MLA FORMATTING

The most common formatting is presented here, but your instructor may have other requirements. Always follow your instructor’s directions.

Questions? Ask your instructor or Writing Center staff.

F I R S T  P A G E

Double-space the entire paper.
(Tramve any “Before/After” spacing.)

Indent ½” (one tab)

Ellington’s Adventures in Music and Geography

In studying the impact of Latin American, African, and Asian music on modern American composers, music historians tend to discuss such figures as Aaron Copland, George Gershwin, Henry Cowell, Alan Hovhaness, and John Cage (Brindle; Griffiths 104-39; Hitchcock 173-98).

R U N N I N G  H E A D

Use Insert › Page Number to place numbers at the top right.
Type your last name and a space before the number.

Ellington’s earliest attempts to move beyond the three-minute limit imposed by the 78 rpm

W O R K S  C I T E D

Hanging indent ½” (You can set this up automatically. Search for “hanging indent” or ask Writing Center staff.)

Works Cited


A title page and outline are not required unless requested by your instructor. There are various possible formats for each; standard formats are shown here.

**OUTLINE**

Outline pages are numbered with lower-case roman numerals.

Outline

Thesis: Type your thesis here. Your thesis statement should be specific—it should cover only what you will discuss in your paper and should be supported with specific evidence.

I. Main point one
   A. Supporting argument one
      1. Evidence one
      2. Evidence two
      3. Evidence three
   B. Supporting argument two
      1. Evidence one

No need to start from scratch—we built one for you. Download this outline template at tiny.cc/oltemp

**WORKS CITED: QUICK GUIDE**

Core Elements

1. Author.
2. Title of source.

Container

3. Title of container,
4. Other contributors,
5. Version,
6. Number,
7. Publisher,
8. Publication date,
9. Location.

Each entry in the list of works cited is composed of facts common to most works—the MLA core elements. They are assembled in a specific order.

Please see our handout on MLA Citation for more information.

For more help with MLA formatting or citation:

- Make an appointment with a Writing Center tutor
- Ask a librarian, either in person at SCC's library or online at library.scottsdalecc.edu
- Read citation examples at style.mla.org
- Visit scottsdalecc.edu/writingcenter
- Ask your instructor

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