What is MLA citation?
(and why do I care?)

- Good citation:
  - Enables the reader of your paper to locate the materials you used in your research (your paper was so interesting – I want to learn more!)
  - Gives credit where credit is due (who wants to spend 3 years writing a book only to have a bunch of freshmen pretend your ideas are theirs?)

- Good habits now pay off later (why drop from an “A” paper to a “B” just because you didn’t put things in the right order?)

- Why can’t I just use (noodle bib, easy bib, etc, etc, etc…)??
  (How do you know if those tools are producing correct citations if you don’t know what a correct citation should look like?)
It’s all about the spacing, baby

- MLA asks you to carefully consider several things:
  - The order of the information (first author, then title, and so on depending on what kind of material it is)
  - Punctuation and formatting (how do I know that’s the end of the title? Oh, there’s a period, ok, that’s the end.)

Authors come first and are always last name, first name. The title comes next, notice that it is all underlined and that each major word in the title is capitalized. Location of publisher: Name of Publisher, date. Notice that every line but the first is indented and the whole citation is double spaced.
Library Database articles
(InfoTrac OneFile and others)

- What kind of article do you have – magazine, journal or newspaper?
- Citation is different for each kind of article
- Journals
  - There are two different types, those that paginate continuously and those that paginate separately
    - Continuous pagination is when the pages of the first issue of a journal go from 1-62 (for example) and the next issue starts with page 63.
    - Separate pagination is when the page numbers start over with page 1 for each issue of the volume. With separate pagination the issue number needs to be included after a period after the volume number, e.g., 45.2.
First you cite the article...


First comes the author, last name, first name. 

Next comes the article title in quotation marks, again the major words are capitalized. 

Then comes the name of the magazine (also called the source), this is underlined. 

After the source is the date of publication, which MLA wants in Day Month Year format. Some articles will only have the month and the year, that’s fine, you can only put what you’ve got. 

The last element of the article is the page number(s). If you don’t know what page the article ends on, put a “+” after the page number.
Then you cite the database


Library who gave you access is Genesee Com. Coll. Lib., NY.

Company who makes the database is Thomson Gale.

Access date is the date you accessed the article in Day Month Year format.

The basic URL for the database is <http://infotrac.galegroup.com>.
Wickens, Barbara. "Seeing Pet Abuse as a Warning."
