more authors

When a source has three or more authors, reverse the firs of the names as described above and follow it with a comma and the abbreviation *et al.* ("and others"). Italicize *et al.*

Charon Rita, *et al*. *The Principles and Practice of Narrative Medicine.* Oxford UP, 2017.

Alphabetize a name of an organization by the first word and do not reverse the name.

United Nations. *Consequences of Rapid Population Growth in Developing Countries*. Taylor and Francis, 1991.

Translator of a work with a primary author

Chartier, Roger. *The Order of Books*: *Readers, Authors, and Libraries in Europe between the Fourteenth and Eighteenth Centuries*. Translated by Lydia G. Cochrane, Stanford UP, 1994.

Editor of an edition of a work with a primary author

Milton, John. *Paradise Lost.* Edited by Stephen Orgel and Jonathan Goldberg, Oxford UP, 2008.

Director of a film

Point of No Return. Directed by John Badham, Warner Bros., 1993.

Organization responsible for uploading a video to a sharing site

"2016 MLA-Prize-Winning Publications." *Youtube*, uploaded by ModernLanguageAssoc, 18 jan.2017, www.youtube.com/watch?v=zKROuhFF9dU

E-books

Crystal, David. *Making a Point: The Persnickety Story of English Punctuation.* E-book ed., St. Martin's Press, 2015.

(The copyright page may include a month and a year for an e-book's publication date, but in your entry give the year only).

Journal Articles

Riddle, Julie. "Shadow Animals." *The Georgia Review*, vol.67, no. 3, fall 2013, pp.424-47.

Digitized version of the print article online:

Riddle, Julie. "Shadow Animals." *The Georgia Review*, vol.67, no. 3, fall 2013, pp.424-47. *JSTOR*, www.jstor.org/stable/43492249

News articles

Print news article:

Hunter, Marjorie. "Johnson Antipoverty Bill Approved in House, 228-190, but Foes Balk Final Vote." *The New York Times*, 8 Aug. 1964, pp.1+.

Online news article:

Hoekstra, Gordon. "Historic Opportunity to Push Forward Rights and Recognition: Assembly of First Nations." *Vancouver Sun*, 24 July 2018., vancouversun.com/news/local-news/historic-opportunity-to-push-forward-rights-and-recognition-assembly-of-first-nations.

Music

Odetta. "Sail Away, Ladies." *One Grain of Sand*, Vanguard Records, 1 Jan. 2006. *Spotify* app.