

Citing Non-library Sources: Add This Information to Your Bag of Tricks!

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Those of you working on research papers for any class will more than likely have to integrate information from sources *beyond* books, magazines, and journals (commonly referred to as **library** sources because the library's where they're found!). Sources found *beyond* the library, however, include a wide variety of information, such as different forms of online documentation, personal interviews, pamphlets/bulletins, and surveys/questionnaires; these types of sources are often called **non-library** sources because they reflect active, "field" research and often produce information that can't be found in libraries). When citing **non-library** information on a works cited page using MLA style, many handbooks may not provide adequate examples; therefore, we have created the following sampling of how to cite the more common **non-library** sources. Should you have inquiries that extend beyond the content of this handout, *The Scott, Foresman Handbook for Writers* is an excellent, thorough source of documentation information (you'll find copies of it at the Writers Lab).

Online Documentation

There are so many forms of online documentation that it would be difficult to list them all here. *The Scott, Foresman Handbook* (6th edition) includes thorough listing beginning on page 722 (the blue section). In addition, you may find samples of this kind of documentation on other handouts available at the Writers Lab and its website (<http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/acen/writerslab>).

Personal Interview

Format: Last name, First name of person interviewed. Personal interview. Date of interview.

Example: Ribeau, Sidney. Personal interview. 4 May 2002.

Pamphlet/Bulletin

Format*: Last name, First name, ed. (if there is an editor) Title of publication. Place of publication:

Publisher, year of publication. * Treat pamphlets as if they were books.

Example: The Study Skills Lab. Bowling Green State University. Bowling Green: Academic

Enhancement, 1997.

Survey/Questionnaire

Format: Last name, First name of surveyor. Title of survey. [description of survey]. Unpublished raw

data, date of survey.

Example: Doe, John. BGSU survey. [parking issues]. Unpublished raw data, 12 December 1999.

Note: The Scott, Foresman Handbook is also an excellent source for citing other "odd" sources of information (such as speeches, television shows, movies, artwork, etc.). Check it out!

