

MLA WORKS CITED: SOCIAL MEDIA

How to cite what others share online

While you should be cautious referencing social media in your papers, public figures and academics are on social media and may share material that is current and relevant to your research.

A SOCIAL MEDIA POST:

- Follow this model for any kind of social media post on Facebook, Tumblr, LinkedIn, etc.
- Put the complete post (up to 20 words) in quotation marks. Replicate emojis if possible.
- The link to the post can be shortened to the **host name**.

Gaiman, Neil. "It's #ValentinesDay and I'm thinking of the extraordinary UNHCR staff I've met –like Nida—who put their life and soul." *Facebook*, 14 Feb. 2020, www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=10156890246666016&id=300224781015.

A TWEET:

- Begin a reference to a tweet with the author's name, followed by their Twitter handle (beginning with @).
- Next, put the complete tweet in quotation marks.
- Indicate the time of the tweet according to the user's time zone.

de la Cova, Carolina [@Bonesholmes]. "The CSI effect on cold case investigations." *Twitter*, 2 Feb. 2020, 3:55 p.m., twitter.com/Bonesholmes/status/1224073809084452865.

A POST ON AN ONLINE FORUM:

- Provide the author's username, followed by the full text of the post as the title, up to 20 words.
- Do not record the name of the specific forum (in this case *Ask Me Anything*).
- Write the name of the website in which the forum is contained (in this case, Reddit).

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). "We're the NASA team in charge of 'science central' for the International Space Station. Ask us anything!" *Reddit*, 16 Mar. 2021, www.reddit.com/r/space/comments/m6cjs3/were_the_nasa_team_in_charge_of_science_central/.

A COMMENT:

- Write the name or username of the commenter (in this case, Richard Chartrand).
- Next write "Comment on" and the title of the forum post, social media post, or article to which the comment is attached.
- Include the website name and the time of posting that is listed near the comment.

Richard Chartrand. Comment on "John A. Macdonald Loses his Head as Protesters Topple Statue." *Montreal Gazette*, 30 Aug. 2020, 5:00 p.m., montrealgazette.com/news/local-news/john-a-mcdonald-loses-his-head-as-protesters-topple-his-statue.

For more information, consult the *MLA Handbook* or contact the Academic Skills Centre.