Welcome! Welcome to the inaugural issue of *The Source*, your guide to what’s new on *The MLA Style Center*. Have suggestions for a topic you want to see covered here? Tell us!

3 Changes to MLA Style You May Have Missed

If you’re reading this, you probably already know that the MLA now recommends a universal set of guidelines for citing any source and asks writers to focus on a source’s core elements—rather than its format—to create a works-cited-list entry. But what else has changed in the eighth edition of the handbook?

- Common terms in the works-cited list like *editor*, *edited by*, *translator*, and *review of* are now spelled out, to make entries more readable.
- Toward the same end, we recommend identifying issues of scholarly journals with, for instance, “vol. 64, no. 1” rather than “64.1.”
- When the title of a periodical begins with an article (*A, An, The*), the article is now treated as part of the title: the article is italicized and its first letter capitalized. For example, a works-cited entry would read “The Georgia Review” rather than “Georgia Review.”

Find out more about other changes to MLA style.
What's Wrong with *With*

You've seen it in newspapers. Maybe you've done it yourself.

With the economic crisis deepening, employers cut back on hiring.

Relying on *with* to establish the logical connection between two ideas weakens your prose. Read more about why and see alternatives to the construction.

How to Cite a Dissertation

So you've mastered documenting books and articles in the new MLA style but what about dissertations? To cite a dissertation, you'll want to include the author, title, and date of publication as core elements. The institution granting the degree is optional. Learn more about other elements you might want to include and how to treat repositories like ProQuest or CORE.