



# Formatting Titles

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In MLA Style, some titles of works appear in italics while others appear between quotation marks. Use **italics** to indicate titles of **longer works**, such as novels, books, long poems, periodicals, and Web sites. Use **quotation marks** to indicate titles of **shorter works**, such as short stories, sections of books,

short poems, essays, and articles. Use italics or quotation marks consistently throughout your essay, including the body and the page of Works Cited. Capitalize all words, except for **articles** (the, a, an), **conjunctions** (and, but, or, etc.), and **prepositions** (of, in, to, etc.) in the middle of titles.

## Italics

Use **italics** to indicate titles of **longer works**

## Quotation Marks

Use **quotation marks** to indicate titles of **shorter works**

### novels

Margaret Atwood, *The Edible Woman*  
James Joyce, *Ulysses*  
Thomas King, *Green Grass, Running Water*  
Alice Walker, *The Colour Purple*

### short stories

Charlotte Perkins Gilman, "The Yellow Wallpaper"  
James Joyce, "Araby"  
Rohinton Mistry, "Squatter"  
Alice Munro, "Friend of My Youth"

### books (e.g., collections, anthologies)

*The Broadview Introduction to Literature: Short Fiction*  
*The Penguin Dictionary of Literary Terms and Literary Theory*  
*A Method for Writing Essays About Literature*  
*The MLA Handbook*

### sections of books (e.g., chapters, works in an anthology)

"The Study of Literature"  
"dramatic monologue"  
"Chapter 1: Audience and the Literary Analysis Essay"  
"Part 1: Principles of MLA Style"

### long poems

Dionne Brand, *thirsty*  
Lord Byron, *Don Juan*  
John Milton, *Paradise Lost*  
William Wordsworth, *The Prelude*

### short poems

Lillian Allen, "One Poem Town"  
Marilyn Dumont, "The White Judges"  
Gregory Scofield, "Women Who Forgot the Taste of Limes"  
William Carlos Williams, "The Red Wheelbarrow"

### periodicals

*Canadian Poetry: Studies, Documents, Reviews*  
*English Studies in Canada*  
*The Guardian*  
*The New York Times*

### essays

"F.R. Scott and the Rewriting of 'O Canada'"  
"Mordecai Richler and the Jewish-Canadian Novel"  
"The Imagist Impulse in the Poetry of Marianne Moore"  
"Internal Conflict in James Joyce's 'Araby'"

### Web sites

*The Canadian Encyclopedia*  
*The CBC Archives*  
*Poetry Foundation*  
*Project Gutenberg*

### articles

"Alberta Clipper"  
"Margaret Atwood: Queen of CanLit"  
"Poetry and Social Justice"  
"A Note on Jonathan Swift"