Mythopoeic Society Seminar Proceedings Style Sheet

- The *Mythopoeic Society Seminar Proceedings Series* is designed to collect as many papers as possible from our focused, single-topic online seminars. All presenters are encouraged (but not required) to submit the **presentation version** of their work.
- **Transcripts of panel discussions** may be submitted if all participants are listed as authors and any audience questions included are anonymized.
- Submissions should be about 5,000 to 10,000 words and **will NOT be peer-reviewed.**
- Authors retain copyright of their papers under a CC BY-NC-ND 4.0 license, and may submit expanded versions to *Mythlore* or elsewhere at a later date for peer review and more formal publication.
- There will be **MINIMAL editing** of submissions for the seminar proceedings. It is up to the author(s) to correct spelling and grammar, confirm that quotations are accurate and correctly cited, make sure the bibliography is complete and properly formatted, and use the proper citation method as described below.
- Submitted works that are not in compliance with this style sheet will be reviewed by the series editor but **will not** be published until corrected. As this could delay the publication of the whole volume, please comply with the style sheet and make corrections promptly.
- Seminar Proceedings volumes will be published electronically online, in a format similar to *Mythlore*. They will generally include an introductory essay by the chair(s), and contents will be organized in roughly the order presented. They will be indexed in the *Mythlore Index Plus*.

MLA Style

All in-text citations and your works cited list should conform to **MLA 9th style**. See the *MLA Handbook* **9th ed**. (2021) for complete details.

- Use **parenthetical in-text citations** rather than footnote or endnote citations:
  - "It needs but one foe to breed a war," said Éowyn (Tolkien, *The Lord of the Rings* VI.5.937). (Note the punctuation after the citation, and for the preferred style for citing *LotR* by volume, book, and page, see additional details below.)
  - For **block quotes** (quotations that take up over three lines and are indented from the rest of the text), the punctuation goes at the end of the quote, *before* the parenthetical citation.
- **Abbreviations or short titles** are acceptable in in-text citations but should be spelled out the first time used:
  - (Lewis, *The Horse and His Boy* [*HHB*] II.32); subsequently, (*HHB* II.32) (see below regarding chapter books).
  - (Tolkien, "*Beowulf*: The Monsters and the Critics" ["Monsters"] 10); subsequently, ("Monsters" 15).
- See the *MLA Handbook* for further guidance on shortening subsequent in-text citations and standardized abbreviations for Shakespeare and the Bible.

Works Cited/Bibliography

In MLA style, short citations in the text refer the reader to a **bibliography** at the end of the work. Any full citations in your text should be replaced with abbreviated citations and moved to your bibliography. Use MLA format (with year at the end rather than after the author) for works cited list. MLA 9th no longer requires the place of publication for most publishers, and has changed the abbreviations used in citing periodical articles. It's best to refer to MLA 9th for specific information, as the examples below are for only the most common usage of each type of entry. The [Purdue OWL site for MLA Formatting and Style](#) is also a good resource.

- *Example of a book*:
  Tolkien, J.R.R. *The Lord of the Rings*. 50th Anniversary ed., Houghton Mifflin, 2004.
- *A journal article*:
  Gaarden, Bonnie. "'The Golden Key': A Double Reading." *Mythlore,* vol. 24, no. 3/4, #93/94, 2006, pp. 35-52.
  - Also please note that all articles from *Mythlore* should be cited following this pattern, including both volume/issue number and whole issue number.
- *A book section*:
  Lewis, C.S. "De Descriptione Temporum." *Selected Literary Essays,* edited by Walter Hooper, Cambridge UP, 1969, pp. 1-14.
  Hibbs, Thomas. "Providence and the Dramatic Unity of *The Lord of the Rings*." *The Lord of the Rings and Philosophy: One Book to Rule Them All*, edited by Gregory Bassham and Eric Bronson, Open Court Publishing, 2003, pp. 167-178.
  - Also please note that **all** sources that are part of a larger source, like essays in a collection, even if all the essays are by the same author, should be cited following this pattern.
- *A web site*:
  Pratchett, Terry. "Words from the Master." *The L-Space Web*, 2002, http://www.co.uk.lspace.org/books/apf/words-from-the-master.html.
- *An episode of a television show*:
  "Hush." *Buffy the Vampire Slayer,* created by Joss Whedon, season 4, episode 10, Mutant Enemy / WB Television Network, 14 Dec. 1999. BBC Worldwide, 2019.

Footnotes

Use **footnotes,** not endnotes. Use Arabic numerals. In Word, use the "Insert reference" function to insert your footnotes in proper format. In MLA, footnotes expand on a point in the text, rather than providing the citation for something in your text. Citations within footnotes should also be in MLA format, and cited materials should appear in your bibliography.

Additional *Mythopoeic Society Seminar Proceedings* style points
- Your submission should include **page numbers,** preferably at the bottom of the page.
- Include **your name** on the line after the title on the first page of your paper. Make sure it is spelled EXACTLY as you want it to be published.
- Use **U.S. English** spelling and punctuation except when quoting original text that uses other spelling and punctuation styles.
- **Titles** should be *italicized*, not underlined.

- Commas and periods generally go **inside quotes**; colons and semicolons outside. All go after parentheses in most cases. Use "curly" quotes, not "straight" quotes.
  - "Up Eorlingas! Fear no darkness," he shouted (*LotR* V.6.840). This was Théoden's 'battle-cry'; it struck fear into the Southrons.
- Parentheses nested inside parentheses should be replaced with **brackets**.
  - Tolkien enjoyed Haggard's thrillers (and Lewis is known to have liked them too ["Haggard" 97]).
- When you leave words out of a quotation, replace them with **ellipses enclosed in brackets**. Ellipses that are in the original should be spaced out.
  - "Why, it's like a young cathedral. […] How big is your parish, then?" (Sayers, *Nine Tailors* 7).
  - "[D]ear me! have you any luggage? . . . Ah! down at Frog's Bridge?" (Sayers 6).
- Use the serial or **Oxford comma** after the next-to-last item in a series:
  - Tolkien, Lewis, and Williams; Dickens, Austen, or Twain
- For the **possessive of a name ending in** *s*, add *'s*:
  - Lewis's, Williams's, James's
- *Mythopoeic Society Seminar Proceedings* does not use spaces between the **initials** of an author's name:
  - J.R.R. Tolkien, C.S. Lewis, G.K. Chesterton, *but* H. Rider Haggard
- Use the **em-dash** with no spaces to indicate a dash between words:
  - Chesterton—who enjoyed his pint—wouldn't begrudge a drink . . .
- Also use the em-dash to indicate **additional works** by the same author in the works cited:
  - Tolkien, J.R.R. *Farmer Giles of Ham*.
    —. *Leaf by Niggle*.
- And use the slightly shorter en-dash in **date or page ranges**.
  - 1960–1973
  - pp. 24–28
- Citing **websites:** use black text and remove hyperlink and underlining.
  - http://www.mythsoc.org.
- **Preferred editions** and specialized citation formats:
  - The 50th Anniversary one-volume edition of *The Lord of the Rings* (2004 and later printings) is our preferred edition. For in-text citations, cite your quotations including the book and chapter number so we can easily change them to this edition if you use a different one. For example, *LotR* VI.5.937 refers to Book 6, Chapter 5 "The Steward and The King," page 937 in the edition cited.
  - **Tolkien's** *Letters*: Because the print and electronic editions have different methods for indicating what letter is being cited, our preference for in-text citations is: Cite by page AND letter number (i.e., *Letters* 51, #43). List in bibliography under Tolkien, not Carpenter.
    - **The new edition of the *Letters*, published in 2023, keeps the first edition's letter numbers but inserts new letters between the old. The page numbers are completely different. Cite as directed above (e.g., *Letters* 155, #94b), but make sure your Works Cited indicates what edition you used (Revised and expanded edition, 2023).**
    - **At this time you may use either edition, but within the next year the new edition will be preferred.**
  - For important standard fantasy texts like the **Narnia** books, *The Hobbit, Alice in Wonderland*, the **Harry Potter** books, Lewis's **Space Trilogy**, and so on that are

available in multiple editions with different pagination, please **include the chapter number** for the page you cite. It is especially crucial to do this if you are citing from a Kindle or other electronic edition without fixed page numbers. For example, *Hobbit* XIII.150, *Voyage of the* "Dawn Treader" 5.55.

- ▪ "[T]hey can make as much noise as they like" (*Roverandom* 2.20).
  - o Similarly, in in-text citations, cite a **scene number** from a movie or TV show wherever possible. Generally a time stamp is NOT required, but may be added if appropriate, for example, in close analysis of a single scene.

Proofreading tips before final submission (**you will be expected to correct these yourself** if your submission is accepted in spite of not adhering to our style):

- If you own or consult multiple editions of a text, or you're working with a co-author who might be using a different edition of a text you both cite, **settle on one** for your citations and **make sure your bibliography cites that edition only** and your page citations match.
- Pay particular attention to the rules above for **book-chapter-page citation** requirements.
- Make sure your submission is in **MLA 9th format** and your footnotes are NOT just the citations for your quotations.
- Make sure any sources cited in your text or footnotes **appear in your bibliography**.
- To reiterate: Submitted works that are not in compliance with this style sheet **may** be reviewed by the editor but **will not** be published until corrected.

To submit:

- Use the online platform for the *Seminar Proceedings* series at https://dc.swosu.edu/mythpro/ and click on Submit Article.
- If you already have an account on any BePress platform, sign in with your email and password. If you don't, set one up.
- A cover letter should state at which seminar the paper was presented to ensure it goes in the correct collection.
- From the dropdown menu for submission type, choose Paper, Panel transcript, or whatever is appropriate.
- If you need to submit a revision, open up this item and click on revision in the left menu; DO NOT submit it as a brand-new submission