MLA Format Cheat Sheet

PURPOSE OF MLA

The Modern Language Association (MLA) style is most commonly used by the humanities. Its goal is to make papers clearly readable and citations as complete but unobtrusive as possible.

GENERAL RULES

MLA format requires all pages to have a 1-inch margin, all text to be double-spaced 12-point Times New Roman font, and all pages to be numbered in the top right corner of the header along with the author's last name.

FIRST PAGE

The first page of an MLA paper gives the same information as a title page in other formats. In MLA, though, this info does not take up a whole page. The goal is to indicate who the author is, who and what the paper is for, when the due date is, and what the paper is called.

♦ As with the rest of your paper, everything in the top left corner of your paper as well as your header should be Times New Roman 12-point, double-spaced.

♦ In the top left corner, put your first and last name.

♦ On the next line, put your professor's name.

♦ The class name or code goes on the next line followed by another line with the due date (written like "24 May 2019").

♦ On the next line, center the full title of your paper.

♦ In the top right corner of the header, put your last name and then the page number. Use the Page Number settings to add this on every page.

FIRST PAGE EXAMPLE:
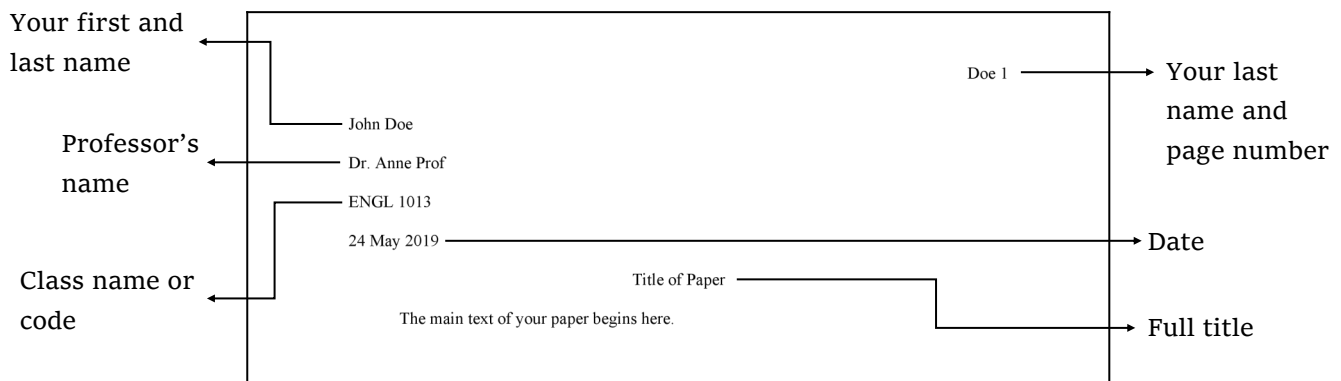
For specific questions not addressed in this handout, please visit the LETU Writing Center, email WritingCenter@letu.edu, or consult the PurdueOWL MLA formatting and style guide.