Canisius College Library MLA Citation guide

When and How do I cite a source within the text?

You need to document your source whenever you use either an idea that you paraphrase or a direct quote. In order to do this, directly after you write the quote or idea, you briefly indicate what source you used by listing the author's last name and the page number where you found the idea on (Wilcox 54). If you cited more than one work by that author, also include a shortened version of the title (Wilcox, Shifting Roles 54).

What's the Works Cited Page? And how do I make one?

The Works Cited section is a list of all of the resources you used to write your paper. It appears at the end of the paper. Each source you use should have an entry, and the entries should be alphabetized. The entire list is double spaced. The first line of each entry should be left justified, and every line of the entry afterwards should be indented 5 spaces or an inch. The basic format of an entry is as follows (be sure to note the punctuation; the title should be either underlined or italicized):

Author. Title. City of publication: Publisher, date.

The following are some examples of entries in an MLA Works Cited page. For any formats that aren't covered here, consult the MLA Handbook (available behind the single service desk in the Ready Reference collection – you can just ask the librarian). There's also a good online style guide at the University of Purdue's website here. http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/557/01/

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