In-text Citations - MLA

To credit your sources you need to include in-text citations (parenthetical citations) in your paper, power point, or report.

- in-text citations appear within the body of your paper
- include an in-text citation anytime you refer to, paraphrase, summarize or quote a source
- all sources you provide an in-text citations for should also appear on your Works Cited page at the end of your paper
- in-text citations appear in parentheses at the end of a sentence to credit the source you have used
- an in-text citation includes the author's last name followed by the page number – (Bell 9)
  - if the source does not have a page number you will just provide the author
  - if the author is unknown you will instead provide the title of the source.
    - book titles are *italicized* followed by the page number – (*Twilight* 50)
    - articles are put in "quotations" followed by the page number – ("Art in Vogue" 55)
  - if you are using more than one source from the same author, in order to distinguish you will use the titles instead of the author's last name for the in-text citations.
- If you are citing the same source several times consecutively, after the first in-text citation you then only need to include the page number in parentheses. The reader will assume it is from the source you last cited. Once you cite a different source you then will have to include the full in-text citation (author and page number) for the first source if you cite it again later on in your paper.
- your in-text citation parentheses should be *after* your quotation marks if quoting a source, and *inside* the period at the end of the sentence
  - for example: "Bla bla bla bla bla" (Smith 88).
- If you use your own words (*paraphrase* from a source, you still need to provide an in-text citation for that information, however you do not need to use quotation marks.
  - For example: These are my own words I have paraphrased (Smith 42-43).
- If you are quoting a source and your quote is more than four lines long, this quote will be its own indented block of text in your paper. Start the quote on its own line and indent it away from the left margin. Since it is set away from the rest of the text you do not need quotation marks around it. At the end of the quote, *outside* of the period, provide the in-text citation.