

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

In-text citations (general)	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	
Page with list of full citations	<p>"Works Cited" is centered as title at top</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Alphabetized by first word of citation - Start with author's last, then first name - If there is no author, start with title of article or website - Use quotation marks for titles of articles and other short works, italics for titles of books and other long works - For sources found online, include URL - If there is no publication date, include date source was "Accessed" 		<p>"References" is centered as title at top</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Alphabetized by first word of citation - Start with author's full last name, then first initial of first name - If there is no author, start with title of article - Put the date of publication in parenthesis immediately after the first element of the citation - Do not use quotation marks for titles of articles and other short works - Use italics for titles of journals and books - For sources found online, even if they originally appeared in print, include URL and phrase "Retrieved from" 	