

**MLA Style 9<sup>th</sup> Edition**  
**APSU Writing Center Handout**

**Formatting**

**Margins:** 1-inch margins on all sides of the page.

**Font:** Times New Roman, 12 pt.

**Double spaced:** for the content of the paper.

**Page numbers:** your last name followed by a space with a page number flush top right.

**Paper Size:** 8.5 x 11-inch paper

**Paragraphs:** Indent first line of each paragraph one half inch from the left margin “Tab”.

**MLA Style Order**

MLA Header

Introduction

Body

Conclusion

Works Cited

**MLA Header**

**Upper left corner:**

Your full name

Instructor's name

Course

Date

## MLA Title

Double space between the title and the first line of the text.

Use quotation marks or italics when referring to other works in your title.

- **Example:** *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas* as Morality Play; Human Weariness in "After Apple Picking"

## Section Headings

When dividing an essay into sections, include a number followed by a period, a space, and then the section title.

Create headings and subheadings as needed and remain consistent throughout your essay.

## Heading Example:

Formatted, unnumbered:

**Level 1 Heading: bold, flush left**

*Level 2 Heading: italics, flush left*

**Level 3 Heading: centered, bold**

*Level 4 Heading: centered, italics*

Level 5 Heading: underlined, flush left

## In-text Citations

Throughout your MLA essay, you must provide references for any material you quote, paraphrase, or summarize. This is done through in-text citations and the Works Cited page.

## Author-Page Style Citations

For the Author–Page Style, include the author’s last name and the page number in your citation.

The author’s name can appear in the sentence or in parentheses following the quotation or paraphrase.

Page number(s) should always appear in parentheses, not in the text of your sentence.

- **Example:** Wordsworth stated that Romantic poetry was marked by a "spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings" (263).
- **Example:** Romantic poetry is characterized by the "spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings" (Wordsworth 263).

## Works Cited Page

The Works Cited page appears on a **separate page** at the end of your essay. It provides full citations for all sources referenced in your text.

Any source information included in the text must correspond exactly to the entry on the Works Cited page.

**Title:** Work Cited or Works Cited (centered at the top of the page).

**Spacing:** Double-space all entries.

**Indentation:** Use a hanging indent by indenting the second and following lines of each citation by half an inch.

### Work Cited

Garcia, Maria. "Understanding Social Media Trends." *Communication Studies Quarterly*, vol. 35, no. 2, 2018, pp. 10-25. JSTOR, doi:10.5678/esqr.35.2.10.

## **Book by One Author**

**In Text:** (Author Last Name page number).

- **Example:** (Kirsh).

**Works Cited:** Author Last Name, First Name. *Title of Book*. Publisher, Publication Date.

- **Example:** Mantel, Hilary. *Wolf Hall*. Picador, 2010.

## **Book by Two Authors**

**In Text:** (Author 1's Last Name and Author 2's Last Name Page Number)

- **Example:** (Garcia and Patel 72).

**Works Cited:** Last Name, First Name of First Author, and First Name Last Name of Second Author. *Title of Book*. Publisher, Publication Year.

- **Example:** Garcia, Maria, and Sanjay Patel. *Economics: Principles and Applications*. McGraw-Hill Education, 2019.

## **Book by an Unknown Author**

**In Text:** (Title of Book Page Number).

- **Example:** (Encyclopedia of World History 78).

**Works Cited:** *Title of Book*. Publisher, Year.

- **Example:** *Encyclopedia of World History*. Oxford University Press, 2017.

## **Library Database Articles**

**In Text:** (Author's Last Name Page Number).

- **Example:** (Garcia 22).

**Works Cited:** Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of Article: Subtitle if Any." *Name of Journal*, Volume Number, Issue Number, Date of Publication, First Page Number-Last Page Number. Name of Database, DOI, Permalink or URL.

- **Example:** Garcia, Maria. "Understanding Social Media Trends." *Communication Studies Quarterly*, vol. 35, no. 2, 2018, pp. 10-25. JSTOR, doi:10.5678/csqr.35.2.10.

## Websites

**In Text:** (Author Last Name or Title of Website)

- **Example:** (Mabillard)

**Works Cited:** Author's Last Name, First Name. *Title of Website*, Name of Organization Affiliated with the Website, Date of copyright or date last modified/updated, URL. Accessed access date (optional).

- **Example:** Mabillard, Amanda. *Shakespeare Online*, 29 Dec. 2011, www.shakespeare-online.com. Accessed 6 July 2016.

## YouTube

**In-text:** (Username or Title of the Video).

- **Example:** (PBS Space Time).

**Works Cited:** Username or Title of the Video. "Title of the Video." *YouTube*, Uploaded by Name of the Channel, Day Month Year of Upload, URL.

- **Example:** PBS Space Time. "What If We Detonated a Nuclear Bomb on the Moon?" *YouTube*, Uploaded by PBS Space Time, 4 March 2023, www.youtube.com/watch?v=Iap0H5Gi1-4.

## Works Cited

*MLA Handbook*. 9th ed., Modern Language Association of America, 2021.

MLA Formatting and Style Guide. *The Purdue OWL*, 2 Aug. 2016,

[owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/).