

## How to cite primary and secondary sources/information about the works cited page

When directly quoting, referencing or summarizing a primary text you will need to cite the text in the body of your paper. There are specific conventions for citing classical works. Ancient authors and works are abbreviated and then referenced by book number and/or section/paragraph number or line number. Whether you will be referencing a book, section or line number depends on the author.

Examples of primary sources would be (but are not limited to): Homer, Hesiod, Pindar, and Seneca.

If you quote or reference a primary source in your paper, the source should be cited using in-text parenthetical citations. The name of the author (e.g. Homer) and the specific work (e.g. *Iliad* or *Odyssey*) are abbreviated.

Here are some examples of how authors and works are abbreviated (you will find a comprehensive list for the abbreviations of ancient authors and their works below):

Homer = Hom.            *Iliad* = *Id.* / *Odyssey* = *Od.* (example: (Hom. *Od.* 9.25-34)).

If only one work by an author survives, you do not need to reference the name of the work. For example, Livy has written 142 books chronicling the history of Rome. But we organize these books by book number; he has not written a book of poetry, and therefore a book and section number suffice for citations.

However, many ancient writers wrote more than one work, so you will often need to indicate in which book/work you found your material.

If you cite poetry, then you would cite the name of work (*Iliad*, *Odyssey* in the case of Homer/*Works and Days* and *Theogony* in the case of Hesiod) and the line numbers.

Here is a complete list of standard abbreviations for citing classical works in in-text citations (you have to copy and paste the web address; it is not a link):

<http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/abbrevhelp>

All primary sources should be cited as in-text parenthetical citations. All secondary sources should be cited as in-text citations in MLA format. Here is a website where you can find information on in-text citations for MLA format (you have to copy and paste the web address; it is not a link):

<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/02/>

Here is a website for how to create a works cited page in MLA format (you have to copy and paste the web address; it is not a link):

<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/05/>

When you go to this link you will see a menu on the left side of the screen. You will see listed all sorts of variables that one encounters when creating a works cited page.