

MLA Format: First Page



Writing Center

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This handout is based on the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, Seventh Edition, 2009.

No title page is required for a research paper. (If your instructor requires a title page, follow his or her instructions.) The first page of an MLA-formatted essay or research paper includes the following information:

1. Page heading:

- The upper right corner of the page should include your last name, followed by a space, followed by the number "1." In Microsoft *Word* 2007, select the "Page Number" option from the "Insert" tab to insert automatic numbering. Double click the inserted page number to open the editable header area and type your last name. As an option, you may also type this information on each page.

2. Your name and course information:

- Type your first and last name 1" from the top of the first page, aligned with the left margin.
- Double-space and type your instructor's name under your name.
- Double-space and type the department name, course number, and section number.
- Double-space and type the submission date on the next line.

3. Paper Title:

- Double-space and center your title. If the title is more than one line long, double-space between lines and use an inverted pyramid style. (See Example.)

4. Text:

- Double-space and begin the body of your paper. Indent each paragraph ½".
- **Note:** MS *Word* for Office 2007 adds an extra space between paragraphs by default. Check the "Don't add space between paragraphs of the same style" box from the "Paragraph" menu on the Home tab to create consistent double spacing.

Example

	Mallory 1
Kasey C. Mallory	
Dr. Mehra	
Humanities 193	
21 March 2008	
Purdah in Modern India: Fashion	
Follows Faith	
Double-space and begin the body of your paper.	
Indent each paragraph one half of an inch. Microsoft	
<i>Word</i> for Office 2007 adds an extra space between	