Parenthetical citations in the body of the paper

When citing a Supreme Court case parenthetically (in-text) or referring to it in the body of your essay, underline or italicize the case name. Here are several ways to do this.

- For example, you can name the full case in the body of the sentence:
  The Court’s decision in *Shelby County v. Holder* explicitly signals the... (110).

  (Note: only the page number is required in the citation if you name the court case in the sentence. Also, the page in parentheses refers to the pages in the DOC 2 Reader where the case can be found.)

- Or, if you do not write the court case in the sentence, you must use the full title in the parenthetical citation:
  The Court’s decision to strike down an important provision in the Voting Rights Act complicates this argument (*Shelby County v. Holder* 110).

- After the first mention of the case name in your paper, you can use a shortened version for the remainder of the paper. For example:
  While the majority opinion in *Shelby* affirms... (109).

  or

  ...directly relates to the argument for natural rights (*Shelby* 109).

**Court Cases on the Works Cited Page**

To list a Supreme Court case on your Works Cited page, use the following format:

[Plaintiff] v. [Defendant]. [U.S. Reports Citation]. [Original Page Numbers, if Available].
  [Name of the Court]. [Year of the Decision]. [Reprint Information]. Print.

For example, a Works Cited citation of the case *Shelby County v. Holder* would look like this:


Note that the name of the case is not underlined or italicized in its Works Cited entry.