



MLA Citation Style Guide for Japanese Resources

Romanization:

This guide uses the Modified (a.k.a. Revised) Hepburn Romanization system. Visit http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hepburn_romanization for more information on Modified Hepburn Romanization. Points to keep in mind:

- The phoneme ん is to be transliterated as ‘n’ and not as ‘m’.
e.g., 新聞 becomes *shinbun*, not *shimbun*
- Indicate long vowels with macrons rather than circumflex accents when possible.
e.g., 能楽 becomes *nōgaku*, not *nôgaku* or *nougaku*
- Use apostrophes to reduce phonetic ambiguity when necessary.
e.g., 簡易 becomes *kan'i* (かんい “simple”), not *kani* (かに “crab”)

Some UBC classes and external publications may implement a different Romanization scheme. Please make sure to check on the Romanization system required by your instructor or department before creating your citations.

General Formatting Rules:

This guide follows the general citation format and rules of the [Modern Language Association](#). For more detailed formatting please refer to the latest edition of the guide.

Specific Formatting Rules:

Incorporate Japanese script into citations after English Romanization by placing each element after its English Romanization, separated by one space. Take care to use English-font spaces rather than Japanese-font space, which are longer:

- Correct: Murakami Haruki 村上春樹
Incorrect: Murakami Haruki 村上春樹

Romanize the names of authors, directors, editors, translators, and publishers, as well as the title of the work. The place of publication does not need to be Romanized (e.g. Tokyo). Romanized titles follow sentence style capitalization (i.e., only the first letter of the first word is capitalized). The date of publication should be given as a Gregorian year (1997, rather than Heisei 9).

Japanese family names (last names) precede personal names. Include macrons in Japanese names with long vowels. A common practice is to format family names in small caps (e.g. SŌSEKI Natsume). This guide reflects this practice for the purpose of clarity, however, it is important to consult with your instructor or publisher about this option. If a Japanese name consists of only one character, it is helpful to separate it from the rest of the name by one space (e.g., 黒沢 明).

If a Japanese punctuation mark appears in a title, consistently substitute an equivalent mark used in English (e.g., ・ and — become a colon). If providing the translation of a title, place it in square brackets after the Japanese script. Official translations (that appear within the work

itself) are italicized when appropriate, while personal translations are not italicized and follow sentence style capitalization.

For general guidance on in-text citations, please refer to the APA guide linked above. When introducing a Japanese author or work for the first time, present the name or translation first, immediately followed by the Japanese and Romanization in parentheses.

- In the novel *Black Rain* (黒い雨 *Kuroi Ame*) by Ibuse Masuji (井伏鱒二)...

These guidelines are meant to be a starting point for handling Japanese script in your academic writing. When citing types of materials that do not appear in this list, try to extrapolate based on the [Modern Language Association](#) guide and the examples below. Most importantly, always consult closely with your instructor.

Books & Book Sections

a) *Book*

ISHIKAWA, Eikichi 石川栄吉. *Nihonjin no Oseania hakken* 日本人のオセアニア発見. Tokyo: Heibonsha 平凡社, 1992. Print.

b) *Electronic Book*

HIDA, Norio 飛田範夫. *Nihon teien no shokusaishi* 日本庭園の植栽史. Kyoto: Kyoto University Press 京都大学学術出版会, 2004. PDF e-book.

c) *Edited Book or Anthology*

KIKKAWA, Eishi 吉川英史, ed. *Nihon ongaku bunkashi* 日本音楽文化史. Osaka: Sōgensha 創元社, 1989. Print.

d) *Chapter in a Book, or Work in an Anthology, Reference, or Collection*

YOSHIDA, Chiaki 吉田千秋. "Vācharu jidai no riaritī mondai" ヴァーチャル時代のリアリティ問題. *Bunka to fūdo no shosō* 文化と風土の諸相. Eds. SUENAGA Yutaka 末永豊, and TSUDA Masao 津田雅夫. Kyoto: Bunrikaku 文理閣, 2010. 3–20. Print.

e) *Translated Book*

Austen, Jane. *Pride and Prejudice* 自負と偏見. Trans. NAKANO Yoshio 中野好夫. Tokyo: Shinchosha 新潮社, 1997. Print.

Journal Articles

a) *Journal Article: 1 author*

AKATSU, Tsuneyuki 吾勝常行. “Shinshū hōza no ichi kōsatsu” 真宗法座の一考察.

Ryūkoku daigaku ronshū 龍谷大學論集 476 (2010): 1–21. Web.

b) *Journal Article: 2+ authors*

KONISHI, Izumi 小西いずみ, and INOUE Masaru 井上優. “Toyama-ken Gosei chihō ni

okeru sonkeigata: -teya” 富山県呉西地方における尊敬形: ～テヤ [On the

Honorific Form -teya in the Gosei Area of Toyama Prefecture]. *Nihongo no*

kenkyū 日本語の研究 9.3 (2013): 33–47. Print.

Webpage

“Amanohashidate Kōen (Fūchi Kōen) 天橋立公園 (風致公園).” *Kyōto-fu hōmupēji*

京都府ホームページ [*Kyoto Prefecture Website*]. *Kyoto-fu Kōhōka* 京都府広報

課, n.d. Web. 28 Jan. 2014. <<http://www.pref.kyoto.jp/koen-annai/ama.html>>

Note: MLA no longer requires URLs in a list of works cited. However, they should still be included when required by an instructor. Place URLs within angle brackets, and only break lines only after a forward slash.

Film

Ikiru 生きる. Dir. KUROSAWA Akira 黒澤明. Toho 東宝, 1952. DVD.