

biblatex-mla

MLA Style Using Biblatex

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1 Version Note

This beta update is for testing compatibility with the 8th edition of the *MLA Handbook*, published April 2016. This current version supports both the old edition (by using `style=mla` in the preamble) and the newer edition (using `style=mla-new`); an upcoming version of `biblatex-mla` will deprecate support for the 7th edition in favor of the 8th. See § 3 for more on switching between editions.

2 Introduction

`Biblatex-mla` provides support to `Biblatex`, `BibTeX`, and `LaTeX` for citations and Works Cited lists in the style established by the Modern Language Association (MLA). For commands and options to change package defaults, see § 3.1 and § 3.2, respectively, below.

MLA style, a common standard for writers in the humanities, is outlined in the *MLA Style Manual*, in its 3rd edition, and the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, now in its 8th edition. `Biblatex-mla` follows the style outlined in the latter of these. It also follows the logic of the MLA when citing similar material repeatedly, trimming unnecessary information from citations where necessary. `Biblatex-mla` is compatible with `Biblatex`'s support for `hyperref` and `tex4ht`, and the main word in each citation (either the author's name, the title, or the page number) serves as a link to the particular entry in the Works Cited. For anything not covered by this manual, please also see the `Biblatex` documentation or contact me by email.

3 Use

To ensure American-style quotation marks (if that’s your thing),¹ you need to call the `babel` and `csquotes` packages in the preamble of your LaTeX document:

```
\usepackage[american]{babel}
\usepackage{csquotes}
\usepackage[style=mla-new]{biblatex}
\addbibresource{<bibfile.bib>}
```

To use the style called for by the previous (7th) edition of the *MLA Handbook*, drop the “new” from the third line:

```
\usepackage[american]{babel}
\usepackage{csquotes}
\usepackage[style=mla]{biblatex}
\addbibresource{<bibfile.bib>}
```

Replace “<bibfile.bib>” with the name of your .bib bibliography file. The style (provisionally) supports footnote citations with the **autocite=footnote** package option. Some of the other options supported by `biblatex-mla` include **firstlonghand**, **mladraft**, **annotation**, **noremoteinfo**, **nofullfootnote**, **publmedium**, and **guessmedium**, all discussed in § 3.2.

3.1 Citation commands

The standard commands for `biblatex-mla` generally follow those defined by `Biblatex`. Included below are the most typical commands. For more commands and options, reference the `Biblatex` manual.

\autocite Insert a citation. This is the most common command for citing in `biblatex-mla`, and it defaults to printing a parenthetical citation. See table 1 for examples. For best results, use the command before punctuation like this:

```
\autocite{x}.
```

In the following example, `x` represents the bibkey of the particular bibliographic entry being cited. Insert page numbers and citational prenotes using square braces:

```
\autocite[z][y]{x}
```

Here, `y` is the page number, and `z` is the prenote (such as “qtd. in”). If indicating a prenote but no page number, you must include an empty set for the page number:

¹Other localization files, `mla-spanish.lbx`, `mla-portuguese.lbx`, and `mla-italian.lbx`, are also available to use `biblatex-mla` in languages other than English. These and other localization files are included in `biblatex-mla` releases, but they will not always be the latest versions available. Updated and new localization files will be kept on GitHub (<<https://github.com/jmclawson/biblatex-mla/>>) once they are ready. There is also support for proper punctuation in non-American dialects of English. Try **british**, **canadian**, or other Babel identifiers, such as **spanish**.

`\autocite[z][]{x}`

When citing a page number without any prenote, only one set of square brackets is needed:

`\autocite[y]{x}`

`\autocite*` Suppress the author's name in a citation. See table 1 for examples. Use this starred variant of the above command when indicating the author's name in the sentence calling the citation.

`\autocites` Insert a citation for multiple sources at once. The respective citations will be printed separated by semicolons.

`\autocites[z1][y1]{x1}[z2][y2]{x2}[z3][y3]{x3}`

The curled braces always indicate the bibkey, and the squared braces respectively belong to the curly braces that follow them.

`\cite` Insert a citation without parentheses.

`\cite*` Insert a citation without parentheses and without the author's name.

`\headlesscite` Suppress the author's name in a citation. This command is an alias to `\autocite*` to make it easier to use `biblatex-mla` with `biblatex-chicago`.

`\textcite` Print a citation without parentheses. This command may be useful in certain circumstances, such as a citation that must come within a parenthetical aside.

`\mancite` Reset most trackers that shorten subsequent citations. See table 1 for an example. If `biblatex-mla` is getting so ambitious in shortening subsequent citations that it leads to ambiguity, use this command before the ambiguous citation.

`\citereset` Reset all citation trackers for `biblatex-mla`.

`\printbibliography` Insert the list of Works Cited.

3.2 Package Options

`Biblatex-mla` defaults to the recommendations established by the MLA, but there may be times when it is appropriate to change some of these options for publication or other uses. Package options change the default functionality of `biblatex-mla`.

`autocite=footnote` Using `\autocite` with `biblatex-mla` defaults to MLA-preferred inline, parenthetical citations. To style citations as footnotes, set the `autocite=footnote` option in your preamble:

`\usepackage[style=mla,autocite=footnote]{biblatex}`

Input	Output	Comment
<code>\autocite[12]{morrison02aa}</code>	(Morrison 12)	A typical citation includes everything necessary.
<code>\autocite[34]{morrison02aa}</code>	(34)	Immediately subsequent citations to the same source shorten the citation by dropping redundant information.
<code>\autocite{morrison02aa}</code>	(Morrison)	Immediately subsequent citations lacking page reference add back information to show a citation.
<code>\autocite[12]{frye57ab}</code>	(Frye, <i>Sound and Poetry</i> 12)	A citation to a text by an author with multiple works cited also includes a short title.
<code>\autocite[34]{frye57ab}</code>	(34)	Subsequent immediate citations to the same source shorten the citation as much as possible.
<code>\autocite[56]{frye91aa}</code>	(<i>Double Vision</i> 56)	Citations to a new source by the same author omit the repetition of the author's name.
<code>\autocite[101]{morrison02aa}</code>	(Morrison 101)	A citation interrupting those by Frye will reset the trackers.
<code>\autocite[78]{frye91aa}</code>	(Frye, <i>Double Vision</i> 78)	With a reset author tracker, the citation includes all necessary information.
<code>\autocite*[102]{morrison02aa}</code>	(102)	The asterisked version suppresses the author's name—useful when the author is named in the sentence.
<code>\autocite*[91]{frye57ab}</code>	(<i>Sound and Poetry</i> 91)	Suppressing the name of a prolific author will still print the short title to avoid ambiguity.
<code>\autocite*{morrison02aa}</code>	(<i>Sula</i>)	Suppressing the author's name without page numbers given will print the title of the work.
<code>\mancite \autocite[34]{morrison02aa}</code>	(Morrison 34)	Resetting the author tracker makes sure that the author's name is always printed—useful to avoid ambiguity.

Table 1: Syntax and output showing effects of citation trackers, starred variants, and manual resets with typical citations using `biblatex-mla`

firstlonghand The first citation of a source with a shorthand defined will always print a citation with author’s name and, potentially, the `shorttitle` field. (For more on this field, see section § 4.1, below.) Add **firstlonghand=false** to your preamble to disable this option and print only the shorthand even on the first citation:

```
\usepackage[style=mla,firstlonghand=false]{biblatex}
```

nofullfootnote When using `biblatex-mla` for footnotes, the style file will provide full bibliographic detail for the first citation of every source. To turn off this option, add to your preamble **nofullfootnote**:

```
\usepackage[style=mla,autocite=footnote,nofullfootnote]{biblatex}
```

annotation It is possible to print annotations to entries in the Works Cited if the **annotation** field is defined in an entry. To turn on this option, add **annotation=true** to your preamble:

```
\usepackage[style=mla,annotation=true]{biblatex}
```

mladraft When using MLA parenthetical citations, it is best practice to cite only when necessary to avoid ambiguity. `Biblatex-mla` can flag consecutive citations to the same page range, allowing you to defer citations to the end. In draft mode, `biblatex-mla` will place a clover (♣) in the margin, along with a single footnote explanation. To use the tool outside of draft mode, set the **mladraft** option in your preamble to true; similarly, to avoid seeing these clovers and the footnote in draft mode, set the option to false:

```
\usepackage[style=mla,mladraft=true]{biblatex}
```

noreMOTEinfo Modeled after the implementation in `biblatex-apa` to suppress remote information in the `.bib` file from being printed in the bibliography, this option affects `isbn`, `issn`, `isrn`, `doi`, and `eprint` fields.

```
\usepackage[style=mla,noreMOTEinfo=true]{biblatex}
```

showmedium `Biblatex-mla` version 0.9 introduced support for the 3rd edition of the *Style Manual*, requiring the publication medium of each entry to be printed in the list of Works Cited. By default, `biblatex-mla` will do the same, using the `howpublished` field. Turn off this option—and the other new changes from the 3rd edition—by setting the **showmedium** option to false:

```
\usepackage[style=mla,showmedium=false]{biblatex}
```

guessmedium An entry with no defined `howpublished` field will default either to a “Web” publication (if there’s a defined `url` field or `eprint` field) or a “Print” publication (if there’s not). To avoid `biblatex-mla` guessing the publication medium, thereby printing nothing when the field is undefined, deactivate the **guessmedium** option:

```
\usepackage[style=mla,guessmedium=false]{biblatex}
```

mancitepar Although perhaps they should, the author trackers in `biblatex-mla` do not by default reset with each paragraph or page. As a result, shortened citations may be unclear when much

distance has passed from previous, fuller citations. To avoid this ambiguity, the `\mancite` command can be called before an unclear citation. (See table 1 for the effects of `\mancite`.) Alternatively, consider asking `biblatex-mla` to silently call the `\mancite` command with each new paragraph by enabling the `mancitepar` package option:

```
\usepackage[style=mla,mancitepar=true]{biblatex}
```

4 Database Guide

Biblatex (and, thus, `biblatex-mla`) uses BibTeX-style databases to manage the citations and list of works cited. While these databases are just flat text files, there are many good programs available to help manage them. Zotero, Endnote, and other commercial programs, for example, can export as BibTeX; each of these will nevertheless export with varying degrees of success. Standalone BibTeX managers such as JabRef and BibDesk use `.bib` files as their native filetype and are much more reliable for managing your list of sources. Whether exporting from a program, managing `.bib` files in a standalone editor, or manipulating them in a text editor, it is necessary to be familiar with fields available to `biblatex-mla`—especially as some of these are unique Biblatex and `biblatex-mla`. Below are the different `@types` and the **fields** available to them. Keep in mind that some of the fields in the `@book` and `@article` types (e.g., `nameaddon`, `origyear`, and others) are also available in others where it makes sense; I don't repeat them here to save room.

4.1 Notable Fields

Biblatex supports the following fields, sometimes concerned more with presentation than bibliographic merit, in all entrytypes. Define these in your `.bib` files:

- crossref** the key of a parent source in which a shorter source is found. The `crossref` field is handy to avoid spending time re-inputting similar data, but it is also useful for including MLA-style cross-references in the list of Works Cited. Keep in mind the problems of the `crossref` field, explained in section 2.4.1 of the Biblatex manual.
- shorttitle** the shortened title to be printed in citations to disambiguate among multiple titles by one author. `Biblatex-mla` will only print this field in citations when necessary; when this field is not defined, `biblatex-mla` will use the whole of the `title` field.
- shorthand** when defined, a unique label to be printed in citations instead of the author and `shorttitle`. By default, `biblatex-mla` will only use the `shorthand` label after a first citation with author (and title, if necessary). See the **firstlonghand** option on page 5 to disable this feature.
- options** separate the following options with a comma:

useauthor=false allows the label of the entry to default to something other than the author, when the author field is defined. If the editor is defined, the label will default to that. The **useauthor** option defaults to true.

useditor=false allows the label of the entry default to something other than the editor in the case of the author field being undefined or the **useauthor** option set to false. The **useditor** option defaults to true.

usetranslator=true allows the label of the entry to inherit the name of the translator when the author and editor fields are undefined or the **useauthor** and **useditor** options are set to false. The **usetranslator** option defaults to false.

totalnames=true allows the label to include all the names in its list, rather than maxing out at three. The **totalnames** option defaults to false.

uniquetranslator=true indicates that a translator of a particular `@incollection` entry is unique to that work, rather than the collection at large. The **uniquetranslator** option defaults to false.

noremoteinfo=false indicates that the “remote” information of an entry is to be printed, including the fields `isbn`, `issn`, `isrn`, `doi`, and `eprint`. These fields are usually omitted. See also the global option also called **noremoteinfo**, on page 5, above, for defining this option on a per-document basis. The **noremoteinfo** option defaults to true.

4.2 Standalone Sources

The following entrytypes are for long sources not part of any other publication except, potentially, multivolume sets or publishers’ series.

@book

A book, usually with one author. MLA-style book entries are straightforward, and the `biblatex-mla` files style all the potential fields for a typical book

author the author of the book

title book title; when using `crossref`, also define `booktitle` and be sure to define `title` of the child entry

subtitle book subtitle; when using `crossref`, also define `booksubtitle` and be sure to define `subtitle` of the child

location entryplace of publication

publisher publishing house

date date of publication; defined as YYYY for a year, YYYY-MM for a month, YYYY-MM-DD for a day, or YYYY-MM-DD/YYYY-MM-DD for a range

Other fields might come in handy for further granularity:

origdate original publication date, for reprints; defined as YYYY for a year, YYYY-MM for a month, YYYY-MM-DD for a day, or YYYY-MM-DD/YYYY-MM-DD for a range

edition edition number

volume volume number of book

volumes total number of volumes

maintitle title of multi-volume collection of which this book is one volume

mainsubtitle subtitle of the above maintitle

series name of a publication series

number number of the above series represented by this book

Additionally, the style files support more name types for situations needing them:

editor editor of a book

editortype to indicate if the named editor is actually an editor (“ed.”), a compiler (“comp.”) or a compilerandeditor (“comp. and ed.”). Default value is editor.

translator translator of a work

introduction author of a book’s introduction

foreword author of a book’s foreword

afterword author of a book’s afterword

redactor name of redactor

commentator name of commentator

annotator name of annotator

Finally, the style files also define the following note fields for further clarification:

nameaddon pseudonym, misattribution, or other note (printed in brackets after author)

booktitleaddon note after the booktitle

- maintitleaddon** note after the maintitle
- note** miscellaneous data printed before publisher
- addendum** miscellaneous data printed at the end of the entry

Fields not yet supported in biblatex-mla (but which should be supported in future versions) include the following:

- howpublished** to be used in support of the MLA-style revisions in the third edition of the *MLA Style Manual* and the 7th edition of the *MLA Handbook*; will default to “Print” when undefined
- origlocation** original place of publication (for reprints)
- origpublisher** original publisher (for reprints)
- origtitle** original title (for reprints)
- origlanguage** the original language of a translated, reprinted work. Biblatex-mla will not print information in this field, but if the field has information in it, it will use the phrase “Trans. of” before the original title, instead of “Rept. of”.

@booklet

Small pamphlet, often without an author listed. In biblatex-mla, **@booklet** is an alias for **@book** (see above), and is styled similarly.

@collection

A book that is a collection of self-contained essays, stories, or poems, usually with multiple unique authors and collectively edited by a single editorial body. In biblatex-mla, **@collection** is an alias for **@book** (see above), and is styled similarly. To accurately support **@incollection** entries using **crossref**, be sure to define the following fields instead of **title** and **subtitle** in the parent **@collection** entry:

- booktitle** the title of a book or collection
- booksubtitle** the subtitle of a book or collection

Additionally, remember to define the **editor** field if needed.

@periodical

An entire issue of a journal, usually cited by editor. `biblatex-mla` accepts the following fields:

- editor** the editor or editors of an issue
- issuetitle** title of a special issue
- issuesubtitle** subtitle of a special issue
- title** title of the journal
- subtitle** subtitle of the journal
- volume** volume number
- number** issue number
- issue** season, when used in place of month (as in the “spring” issue of a journal)
- date** date of publication, defined as YYYY for a year, YYYY-MM for a month, YYYY-MM-DD for a day, or YYYY-MM-DD/YYYY-MM-DD for a range.
- pages** complete pagination of the issue

@proceedings

The published proceedings of a conference. `Biblatex-mla` styles `@proceedings` entries like `@book` or `@collection` entries, but it also provides support for the following unique fields:

- eventtitle** title of the conference represented by the proceedings (if not included in the title of the published proceedings)
- organization** body sponsoring the conference
- urldate** original date of the conference; defined as YYYY for a year, YYYY-MM for a month, YYYY-MM-DD for a day, or YYYY-MM-DD/YYYY-MM-DD for a range. Please note that this is an unusual and temporary use of the `urldate` field; in a future version of `biblatex-mla`, it will change to `eventdate`.
- institution** university or institution hosting the conference
- venue** location of the conference

@reference

A reference book such as a dictionary or encyclopedia, often supporting @inreference entries through crossref fields. Biblatex-mla styles a @reference entry as it would a @book entry.

@thesis

The thesis or dissertation resulting from a doctorate or a master's degree, whether published or unpublished. Supports the following fields typical for defining such an entry:

author the author of the thesis/dissertation

title title

subtitle subtitle

type degree type. Biblatex-mla defines some MLA-style @thesis types pre-localized; choose from the following strings to get accurate styling:

phd for doctorate; prints as "Diss." in English

dphil for doctorate; prints as "Diss." in English

lic for licentiate; prints as "Licentiate thesis"

ma for master's; prints as "MA thesis"

ms for master's; prints as "MS thesis"

msc for master's; prints as "MSc thesis"

mphil for master's; prints as "MPhil thesis"

mlitt for master's; prints as "MLitt thesis"

For all other types not matching the above codes, biblatex-mla will print the type field exactly as entered, respecting all existing capitalization

institution name of degree-granting university

date date degree awarded, defined as YYYY for a year, YYYY-MM for a month, YYYY-MM-DD

The entry for a @thesis that has been published needs a few additional fields:

entrysubtype biblatex-mla recognizes only two keys in the entrysubtype field for the @thesis:

published for published theses

unpublished for unpublished theses

any key other than published or unpublished will be treated as if it were unpublished

location place of publication

publisher publisher

origdate date degree was awarded, defined as YYYY for a year, YYYY-MM for a month, YYYY-MM-DD; please note this difference from an unpublished thesis

date date of publication, defined as YYYY for a year; please note this difference from an unpublished thesis

series name of a publication series

number number of the above series represented by this book

4.3 Sources within other works

The following entrytypes are for shorter works (essays, poems, and other things) that are part of another publication. Many have corresponding standalone sources representing the larger work of which they are a part (i.e., @incollection and @collection). Entries of shorter works can inherit fields of parent entries by using the crossref field.

@article

Articles appearing in periodicals in many media, including academic journals, newspapers, and online sources. Biblatex-mla supports the following fields typical of an article in an academic journal:

author author of the article

title title of the article

subtitle subtitle of the article

journaltitle title of journal

journalsubtitle subtitle of journal

volume journal volume number

number journal issue number

issue season, when used in place of month (as in the “spring” issue of a journal)

date date, defined as YYYY for a year, YYYY-MM for a month, YYYY-MM-DD for a day, or YYYY-MM-DD/YYYY-MM-DD for a range

pages page numbers of the article

For online and newspaper articles, the style provides additional support for the following fields:

entrysubtype defines an article's medium, allowing finer control over styling. BibLatex-mla responds to the following keys in the `entrysubtype` field:

newspaper used for newspaper articles

magazine used for magazine articles

online articles are styled by the presence or absence of a `url` field

url the url address of an online article

urldate date of access of an online article, defined as YYYY-MM-DD

date date a newspaper article is published, defined as YYYY-MM-DD for a day

location for newspapers lacking a place-name in their title, the city of publication

version the printing edition of a newspaper (ie, early edition, national edition, etc.)

chapter the section of a newspaper article if it uses numbers instead of letters; if the newspaper uses letters, combine the letter with the page number (ie, page "B12") in the `page` field

In addition, the style provides support for the following fields, used in edge cases and unusual circumstances:

nameaddon pseudonym, misattribution, or other note (printed in brackets after author)

titleaddon note after the title

origdate year of original publication for a reprinted article

issuetitle title of the special issue in which it appeared

issuesubtitle subtitle of the special issue

editor editor of the special issue

translator translator of the article

redactor name of redactor

commentator name of commentator

- annotator** name of annotator
- introduction** author of introduction to special issue
- foreword** author of foreword to special issue
- afterword** author of afterword to special issue
- series** name of journal series; define the series name or define as `newseries` or `oldseries` to let `biblatex-mla` style the series name correctly
- note** miscellaneous data to print before the page numbers
- addendum** further miscellaneous note at the end of an entry

@bookinbook

A particular kind of `@incollection`. (See below.)

@incollection

A self-contained unit in a `@collection`. Supports the following fields typical of an essay, short story, or poem found in an anthology:

- author** the author of the work
- title** title of the work
- subtitle** subtitle of the work
- entrysubtype** defines a work's medium, allowing finer control over styling. By default, `@incollection` entries are printed inside quotation marks, like essays, poems, stories, and other shorter works. `Biblatex-mla` responds to **book** and **play** in the `entrysubtype` field, each of which will cause the title to be printed italicized rather than inside quotation marks. Alternatively, set the entry to a `@bookinbook` type for the same effect.
- origdate** original publication date of the work, defined as `YYYY`, `YYYY-MM`, or `YYYY-MM-DD`
- booktitle** title of the anthology
- booksubtitle** subtitle of the anthology
- editor** anthology's editor
- location** anthology's city of publication

- publisher** anthology's publisher
- date** date anthology is published, defined as YYYY
- pages** page numbers of the work

Further fields supported include all of those supported by the @book type.

@inproceedings

A work published in the proceedings of a conference. Supports all the fields of the @incollection and @proceedings types.

@inreference

A particular type of @incollection, potentially without an author. In addition to those fields defined by @incollection, @inreference adds or refines the following:

- title** name of entry in reference book
- titleaddon** particular definition of the word
- booktitle** the title of the reference book

Note that @inreference entries do not need to cite page numbers, though they should specify the edition used. If the year and edition fields match, biblatex-mla styles the entry accordingly.

@letter

The @letter entry type is only partially supported in biblatex-mla in order to begin work to support it further in the future. It is currently built onto the same backend as @article entries, so it will accept additional fields used in that entry type.

- author** main author of the letter
- title** indication of sender and addressee
- titleaddon** additional information
- pages** pages
- origdate** original date letter was sent

@review

A particular type of `@article`, potentially without a title. In addition to those fields defined by `@article`, `@review` adds or refines the following:

booktitle the title of the book being reviewed

bookauthor the author of the book being reviewed

editor the editor of the book being reviewed

Note that reviews found in special issues of journals (using the `issuetitle` and `issuesubtitle` fields) are not fully supported yet.

@suppbook

A foreword, introduction, preface, or other supplementary (and often untitled) material to a `@book`. Supports the following fields typical of such a piece:

author author of the piece

title title of the piece

subtitle subtitle of the piece

entrysubtype the type of supplemental material, including subtypes like “introduction,” “foreword,” and “Editor’s note.”

booktitle title of the book the piece appears in

booksubtitle subtitle of the book the piece appears in

location city of publication of the book the piece appears in

publisher publisher of the book the piece appears in

date date of publication of the book the piece appears in, defined as YYYY

pages page numbers of the piece

Further fields supported include all of those supported by the `@book` type.

@suppcollection

A foreword, introduction, preface, or other supplementary (and often untitled) material to a `@collection`. Supports all the same fields as `@suppbook`.

4.4 Other media

@artwork

The @artwork entry type is only partially supported in biblatex-mla in order to begin work to support it further in the future. It is currently built onto the same backend as @article entries, so it accepts additional fields used in that entry type.

author artist responsible for the work

title title of the piece

type description of the medium. (Please note that this field doesn't yet work with the current version of biblatex-mla, though support will be added to support bibliographies made for biblatex-chicago.)

note additional note on the work

date date of creation, defined as YYYY for a year, YYYY-MM for a month, YYYY-MM-DD for a day, or YYYY-MM-DD/YYYY-MM-DD for a range

institution institution holding the artwork. (Please note that this field doesn't yet work with the current version of biblatex-mla, though support will be added to support bibliographies made for biblatex-chicago.)

location city of the institution. (Please note that this field doesn't yet work with the current version of biblatex-mla, though support will be added to support bibliographies made for biblatex-chicago.)

@audio

The @audio entry type is only partially supported in biblatex-mla in order to begin work to support it further in the future. It is currently built onto the same backend as @article entries, so it accepts additional fields used in that entry type.

author author or composer of a work

title title of the speech, song, or other short piece. (Please note that this field doesn't yet work with the current version of biblatex-mla, though support will be added.)

booktitle title of the opera, cycle, or other larger collection

origdate date work was originally written. (Please note that this field doesn't yet work with the current version of biblatex-mla, though support will be added.)

maintitle title of a book containing the work

- date** date of publication of work being referenced
- publisher** publisher of work being referenced. (Please note that this field doesn't yet work with the current version of `biblatex-mla`, though support will be added.)
- location** city of publisher. (Please note that this field doesn't yet work with the current version of `biblatex-mla`, though support will be added.)

@image

The `@image` entry type is only partially supported in `biblatex-mla` in order to begin work to support it further in the future. It is currently built onto the same backend as `@article` entries, so it accepts additional fields used in that entry type.

- author** creator of the image
- title** title of the work
- type** description of the medium. (Please note that this field doesn't yet work with the current version of `biblatex-mla`, though support will be added to support bibliographies made for `biblatex-chicago`.)
- note** additional description of the work
- date** date of creation
- institution** institution holding the work. (Please note that this field doesn't yet work with the current version of `biblatex-mla`, though support will be added.)
- location** city of the institution holding the work. (Please note that this field doesn't yet work with the current version of `biblatex-mla`, though support will be added.)

@music

This entry type is an alias for `@audio`.

@online

This entry type is an alias for `@article`.

@unpublished

An unpublished manuscript or typescript. Biblatex-mla supports the following fields typical to an unpublished entry:

- author** author of the work
- title** title of a short work (i.e., an essay or poem)
- subtitle** subtitle of a short work
- booktitle** title of a longer work (i.e., a book or play)
- booksubtitle** subtitle of a longer work
- titleaddon** description of untitled work
- note** further information used to classify the collection; typeset before the type field
- type** form of the material. Biblatex-mla defines some MLA-style @unpublished types pre-localized; choose from the following strings to get accurate styling:
 - manuscript** for the manuscript of a work; printed as “Ms.” or “ms.” in English
 - transcript** for the typescript of a work; printed as “Ts.” or “ts.” in EnglishFor all other types not matching the above codes, biblatex-mla will print the type field exactly as entered, respecting all existing capitalization
- number** identifying number (such as a call number, box, or folio reference) in a library or archive
- library** library, archive, or other research institution holding the unpublished work
- location** location of the library
- addendum** extra material printed at the end of an entry

@video

A recording of a movie, television program, etc. Biblatex-mla supports the following fields necessary for a video:

- title** title of the work
- subtitle** subtitle of the work
- bookauthor** author of the book on which the video is based
- publisher** distributor

origdate original date of release

howpublished publishing medium (ie, DVD, videocassette, etc.)

Additionally, `biblatex-mla` supports the `author`, `editor`, `namea`, `nameb`, and `namec` fields, modified with the `authortype`, `editortype`, `nameatype`, `namebtype`, and `namectype` fields, attuned to the following localization keys:

<x>type **director** director of a work

screenplay author of the screenplay

performer list of crucial performers

composer composer of a soundtrack

producer producer of a work

Note that `biblatex-mla` will print the `author` field before the `title` (styled using the appropriate `authortype` key) unless the field is empty or the `useauthor` option is false—at which point it will cascade to the `editor` field, unless *it* is undefined or the `useeditor` option is false. No other name fields will be printed before the title. Except for any printed before the title, these fields will be printed after the title in the following order: `author`, `editor`, `namea`, `nameb`, `namec`.

5 Meta

5.1 License

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5.2 Feedback

If you have any questions, requests, or other feedback please email me. My email address is at the top of this document. If you end up improving the code to be more accurate to the MLA standard, please be kind to the rest of us and share; I'm very happy to incorporate improvements! If anything works differently than you feel it ought to work, please let me know. Apart from time and my willingness to write documentation, I'm limited only by the problems of which I'm unaware.