Communication Skills Center

——▪—————▪—————▪—————▪—————▪—————▪—————▪—————▪—————▪—————▪——

MLA Format Research Paper Checklist

Title Page:

My research paper includes a title page with the following information:

- Title of research paper
- Course/Professor Information
- My name
- Date

> Note: Some professors require title pages. This is not standard for MLA format. If you are not sure whether your research paper requires a title page, ask your professor.

Format:

My research paper has been prepared using the following format standards:

- Typed in 12-point font
- Readable Font (Times New Roman or Arial)
- Double spaced
- Black ink
- One inch margins around
- No extra spaces between paragraphs

Introduction:

My research paper includes an introduction that has:

- An interesting hook that captures attention
- A strong thesis statement
- No phrases resembling, "In this paper you will learn . . ." or "After reading this paper . . ."

Body:

Secondary Sources and Plagiarism:

- My research paper contains accurate information from credible scholarly sources.
- These sources are timely and contain current information on my topic.
- This paper is written in my own words.
- Quotation marks are used correctly in instances where I use words directly from other sources:
  According to Aristotle, "The roots of education are bitter, but the fruit is sweet."

Internal Citing:

My research paper includes internal citations according to the following standards:

- The required number of secondary sources, cited parenthetically in the proper format: (Davis 1999).
- Credit is given each time that the information is used, even if it is paraphrased or summarized.
- Each source that is listed on my Works Cited page is cited at least once within my paper.

Conclusion:

My research paper includes a conclusion that has:

- A logical closing that ties together the main points of my paper.
- A unique closing statement that does not repeat the opening statement and leaves the reader with something to think about.
- No phrases resembling, "In this paper you have learned . . ." or "Now that you've read my paper . . ."

Works Cited Page

- Entries are alphabetized according to the author's or editor's last name.
- Entries are not numbered.
- Entries should be double-spaced.

For more information about MLA formatted Research Papers, visit:

Purdue Owl

https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/

Cornell University Library:

https://www.library.cornell.edu/research/citation/mla