

MLA vs. APA

MLA	Similarities	APA
Typically used in the Humanities (i.e.: English, Theatre, Art)		Typically used in the social sciences (i.e.: Psychology, Sociology, Social Work)
First page has a special header, and the title is centered at the top of the page	The paper is double spaced, as well as the reference or works cited page. The citation has a hanging indent.	Uses a title page and a running head on all pages
When information is cited and the author's name is listed within the sentence, place the page number found at the end. Ex. "According to Mark Twain, "if you tell the truth, you don't have to remember anything" (22).	Both use parenthetical citations within the body of the paper. (Twain 22) or (Twain, 1902)	When information is cited and author's name is listed within the sentence, place the year the material was published. Ex. "Mark Twain (1902) believes that if you tell the truth, you don't have to remember anything."
When information is cited and the author's name is not named in the text, place the author's last name and the page number at the end. Ex. "If you tell the truth, you don't have to remember anything (Twain 22)."	Citations are listed alphabetically on the references or works cited page	When information is cited and the author's name is not named in the text, place the author's last name and the year the material was published. Ex. "If you tell the truth, you don't have to remember anything (Twain,1902)."
Quotes 4 lines or longer are blocked, meaning indented 2 tabs over	Quotes are integrated smoothly within the paper and with transitions.	Quotes 40 words or more are indented one tab (or 5 spaces)
No headings or subheadings	DOIs can be used as an alternative to a URL in citations	Headings and subheadings are used to organize the paper.
"Works Cited" page to cite sources at the end of the work	All information used in the paper must be in the reference page or works cited.	"References" page to cite sources at the end of the work
Source is cited last name, first name (Twain, Mark)	Any information that is not your own needs to be cited	Source is cited last name, first initial (Twain, M.)