

Last Name, First Name

Teacher's Last Name

Class Name

Block

Due Date

Title

When you set up a handwritten MLA paper, write neatly in blue or black ink and skip every other line so your work is double-spaced. Use only one side of the paper. At the top of the first page, write your name, your teacher's name, the course, the block, and the date, each on its own line and aligned to the left. Skip a line, then center your title without underlining or decorating it, and then begin your paragraph underneath. Remember to indent the first line of every paragraph by about one inch (or roughly two fingers). Keep margins consistent by starting close to the left margin and stopping before the edge of the page, and number each page with your last name and page number in the top right corner if space allows.

Doe, John

Fahoum

Composition 11

D Block

31 October 2025

Why MLA Matters

Using MLA formatting matters because it helps your writing look clear, organized, and professional, making it easier for a reader to focus on your ideas rather than being distracted by messy or inconsistent presentation. MLA also gives everyone a shared set of rules, which is especially important when quoting or referring to texts, since it shows where your ideas come from and builds trust with your reader. Practicing MLA formatting now helps it become automatic, so you can focus more on your thinking and analysis instead of worrying about setup later. Learning to follow a standard format is also good preparation for post-secondary writing, where clear structure and attention to detail are expected across many subjects.