Style Guides MLA Format

FIRST PAGE

FORMAT

Double space, and use a standard typeface and type size, such as 12-point Times New Roman.

TITLE

The title should be 12-point font and centered, but not underlined, italicized, bolded, or put in quotation marks.

BLOCK QUOTATIONS

Block quotations are quotations longer than four lines. Indent 1" from the set margin when using a block quotation. Do not use quotation marks, and put the period before the citation.

MARGINS

Use 1-inch margins on all 4 sides of each page.

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Davy Jones

Professor Mills

English 2010

7 July 2004

Understanding Whitman's Poetry

By examining sectional divisions in Walt Whitman's *Song of Myself*, we can show that 1891 revisions underscore the function of each section as a unit of meaning governed by its own rhythm (Strauch 64). Fred Mitchell calls this "group size pattern":

> Whitman is doing more than simply distributing a pattern of
>
> groups in some sensible fashion over the lines of a poem,
>
> creating what some critics are calling a group/line pattern.
>
> Whitman is also conscious of the size of his groups and of
>
> their progression in terms of size pattern. (16)

Such an analysis demonstrates the method governing Whitman's formation of stanzas and the meter governing the lines and verses of

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PAGE HEADER

A page header includes the last name of the paper's author and the page number. Headers should appear in the top right corner of every page.

IN-TEXT CITATIONS

In-text citations should be used after quoting, paraphrasing, or summarizing. State the author's last name and the page number in parentheses without a comma. If the author is named in the text, only cite the page number. If the author is unknown, use the first few words from the title. The period is placed after the citation. If there is no page number, include the author and title within the text rather than using a parenthetical notation.

WORKS CITED

TITLE

The title "Works Cited" should be centered, but not underlined or punctuated.

HANGING INDENT

Use a hanging indent for entries longer than one line. Indent 1/2" from the set margins after the first line of each entry.

SOURCES

List only the works you used, not everything you read.

ALPHABETICAL ORDER

Alphabetically arrange works cited entries according to the first word in the entry, ignoring a, an, and the.

Jones 8

Works Cited

Asay, Ronald. "How the Americans Made Transcendentalism."

Journal of American History 23 (1978): 345-357.

Frank, Sarah. *The Man Who Invented Poetry.* New York: Nerd

Press, 2001.

Harvard, Neil and Allen Gregory. *The Literary Executioners.*

London: Oxford UP, 1954.

Mitchell, Fred. "Understanding Poetry." *Daily News* 5 May 1987,

late ed.: F1, F9.

Strauch, Ronald. "Leaving Cambridge." *Whitman: The Man.* Ed.

Taylor Roger. New York: Harcourt and Brace, 1998. 123-134.

CITING INDIRECT SOURCES

To cite information that your source has taken from a different source, put the original author of the information in the text and write "qtd. in" in your in-text citation followed by the author and page number of the work you found the material in. Example: (qtd. in Asay 352).

QUOTATIONS

If you need to make additions to a quotation, put your own words in square brackets [ ]. To omit words, use ellipses (three periods, with a space after each). Example: "She was . . . unhappy."

ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviations in works cited entries are acceptable if they are clear (University Press=UP).

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The following list includes some of the most common sources included in a Works Cited page. For more information, see pages 144-235 of the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers, 6th edition or visit The Writing Lab and OWL at Purdue (http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/1/).

BOOK BY A SINGLE AUTHOR

Last Name, First Name and Initial (if given). Title. Location: Publisher, Year. Medium of Publication.

Wilson, Frank R. The Hand: How Its Use Shapes the Brain. New York: Pantheon, 1998. Print.

BOOK BY TWO OR MORE AUTHORS

Last Name, First Name and Initial (if given), and First Name Last Name. Title. Location: Publisher, Year. Medium of Publication.

Welsch, Roger L., and Linda K. Welsch. Cather's Kitchens. Lincoln: U of Nebraska P. 1987. Print.

NOTE: If a reference has more than three authors, give the first author's name and "et al." Example: Jones, Bob, et al.

TEXT IN AN ANTHOLOGY OR EDITED BOOK

Last Name, First Name (of author of the article). "Article Title." Anthology Title. Ed. First Name Last Name (of editor). Location: Publisher, Year. pages. Medium of Publication.

Gomez, Isabel. "From Within." Stories from the South. Ed. Thomas Nitsche. New York: Plume, 1992. 82-92. Print.

ARTICLE IN A REFERENCE BOOK

"Article Title." Book Title. Edition Number. Publication Year. Medium of Publication.

"Noon." The Oxford English Dictionary. 2nd ed. 1989. Print.

ARTICLE IN A MAGAZINE

Last Name, First Name. "Article Title." Magazine Title Day Month Year: pages. Medium of Publication.

Mehta, Pratap Bhanu. "Exploding Myths." New Republic 6 June 1998: 17-19. Print.

ARTICLE IN A JOURNAL

Last Name, First Name. "Article Title." Journal Title Volume Number. Issue (Year): pages. Medium of Publication.

Craner, Paul M. "New Tool for an Ancient Art." Computers and the Humanities 25.2 (1991): 303-13.

ARTICLE IN A NEWSPAPER

Author(s). "Title of Article." Title of Newspaper Day Month Year: pages. Medium of publication.

Jones, Anna. "Deadly Change." Daily Post 1 June 2002: B3+. Print.

NOTE: If the newspaper is a less well-known or local publication, include the city name and state in brackets after the title of the newspaper.

PERSONAL INTERVIEW OR COMMUNICATION

Last Name, First Name (person being interviewed). Interview type (Personal, Telephone, E-mail). Day Month Year.

Takyrbashev, Lewis P. E-mail interview. 8-12 June 2003.

ENTIRE WEBSITE (Include all information that is available and applicable.)

Editor, author, or compiler name (if available). Name of Site. Version number. Name of institution/organization affiliated with the site (sponsor or publisher), date of resource creation (if available). Medium of publication. Date of access.

Felluga, Dino. Guide to Literary and Critical Theory. Purdue U, 28 Nov. 2003. Web. 10 May 2006.

WORK FROM LIBRARY SUBSCRIPTION SERVICE

(The first part of the citation will vary, depending on whether the work comes originally from an online book, periodical article, etc. [See MLA Handbook, pages 216-224]. For works from print sources, give all standard information for such a source that is provided.)

Last Name, First Name. "Title of Article." Title of Internet site or Database Ed. First name Last
    Name. Identifying volume number (Date of Publication): (If no vol. number is available, date of
    publication appears without parenthesis) page no.Name of Publisher. Web. Day Month Year when
    source was accessed.

        Kunkel, Louis M. "Cloning of the DMD Gene." American Journal of Human Genetics. 76.2 (2005): 205. Academic Search
            Premier. Web. 28 Aug. 2009. (journal articleEBSCOhost

Sources: Gibaldi, Joseph. MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers. 6th ed. New York: The Modern Language Association of America, 2003.
        The Purdue OWL Family of Sites. The Writing Lab and OWL at Purdue and Purdue U, 2008. Web. 21 Jul. 2011.
        "MLA list of Works Cited Examples." Northeast Mississippi Community College. Northeast Mississippi Community College, Feb. 2011. Web. 21
            Jul. 2011.