

Documenting Electronic Sources: Where to Find Information for a Works Cited Page

You have to cite an article from a webpage, but you're not sure where to find the information needed for the works cited page entry. This handout will give you advice that will help you find the information you're looking for.

What information from the electronic publication do you usually need for a works cited entry? The answer to this question really depends on what type of publication it is and how much information you can find. For most short works in electronic form, you'll need


1. The author of the article, poem, short story, or similar work
2. The title of the article, poem, short story, or similar short work
3. The name of the editor, compiler, or translator
4. The name of the Internet site
5. The date of publication or last update
6. If there is one, the name of the subscription service, database, library or subscriber, and geographic location (i.e., city and state) of the subscriber
7. The name of the institution or organization sponsoring the site
8. The date when you accessed the site
9. The URL of the site.

Sometimes the location of this information is clearly visible to the viewer, and sometimes, it is not.

Here are a few tips that will help you find each type of information.

1. The **author** may be found at the top of the page after the title. The preposition "by" may precede the author's name.

Address <http://www.canhelp.com/articles/>

CANHELP[®] 
The Worldwide Cancer Information and Referral Service
Est. 1983

**The American
Cancer Society
Means Well,
but the
Janker Clinic
Means Better**

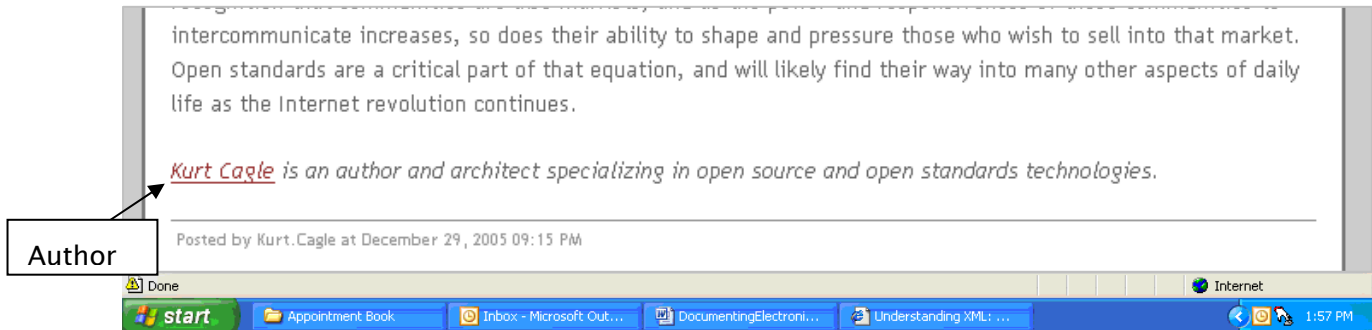
by Patrick M. McGrady Jr. ← **Author, listed
after the title**

Concerning Bonn, Germany, travel writer Temple Fielding says he'll take downtown Detroit anytime. You visit Bonn, like Detroit, only on business, unless you happen to be a Beethoven nut, or unless you happen to have cancer.

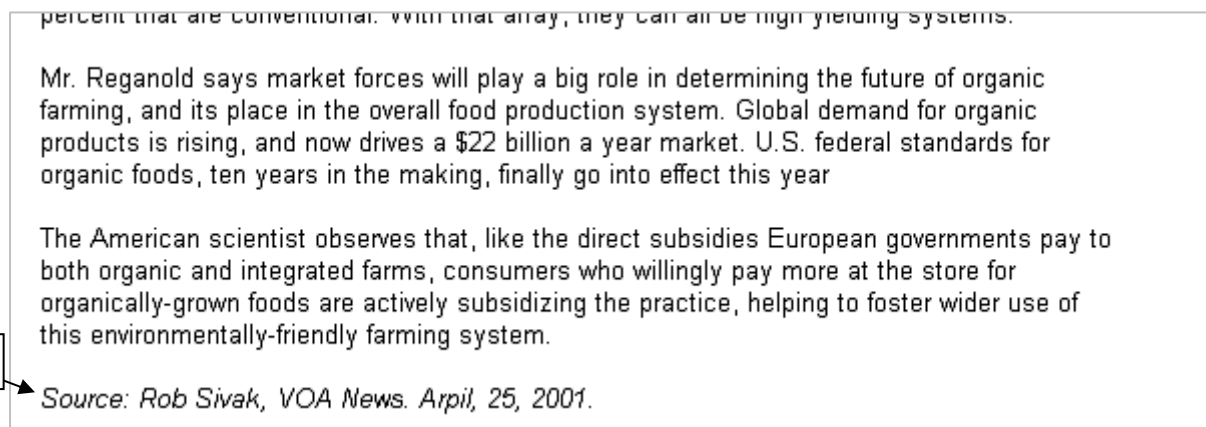
In this corrosively frumpy city (population 300,000) is one of the world's least known and most interesting cancer hospitals, the Janker (pronounced Yahnker) Radiation Clinic. It consistently gets better results with its inoperable patients than university hospitals do with many of their operables. And the day my doctor does a double take over the X rays of my lumpy whatever and tenderly inquires if my life insurance

In the example above, the author, Patrick M. McGrady, Jr., is listed after the article’s title. Notice that the word “by” signals that McGrady is the author.

Sometimes, the author’s name may be posted at the end of the page or after the text. Here the author is identified in a sentence after the article.

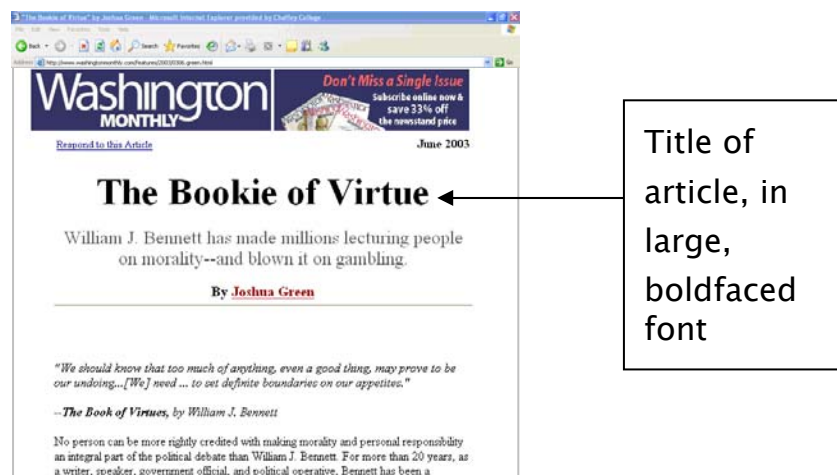


In this next example, the author is indicated as the “source” of the information after the text.



Remember, if you can’t find the author’s name at the top of the page, check the bottom. If there is no specific author listed anywhere, skip it, and look for the title of the work.

2. The **title** of the article, poem, short story, or similar short work is usually found at the top of the page. Sometimes, the title may be enclosed in quotation marks, italicized, or boldfaced on the webpage. The title may also be in larger font or in a color different from the text.



Banners (advertisements) and other tool bars may precede the title and may make it difficult to find the title.

The screenshot shows a search results page for 'Teaching medical gerontology in Europe'. Annotations on the left side of the image point to various elements:

- Website name:** LookSmart FIND ARTICLES | 10,000,000 Articles
- Banner:** GO! get more health benefits with everyday discounts
- Search tool bars:** Search input field with 'article: gerontology' and filters like 'free articles only'.
- Title, boldfaced:** Teaching medical gerontology in Europe
- Article:** The very old comprise the fastest growing population group in all European countries and declining birth rates are causing an even greater increase in the proportion of old people in the population.

Remember that the title is usually located before the text starts.

3. If there is an **editor, compiler, or translator**, he or she may be found at the beginning or end of the text. The editor, compiler, or translator will be indicated by his or her title.

I want to be and I am
the rock thrown at a live target,
the rock's sharp edge
that stays faithful to rock,
having chosen the rock,
believing in rock,
in the rock where I found myself.

If only you'd let go,
why do you keep
holding the rock inside
your waiting fist?

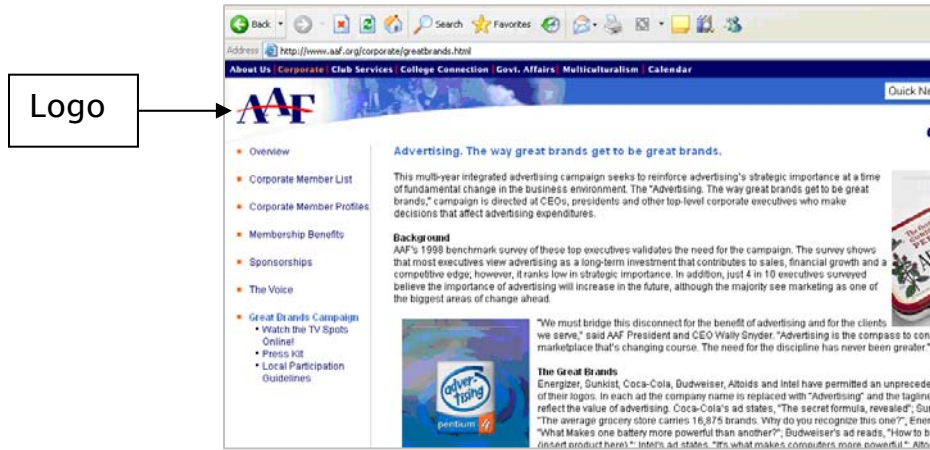
If you'd let go,
why wait,
with the rock raised,
like David before Goliath?
What are you waiting for?
Braid the sling out of my hair,
whirr it high above your head;
fire away,
let me go!

Translated by Vyt Bakaitis

Notice that the poem by Liūnė Sutema is translated by Vyt Bakaitis. On this webpage, the translator is located at the end of the poem. He or she may also be found after the poet's name or poem's title.

4. The **name of the website** may be found at the top of the webpage, on the home or about page, or underneath the website's logo.

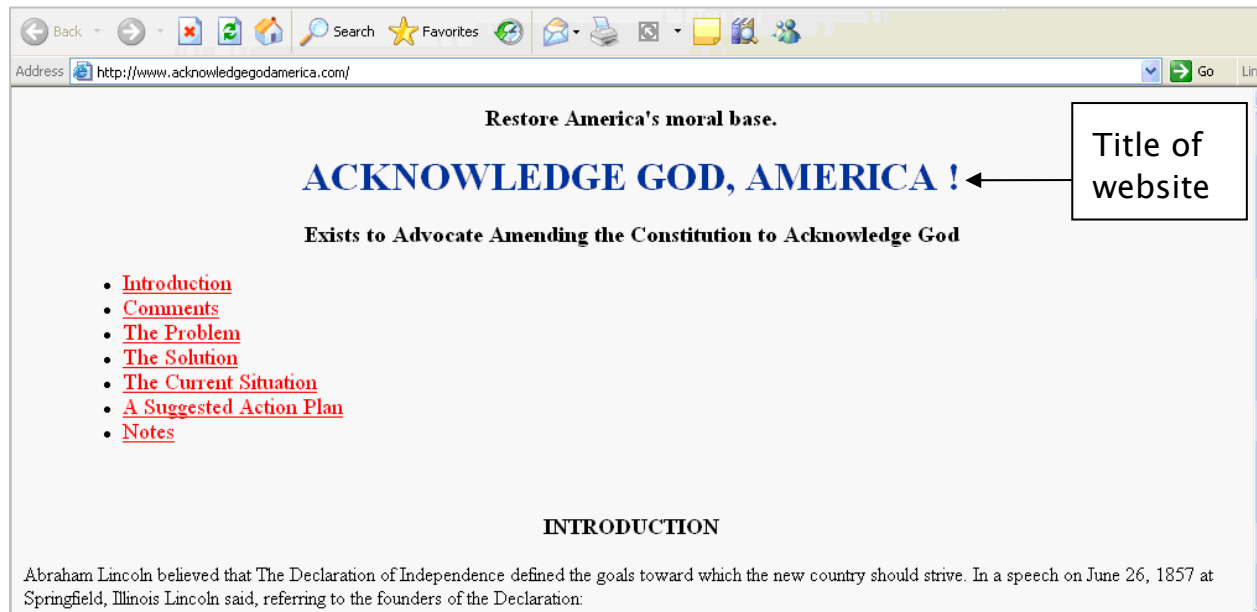
Notice the logo in the upper left corner of the webpage below.



Clicking on the logo takes the reader to the home page, which shows the reader the name of the website. The name appears underneath the logo: American Advertising Federation.



Sometimes the name of a website is found at the top of the home page as shown in the example below.

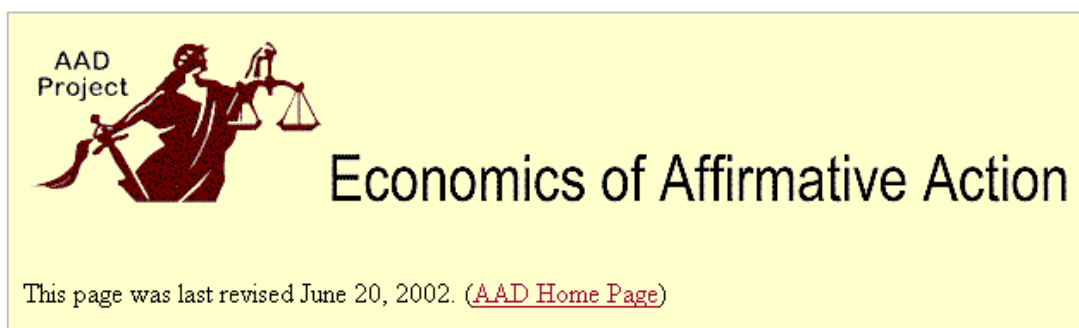


5. The **date of publication or the date of last update** may be found at the top or bottom of the webpage.

Below, the date of the press release is located after the title of the text.



Sometimes, the phrase “last revised” may signal when the page was last updated.



If no specific date is listed at the top or bottom of the page, you may want to indicate the copyright date, which is usually located at the bottom of the page.



- If the source is provided by an **online subscription service**, you should include the periodical information as well as the name of the **database, subscription service, library or subscriber, and geographic location** (i.e., city and state) of the subscriber.

The periodical information may be found at the top of the page.

INFO TRAC

- Help - Article
- Dictionary
- Title List
- Print
- Mark
- View mark list
- Back to ...
- Citations
- Search

Name of periodical: Arena Magazine

Year of Publication: Oct-Nov 2005

Name of database: Expanded Academic ASAP

Page Numbers: p20(1)

Title of article: Taking liberties. (arrest and deportation of American peace activist Scott Parkin in australia) Alice Coster.

Author: Alice Coster

Name of subscription service: Chaffey College

Full Text: COPYRIGHT 2005 Publications Pty. Ltd.

This is not a police state; we have the right to demonstrate ... or do we? This is the question we must ask ourselves following the arrest and deportation of American peace activist Scott Parkin. What happened to Parkin may be only

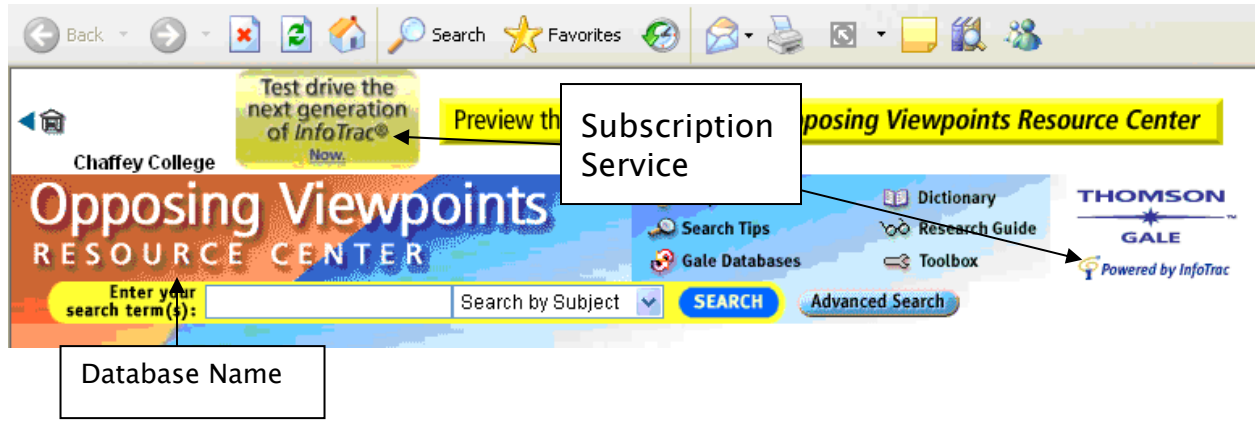
Finding the name of the database is fairly simple. Most of the time, it is the link you clicked before entering the database itself. Go back to the page that lists the subscriber's databases. At Chaffey College, it is this page:

The screenshot shows the Chaffey College Library website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home Menu, Sign Out, Keyword Search, Browse, Advanced Search, and Help. Below this is a search bar with a search button and a reset button. The main content area is titled "Chaffey College Library" and contains a list of databases under the heading "Alphabetical Listing of Direct Links to Databases". The list includes various databases such as Academic Search Premier, AccessScience, and many others. A callout box labeled "Name of subscriber" points to the "Chaffey College Library" header. Another callout box labeled "List of databases" points to the list of database titles.

You should also be able to find the database name on the page of the article or text. This should be located at the top of the page.

The screenshot shows the Business & Company Resource Center website. At the top, there is a banner for "Business & Company RESOURCE CENTER" with a search bar and a search button. Below this is a section titled "Additional Search Options" with four icons: Company, Industry, Articles, and Advanced Search. A callout box labeled "Name of database" points to the "Business & Company" text in the banner. Another callout box labeled "Name of subscription service" points to the "Powered by InfoTrac" logo in the top right corner.

The subscription service provides the database. You can also locate it on the database's main page.



The subscriber or library is the institute or organization that is paying for the subscription services, such as Chaffey College Library, which is located in Rancho Cucamonga, CA. For more help on citing subscription services, use the Subscription Services – Works Cited Samples handout.

7. The **site sponsor** may be an institution or organization other than the author that publishes the website. Sometimes the site sponsor may be found on the home page or about page.

Below is the top frame of the home page for the website Ad*Access.



Duke University publishes Ad*Access. The university's information is located at the bottom of the website's home page in the example below.

In the next website, the name of the site sponsor, the University of Virginia, is located in the first line of text in the article, which is on the home page.

Democracy in America:
Tocqueville's America

Site sponsor

Logo

Everyday Life
American Religion
American Women

Tocqueville's America is another project of the [American Studies Programs at The University of Virginia](#). In this project we take up the task of re-contextualizing Alexis de Tocqueville's famous political and cultural analysis of American democracy. Our objective is, over time, to return that book -- arguably still one of the most influential works in political thought -- to its origins, to the America of 1831-32. For it was on that very specific ground and at that very specific historical moment that Tocqueville stood.

Another way to determine the site sponsor of this website is to click on the logo in the upper left corner. Doing this brings you to the home page of the American Studies Program at The University of Virginia, which indicates that the site is maintained by the university.

AMERICAN STUDIES
at the University of Virginia

"We DO American Studies"

Site Sponsor

Search AS@UVA

SERVICES

What's New?
Programs

Even by looking at the URL, you can tell that the site is sponsored by an educational institution: http://xroads.virginia.edu/~HYPER/DETOC/toc_intro.html. Notice the "edu" domain.

8. The **date of access** is basically the day that you viewed the text. Write down the date in your research notes or cards right away so you don't forget. If you print out the text, the date will usually appear in the lower right corner of the printout.

Maria Arvelo, 31, thinks she's pinpointed the reason for being more than \$130,000 in debt with credit cards, doctors' bills, and, student loans. Arvelo, director of development at Fort Valley State University in Fort Valley, Georgia, attended private and out-of-state institutions for higher learning such as Saint Augustine's College in Raleigh, North Carolina; Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia; and Clark Atlanta University, where she's earning her doctorate. At those colleges, she was targeted with credit card offers she gladly accepted.

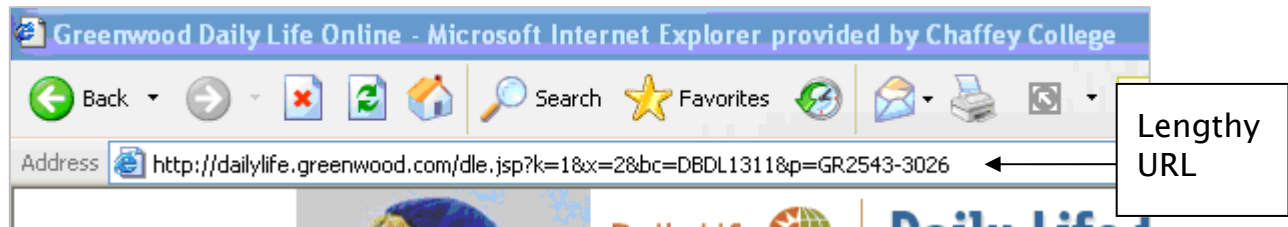
http://web7.infotrac.galegroup.com/itw/infomark/437/887/86788509w7?url=rc1_EAIM... 6/14/06

Date of access

9. The **URL** can be found in the Address box.



Lengthy URLs are inconvenient to retype and can cause errors when duplicated.



Instead, give the site's search page or home page address: <http://dailylife.greenwood.com>.

Now that you've found the publication information for your electronic source, put it in a works cited entry. For more help on works cited entries, use the MLA Documentation – Works Cited/In-text handout. Documentation websites such as Noodletools (<http://www.noodletools.com/quickcite/>) and Landmarks Citation Machine (<http://citationmachine.net/>) can also help you with works cited entries.