Firstname Lastname

Instructor’s Name

Course Number

Center Title, Do Not Bold or Underline

 This is a template for formatting a research paper in MLA format. The paper has one-inch margins all around. Each page has a header of last name and page number. The paper will be double-spaced throughout, no extra space between sections or paragraphs. The entire paper, including the heading and title, needs to be in the same type and size of font. This template uses Times New Roman 12pt font. Because it is easy to read, this font is definitely appropriate for school essays. Make sure that the essay is left aligned, not fully justified. One space between sentences is standard; however, double-spacing between sentences is okay. Follow your instructor’s preference in spacing and be consistent. Hit the enter key only once at the end of each paragraph.

In the MLA format, you document your research in parenthetical citations. This allows you to “acknowledge your sources by keying brief parenthetical citations in your text to an alphabetical list of works that appears at the end of the paper” (Gibaldi 142). Notice that in this brief citation the period goes after the parenthesis. The information in parenthesis should be as brief as possible. You will use the author’s last name or a shortened title for unsigned works.

 After the last paragraph in an MLA style essay, force the document to begin a new page for the Works Cited page. The Works Cited page will still have the one-inch margins all the way around and have the heading of last name and page number. This page will also be double-spaced throughout with no extra space between entries. Items in a Works Cited page will be alphabetized by the first word of each entry (author’s last name or title of work).

Works Cited

Lastname, Firstname. Title of the Book. City of Publication: Publisher, Year.

Lastname, Firstname. “Title of the Article.” Name of the Scholarly Journal Volume.Issue (Date): first page-last page.

Lastname, Firstname. “Title of the Newspaper Article.” Title of the Newspaper Date, edition: SectionPagenumber+.

“The Title of the Article.” Title of Magazine Date: page number. Name of the Library Database: Name of the Service. Name of the library with city, state abbreviation. Date of access <URL>.

On the next two pages there are specific examples showing how to cite various kinds of sources.

Works Cited – Specific Examples

**Journal Article:**

Devine, Patricia G., and Steven J. Sherman. "Intuitive Versus Rational

     Judgment and the Role of Stereotyping in the Human Condition:

     Kirk or Spock?" *Psychological Inquiry* 3.2 (1992): 153-59. Print.

**Newspaper Article:**

Di Rado, Alicia. "Trekking through College: Classes Explore Modern

     Society Using the World of *Star Trek*." *Los Angeles Times* 15 Mar.

     1995: A3+. Print.

**Magazine Article:**

Mershon, Donald H. "*Star Trek* on the Brain: Alien Minds, Human

     Minds." *American Scientist* Nov.-Dec. 1998: 585. Print.

**Book**

Anijar, Karen. *Teaching Toward the 24th Century :* Star Trek *as Social

     Curriculum*. New York: Falmer-Taylor, 2000. *Ebrary*. Web. 1 Mar.

     2010.

**Encyclopedia Article**

Barr, Marleen S. "Science Fiction." *New Dictionary of the History of

     Ideas*. Ed. Maryanne Cline Horowitz. Vol. 5. Detroit: Scribner's, 2005.

     *Gale Virtual Reference Library*. Web. 1 Mar. 2010.

**Websites**

<http://www.sciencekids.co.nz/sciencefacts/humanbody/brain.html> “Science Kids – Human Body Facts – Brain Facts.”