

# MLA vs. APA Formatting

*When are they different and when are they the same?*

	MLA Style (Modern Language Association)	APA Style (ver 6) (American Psychological Association)
<b>Application</b>	MLA style is used in the humanities (English, Arts, etc.)	APA style is used in the sciences, social sciences, and behavioral sciences (Economics, Psychology, Sociology, Business, etc.)
<b>General Paper Format</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Entire paper double spaced</li> <li>- Times New Roman, 12 pt</li> <li>- 1-inch margins all around</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Entire paper double spaced</li> <li>- Times New Roman, 12 pt</li> <li>- 1-inch margins all around</li> </ul>
<b>Cover Page</b>	No cover page needed, but first page of paper needs to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- student name, professor's name, class, and date, listed in top left corner</li> <li>- Title of the paper centered</li> </ul>	Separate cover page needed, with the following items entered in the middle of the page: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Title of Paper</li> <li>- Student Name</li> <li>- Name of school</li> </ul>
<b>Abstract</b>	No Abstract needed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- On next page after cover page, the word "Abstract" is centered as title at the top</li> <li>- Follow with a 150-200 word summary of the main points covered in paper</li> </ul>
<b>Header</b>	Includes student's last name and page number, flush right (no comma)	<u>On cover page:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- "Running Head: SHORT VERSION OF PAPER TITLE", flush left (include words "Running Head:", title is capitalized)</li> <li>- page number (cover page is "1"), flush right</li> </ul> <u>On subsequent pages:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- "SHORT VERSION OF PAPER TITLE", flush left</li> <li>- Page number flush right (Abstract is "2", etc)</li> </ul>
<b>Block Quotes</b>	Quotes that are four lines or longer are formatted as a block with the left margin indented <b>one inch</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- no quotation marks needed</li> <li>- in-text citation comes <b>after</b> period</li> </ul>	Quotes 40 words or longer are formatted as a block with the left margin indented <b>half an inch</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- no quotation marks needed</li> <li>- in-text citation comes <b>after</b> period</li> </ul>

<b>In-text citations (general)</b>	Includes author's last name and page number (Miller 28). <i>Note: there are no commas and period is outside parenthesis</i>		Includes author's last name, year of publication, and page number (Miller, 2012, p.7). <i>Note: there's a comma between each and period is outside parenthesis</i>	
	"Life is good" (Miller 7).	* According to Miller... (7).	"Life is good" (Miller, 2012, p.7).	* According to Miller... (2012, p. 7).
	*When using a signal phrase that introduces part of the citation, the parenthesis only includes the other pieces		*When using a signal phrase that introduces part of the citation, the parenthesis only includes the other pieces	
<b>Page with list of full citations</b>	<p>"Works Cited" is centered as title at top</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Alphabetized by first word of citation</li> <li>- Start with author's last, then first name</li> <li>- If there is no author, start with title of article or website</li> <li>- Use quotation marks for titles of articles and other short works, italics for titles of books and other long works</li> <li>- For sources found online, include URL</li> <li>- If there is no publication date, include date source was "Accessed"</li> </ul>		<p>"References" is centered as title at top</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Alphabetized by first word of citation</li> <li>- Start with author's full last name, then first initial of first name</li> <li>- If there is no author, start with title of article</li> <li>- Put the date of publication in parenthesis immediately after the first element of the citation</li> <li>- <b>Do not</b> use quotation marks for titles of articles and other short works</li> <li>- Use italics for titles of journals and books</li> <li>- For sources found online, even if they originally appeared in print, include URL and phrase "Retrieved from"</li> </ul>	