**In-text References Tip Sheet**

In-text references are sometimes called parenthetical references or parenthetical citations because they are enclosed by parentheses.

In-text references allow readers to look up the author’s last name (or article title) in the alphabetized list of works cited, where they can then learn more about the source. When readers decide to consult the source, the page number (if available) will tell them the exact location of the cited passage.

*You will need an in-text citation every time the source changes, the page (in a print source) changes, and/or the paragraph changes. This is true for both quotes and information you’ve paraphrased. The in-text references MUST correspond to the works cited page.*

**Example (known author and page #):**

The North Carolina Institute of Research found that more vehicle accidents requiring medical attention involved people over the age of 60, rather than people under the age of 22 (Brown, 3).

**Example (unknown author, no page #):**

(You may omit the page number if a work lacks page numbers, which is common for many of the sources online.)

In 2003 in North Carolina, accidents involving teens increased by 20% from the previous year (“Teen Accidents”).

**Example (known author, no page #):**

According to a document published by the North Carolina Highway Patrol, more accidents for all ages involve medical attention than they did in previous years (Smith).

\*If you are conducting an interview with an expert, see Ms. Sparks to get the MLA info for that source.

So, if the in-text citation says,

According to the University of Texas, studies have shown that driving curfews go beyond keeping teens safe to actually preventing teen crime ("Study Finds That Driving Curfews May Curb Teenage Crime").

The corresponding Works Cited page entry looks like this,

"Study Finds That Driving Curfews May Curb Teenage Crime." Targeted News Service, 28 Mar. 2016, SIRS Issues

Researcher, sks.sirs.com.proxy141.nclive.org/webapp/article?artno=0000384668&type=ART#cite.

*The in-text citation is the first part of the works cited entry. If there were an author’s name, the author’s last name would be in the in-text citation. Whatever is first on the works cited entry is what you put in the in-text reference. If the in-text citation seems long, it doesn’t matter. Avoid trying to shorten it.*