Modern Language Association (MLA) Documentation

MLA documentation and formatting style is often used in the humanities (except history and theology) and the fine arts. This handout provides some of the key rules, but for additional help, use the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers* (9th edition), visit the Purdue OWL (http://owl.english.purdue.edu), or schedule an appointment at University Writing Services.

Each time you use any information from a source, include a 1) works cited entry and 2) parenthetical - .

STEP 1: WORKS CITED PAGE *(see example on reverse)*
As you find each source you want t

Formatting: name). Double-space each line. Place the first line of each entry flush with the left margin and indent subsequent lines using . Italicize titles of major works, like books, websites, films, and journals. Put quotation marks around the titles of shorter works, like articles, webpages, and short poems.
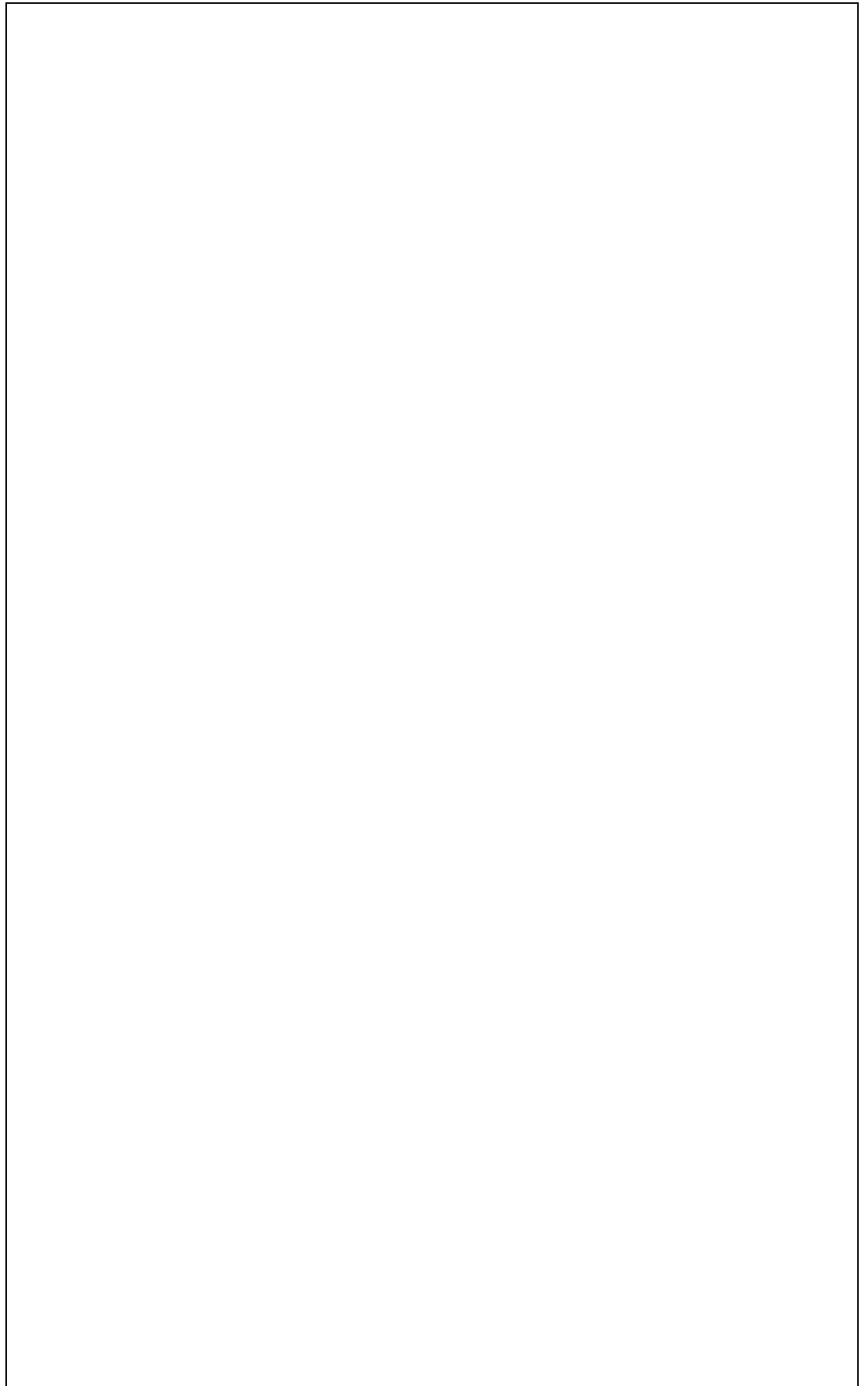
Missing information: Some electronic sources may not list all the information expected in a standard with the title of the work. include placeholders or abbreviations for missing information such as dates or publishers.

STEP 2: PARENTHETICAL REFERENCES
Place a parenthetical reference at the end of each sentence (or a major clause) that contains a borrowed concept or data that is not common knowledge. Cite both quotations and paraphrases.

Formatting:

Print book. Author last name, First name. *Title*.

Most Important Differences Between MLA 8ᵗʰ and MLA 9ᵗʰ Editions

How This Works: Universal rules are presented first. Deviations between the two editions are given after.

Rule #1: Inclu1s 792 reW*nBTF612 Tf1 0l 22.671086Tm0g67ETF

FORMATTING RESEARCH PAPERS

WRITTEN BY 1 STUDENT: