

WHAT IS IT?

Modern Language Association (MLA) style is used for formatting and documenting work in English and other disciplines in the humanities. Using MLA format correctly increases your credibility as a writer by demonstrating your knowledge of disciplinary conventions. Always defer to instructor or publication requirements. For more information, consult our MLA “WORKS CITED” and “IN-TEXT CITATION” handouts; an *MLA Handbook*, 8th edition; the *MLA Style Center* at <https://style.mla.org>; or visit the KSU Writing Center for one-on-one help.

GENERAL FORMAT

- Use 12-point Times New Roman font (or other easy-to-read typeface).
- Set margins to one inch on all sides. Indent all paragraphs one “tab.” Tabs for indenting should be set to 0.5”.
- Number and include a header on all pages (unless your instructor specifies otherwise). The header consists of your last name and page number (½ inch from top and flush right) in the upper right-hand corner of the page.
- Spell out numbers that can be written in one or two words (ten, twenty-three, five hundred, two billion); otherwise use numerals (736, 4¾, 2.8, 99,000).
- Double-space throughout the *entire* essay. Do not skip additional lines/space between paragraphs.

TITLE AND IDENTIFYING INFORMATION

- MLA style does not require a separate title page. Do not italicize or bold your title.
- In the upper left corner of the first page, list your name, your instructor’s name, the course name and number, and the date (all double-spaced).
- Center your title on the next double-spaced line after the date. Begin the essay on the following double-spaced line.

USE OF SOURCES

- Cite *all* material from outside sources using in-text parenthetical citations and a Works Cited page following the main body of your essay (see our MLA “Works Cited Page” and “In-Text Citation” handouts).
- Limit your use of quotations; quote only when absolutely necessary for accuracy or context purposes.
- Make sure non-quoted (paraphrased or summarized) outside material is entirely in your own phrasing.
- Use present tense when discussing/introducing sources (Shakespeare *writes* of men’s “hard-favoured rage” in battle) unless the original date of the text is provided (In 1599, Shakespeare *wrote* of men’s “hard-favoured rage” in battle).
- Long quotations (4+ lines of prose or 3+ lines of verse) should be offset as a “block quotation.” Begin the quotation on a new line; do not use quotation marks. Indent the *entire* quotation one-half inch from the left margin and continue double-spacing. Unlike for shorter quotations, the parenthetical citation is placed after closing punctuation.

EXAMPLES

<p style="text-align: right;">Owl 1</p> <p>Sturgis T. Owl Professor James Brown English 2816 31 October 2016</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Vampires in America</p> <p>The vampire is one of the oldest archetypes found in American fiction, and as American culture has changed, the vampire has transformed himself to reflect new cultural norms. According to Nina Auerbach, “Every age embraces the vampire it needs” (12). In the twentieth century, the United States became the vampire capital of the world, and with the advent of the motion picture industry, even the</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Owl 2</p> <p>In the last twenty-five years, changes in American culture have influenced the transformation of the vampire from a solitary figure to a complex figure representing our world’s constantly changing fears, attitudes, and behaviors. An example is Buffy Summers from the television program <i>Buffy, the Vampire Slayer</i>. Buffy has shown her audiences that even super humans don’t have all the answers and can need the help of others (Bryan 82). Even powerful people need emotional support,</p> <p>Vampires also reflect American’s changing attitudes toward spirituality and movement away from organized religion. Ann Rice’s vampires often question their</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Owl 11</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Works Cited</p> <p style="text-align: right;">go P,</p> <p>1997.</p> <p>---. <i>Woman and the Demon: The Life of a Victorian Myth</i>. Harvard UP, 1984.</p> <p>Hallab, Mary Y. <i>Vampire God: The Allure of the Undead in Western Culture</i>. SUNY Press, 2009. e-book http://proxy.kennesaw.edu/login?url=http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db2720=site.</p> <p>Luksza, Agata. “Sleeping with a Vampire: Empowerment, Submission, and Female Desire in</p>
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VISIT [WRITINGCENTER.KENNESAW.EDU](http://writingcenter.kennesaw.edu) FOR LOCATIONS & HOURS OR TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT FOR ONE-ON-ONE ASSISTANCE.

THE KSU WRITING CENTER: NOT BECAUSE YOU CAN’T WRITE . . . BECAUSE YOU DO.