

Style Guides

MLA Format

FRONT PAGE

FORMAT
Double Space, and
use Times New
Roman 12 pt. font

HEADING
Note the format
and the date

TITLE
The title should be 12-
point font and centered,
but *not* underlined,
italicized, bolded, or put
in quotation marks

BLOCK QUOTATIONS
Quotations that are four
or more lines in length
need to be set apart in a
block. They should be
double-spaced and
indented 1" from the set
margin. Quotation marks
are not used with block
quotations, and the final
punctuation is placed

Jones 1

Davy Jones
Professor Mills
English 2010
7 July 2004

Understanding Whitman's Poetry

By examining sectional divisions in Walt Whitman's *Song of Myself*, we can show that 1891 revisions underscore the function of each section as a unit of meaning governed by its own rhythm (Strauch 64). Roger Mitchell calls this "group size pattern":

Whitman is doing more than simply distributing a pattern of groups in some sensible fashion over the lines of a poem, creating what some critics are calling a group/line pattern. Whitman is also conscious of the size of his groups and of their progression in terms of size pattern. (16)

Such an analysis demonstrates the method governing Whitman's formation of stanzas and the meter governing the lines and verses of

PAGE HEADER
A page header includes the last name of the paper's author and page number. Headers should appear in the top right corner of every page.

MARGINS
Use 1-inch margins on all four sides

IN-TEXT CITATIONS
In-text citations should be used after quoting, paraphrasing or summarizing. Parenthetical citations go inside the sentence punctuation (note the period after the citation). If the author is stated within the text, only cite the page number.

CITING INDIRECT SOURCES
To cite information that your source has taken from a different source, put the original author of the information in the text and write "qtd. in" in your in-text citation followed by the author and page number of the work you found the material in. Example: (qtd. in Asay 352)

QUOTATIONS
If you need to make additions to a quotation, put your own words in square brackets []. To omit words, use ellipses (three periods, with a space after each) Example: "She was . . . unhappy."

WORKS CITED

TITLE
The title "Works Cited" should be centered, but not underlined or punctuated

ALPHABETICAL ORDER
Alphabetically arrange works cited entries according to the first word in the entry, ignoring a, an, and the

HANGING INDENT
Use a hanging indent for entries longer than one line. Indent 1/2" from the set margins after the first

Jones 8

Works Cited

Asay, Ronald. "How the Americans Made Transcendentalism." *Journal of American History* 23 (1978): 345-357. Print.

Chan, Evans. "Postmodernism and Hong Kong Cinema." *Postmodern Culture* 10.3 (2000): n. pag. *Project Muse*. Web 5 June 2008

Committee on Scholarly Editions. "Guidelines for Editors of Scholarly Editions." *Modern Language Association*. MLA, 25 Sept. 2007. Web. 15 May 2008.

Strauch, Ronald. "Leaving Cambridge." *Whitman: The Man*. Ed. Taylor Roger. New York: Harcourt and Brace, 1998. 123-134. Print.

Thompson, Neil and Allen Gregory. *The Literary Executioners*. London: Oxford UP, 1954. Print.