**MLA Format- HEADING**

**What is MLA Format?**

MLA stands for the **Modern Language Association**, and this style of formatting is the convention (rule) for how to format papers and cite sources on topics within the liberal arts of humanities disciplines, including English Language Arts. Other disciplines, such as Sociology, Psychology, and Education, use **APA** style formatting. Still others use **Chicago Manual Style**, most often in the History Discipline. Finally, **ACS** style is used to prepare Chemistry research papers.

MLA format is generally taught in high school and is the style that most often appears on standardized tests in the English Language Arts. APA is often used in higher education settings such as Graduate school.

**General Formatting Guidelines**

* MLA Heading begins on the first line of the essay, left aligned, double spaced and appears as such:

Your Name

Teacher’s Name

Class Name and Section

Date (Day Month Year)

* + Ex:

Suzie Goodjob

Ms. Alburger

English ½ Period 5

12 February 2014

* Author last name and page number in the header of every page (right aligned, ½ inch from the top, use the header function of your word processing software)
* Double space the entire essay including heading, body, title, and works cited page
* 1-inch margins for the entire essay.
* Left align your paper except for the title, which should be centered. **Do not underline your paper title.**
* Use 12 point Times New Roman font (or a similar font) for EVERYTHING, including your paper title.

**Other Resources**

* English Department Manual
* Librarian
* English Teacher