

A Note on Accepted Styles for NHD Projects

The two accepted styles for citations and bibliographies in NHD projects are:

1. Kate L. Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*
2. *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*

Whichever style students choose to use, it is important that they remain consistent with that style throughout their NHD project and bibliography. It is also important that they remain consistent to whichever *edition* of that style they are using. While the NHD Rule Book indicates the 5th edition of the MLA guide, students are allowed to use the 5th edition and any edition coming after it (6th and 7th). However, they must be consistent and only use one edition.

Changes in MLA's New 7th edition

It has been brought to our attention that some of the changes in the new 7th edition of the MLA handbook, published in 2009, are quite different from previous editions; which could cause confusion for students, teachers and judges. A few examples of these changes include:

- URLs are no longer required for citations of web sources
- For each citation, it is required to indicate what type of source it is by placing the medium of publication at the end of the citation; "Print," "Web," "Film," "Personal Interview," etc.

There is a good website that highlights the main points of the new MLA 7th edition: <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>.

What this Means for Judging

It is ***crucial*** that judges are also informed of these changes; otherwise they may penalize a student without realizing that the student is simply following the newest MLA guidelines. However, judges should be most concerned with looking for consistency within the projects and bibliographies.

It is also important to emphasize that students can still use the Turabian style (which is preferred by historians). They do not have to use the new MLA guide.