



## MLA Format



Writing Center Hours: 8:30 AM - 8:30 PM M-Th,  
8:30 AM- 4:30 PM F, 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM S-S  
Email: okc.tutoring@okstate.edu  
Phone: 405-945-3278

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**Definition:** MLA Format is the Modern Language Association's standard for the presentation of an essay, including a header, last name by page number, title, Times New Roman, 12 point font, double spaced, 1-in margins, and a Works Cited page.

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### **Lesson:**

**Text:** All text should be Times New Roman, 12 point font, and it needs to be double spaced.

**Page Number:** There should be a page number in the upper right corner of the essay. Your last name needs to appear to the left of the number.

**Margins:** There should be 1-inch margins all around the paper, except for the page number which should be ½ inch from the top of the page.

**Header:** The header is to the left of your first page and it includes, in order:

Author - Your Name

Professor's Name

The Class Title

The Date (Ex: 4 January 2023)

**Title:** The title should be centered on the page after the Header.

**Paragraphs:** Each paragraph should be indented ½ inch. Do not skip a line at the end of each paragraph.

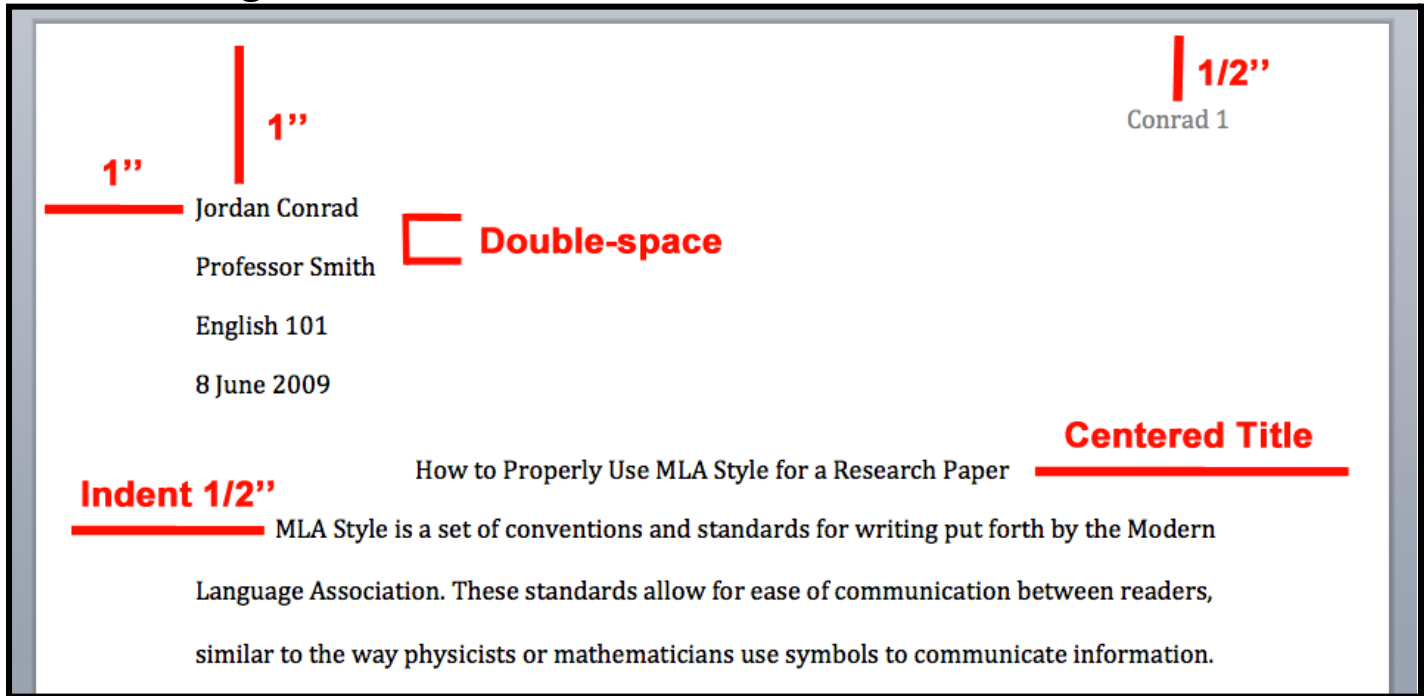
**Work(s) Cited Page:** This is the final page of the essay. "Work Cited" for a single citation, or "Works Cited" for multiple citations, should appear centered at the top of the page. Citations follow in alphabetical order, complete with hanging indentions.

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## Examples:

### First Page –



The diagram illustrates the MLA format for the first page of a research paper. It shows a header with the author's name, 'Jordan Conrad', and the instructor's name, 'Professor Smith', followed by the course, 'English 101', and the date, '8 June 2009'. The text is double-spaced with a 1-inch margin on the left and a 1/2-inch margin on the right. The title, 'How to Properly Use MLA Style for a Research Paper', is centered. The first line of the text is indented 1/2 inch. A red box labeled 'Double-space' is shown between the author and instructor names. A red line underlines the title, labeled 'Centered Title'. A red line underlines the first line of text, labeled 'Indent 1/2\"'

1" 1" 1/2" Conrad 1

Jordan Conrad  
Professor Smith  
English 101  
8 June 2009

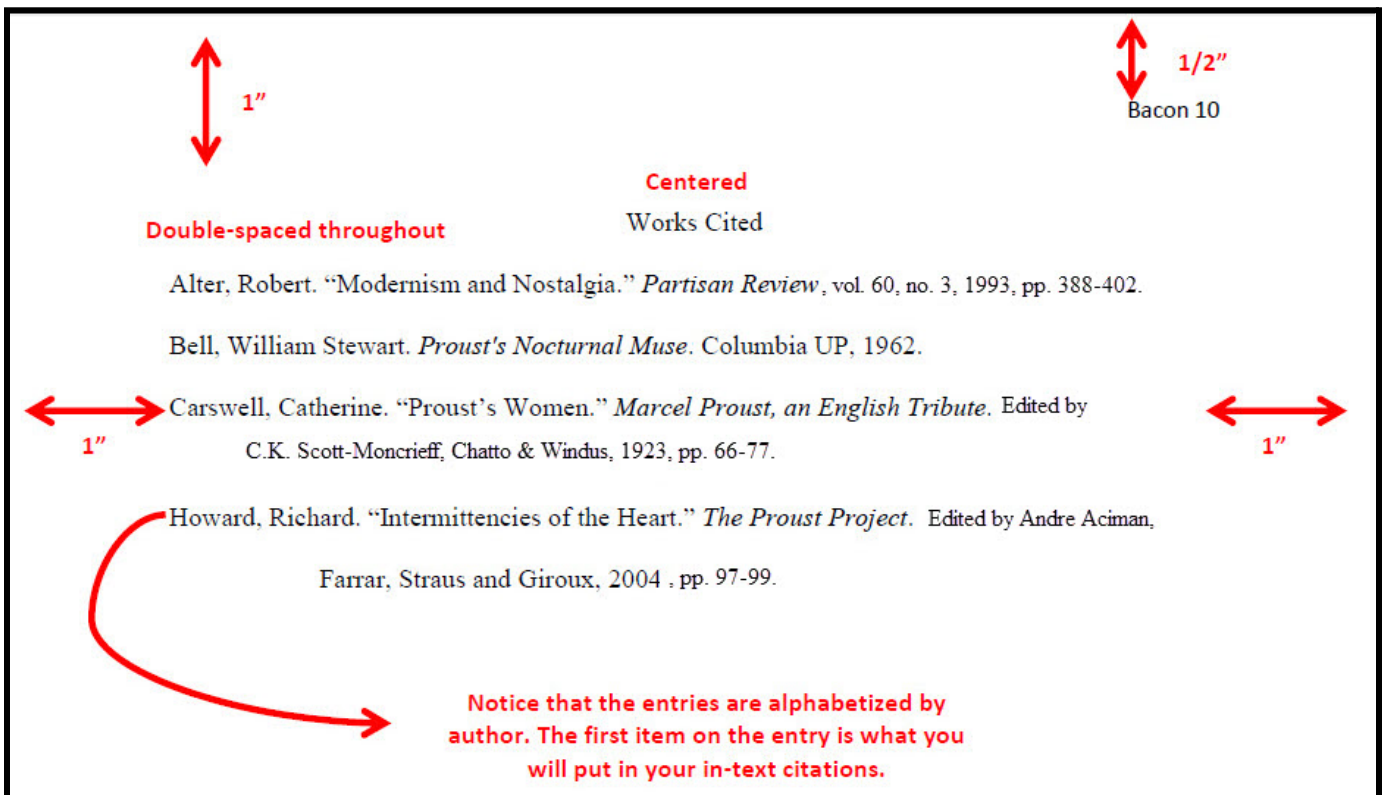
Double-space

Centered Title

How to Properly Use MLA Style for a Research Paper

Indent 1/2" MLA Style is a set of conventions and standards for writing put forth by the Modern Language Association. These standards allow for ease of communication between readers, similar to the way physicists or mathematicians use symbols to communicate information.

### Works Cited Page –



The diagram illustrates the MLA format for the Works Cited page. It shows a list of entries, each indented 1/2 inch from the left margin. The text is double-spaced throughout. The title, 'Works Cited', is centered. A red box labeled 'Double-spaced throughout' is shown between the author and instructor names. A red line underlines the title, labeled 'Centered'. A red line underlines the first line of text, labeled 'Indent 1/2\"'

1" 1/2" Bacon 10

Centered Works Cited

Double-spaced throughout

Alter, Robert. "Modernism and Nostalgia." *Partisan Review*, vol. 60, no. 3, 1993, pp. 388-402.

Bell, William Stewart. *Proust's Nocturnal Muse*. Columbia UP, 1962.

Carswell, Catherine. "Proust's Women." *Marcel Proust, an English Tribute*. Edited by C.K. Scott-Moncrieff, Chatto & Windus, 1923, pp. 66-77.

Howard, Richard. "Intermittencies of the Heart." *The Proust Project*. Edited by Andre Aciman, Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2004, pp. 97-99.

Notice that the entries are alphabetized by author. The first item on the entry is what you will put in your in-text citations.