

**Tikrit University**  
**Collage of Education for Humanities**  
**English Department**



**Writing Research Paper**  
**Third Year**  
**APA VS. MLA**  
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**2023-2024**

## **How do you put references in a research paper?**

1-Author/ editor , 2-Year of publication , 3-Title ,4-Series title and number ,5-Edition ,6-Place of publication ,7-Publisher

## **What are the five major types of reference sources?**

The most familiar types are (dictionaries, encyclopedias, almanacs, biographical sources, directories, atlases, and bibliographies)

## **APA and MLA Styles of Citation**

APA and MLA are two of the most commonly used citation styles. APA Style is defined in the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, currently in its 7th edition. The rules of MLA style are found in the MLA Handbook, currently in its 9th edition (published by the Modern Language Association).

In both styles, a source citation consists of:

- A brief parenthetical citation in the text
- A full reference at the end of the paper

However, citations look slightly different in each style, with different rules for things like title capitalization, author names, and placement of the date.

## **Which style should I use?**

You'll usually be told which citation style you should use in your writing by your department or supervisor. If you're not sure, look up your institution's guidelines or ask directly.

Occasionally, you may be allowed to choose a style yourself. If so, it's best to base your decision on your area of study:

- APA is used primarily in the (social and behavioral) **sciences** and in fields related to education.

- MLA is primarily used in **humanities** subjects such as languages, literary studies, and media studies.

<b>APA</b> American Psychological Association	<b>MLA</b> Modern Language Association
In-text citations	
(Smith, 2019, p. 25)	(Smith 25)
Title of reference list	
References	Works Cited
Author names in references	
Smith, A.	Smith, Anna.
Capitalization of source titles	
Citing sources: A quick guide for students	Citing Sources: A Quick Guide for Students
Title page	

## **In-text citations in APA and MLA**

Both MLA and APA use parenthetical citations to cite sources in the text. However, they include slightly different information.

An APA in-text citation includes the author's last name and the publication year. If you're quoting or paraphrasing a specific passage, you also add a page number.

An MLA in-text citation includes the author's last name and a page number—no year.

When there are two authors, APA Style separates their names with an ampersand (&), while MLA uses “and.” For three or more authors, both styles list the first author followed by “et al.”

## **APA reference list vs. MLA Works Cited list**

In both APA and MLA style, you list full details of all cited sources on a separate page at the end of your paper. In APA this is usually called the reference list; in MLA it's called the Works Cited.

The formatting of source entries is different in each style. Some key differences are summarized in the table below.

## **APA vs. MLA paper formatting**

The general formatting guidelines for APA and MLA are similar. Both styles recommend:

- 12 pt Times New Roman font
- Double spacing
- 1 inch (2.54 cm) margins

The main differences between APA format and MLA format involve the title page, running head, and block quoting guidelines.

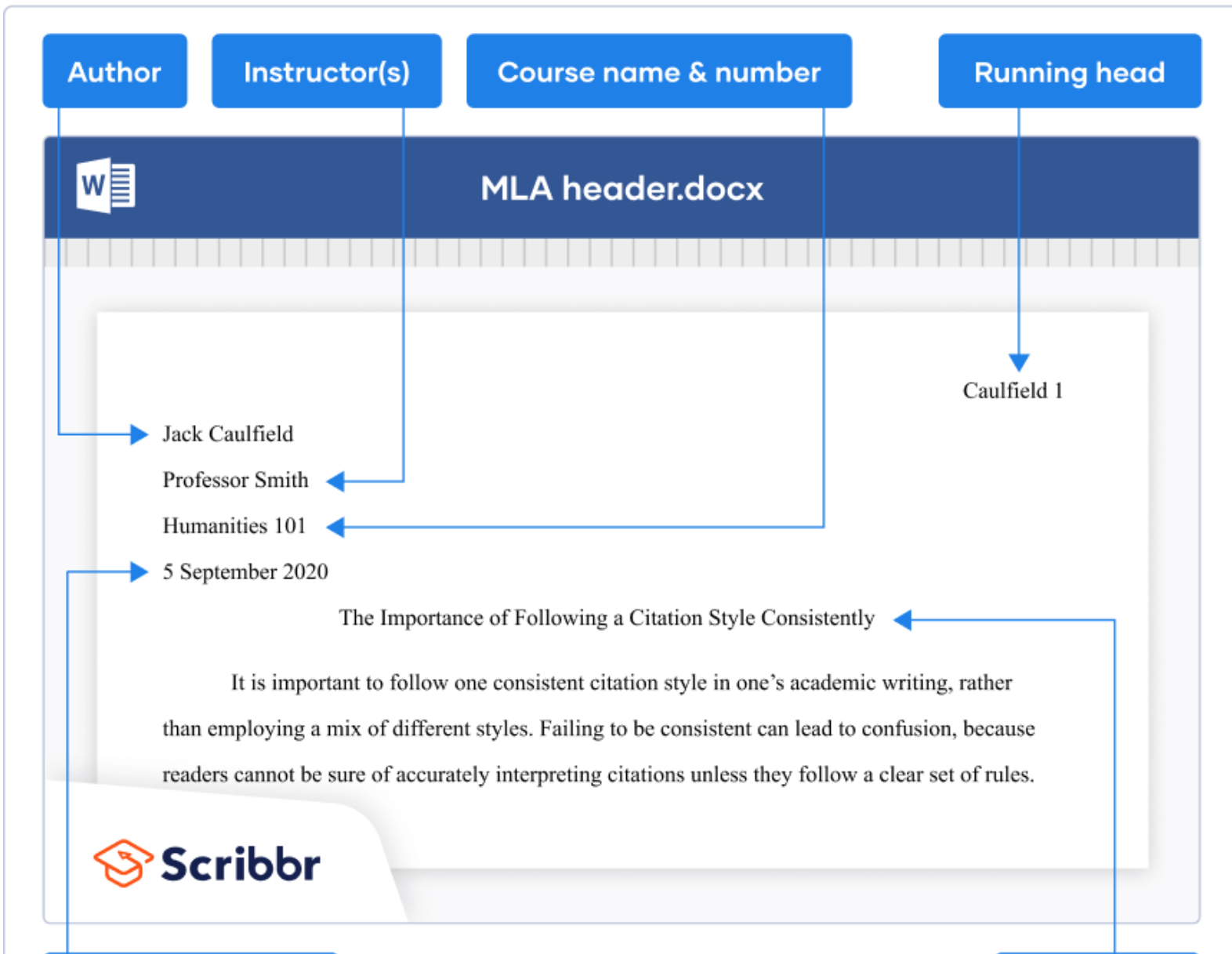
## Title page and header

In APA, a separate cover page is required. It lists the title of your paper, your full name,



In MLA, no title page is required (though your instructor may require you to include one). Instead of a title page, you add a four-line header on the first page.

The header is left-aligned and double-spaced and lists your full name, your instructor's name, the course title or number, and the submission date. The paper's title is centered on a new line under the header.



## **Block quote formatting**

Block quotes are long quotations that are set on a new line and indented as a block, without quotation marks.

In APA, any quote of 40 words or longer should be formatted as a block quote. In MLA, block quote formatting is used for quotes of more than four lines of prose or more than three lines of verse.