Modern Language Association

MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers
SEVENTH EDITION
Times New Roman - 12 pt.
double-spaced
1” margins, all around
one space after a period
A research paper does not need a title page.
Ellington’s earliest attempts to move beyond the four-minute limit imposed by the...
Medieval Europe was a place both of “raids, pillages, slavery, and extortion” and of “traveling merchants, monetary exchange, towns if not cities, and active markets in grain” (Townsend 10).

Between 1968 and 1988, television coverage of presidential elections changed dramatically (Hallin 5).

The cluster on literacy in the anthology by Lauter and his coeditors is a resource for teaching the place of oral cultures in postbellum America (155-66).

References in the text must clearly point to specific sources in the list of works cited.
Romeo and Juliet presents an opposition between two worlds: “the world of the everyday,” associated with the adults in the play, and “the world of romance,” associated with the two lovers (Zender 138). Romeo and Juliet’s language of love nevertheless becomes “fully responsive to the tang of actuality” (141).

Keep parenthetical references as brief—and as few—as clarity and accuracy permit.
Fukuyama’s Our Posthuman Future includes many examples of this trend.

Chan considers the same topic in the context of Hong Kong cinema.

Works Cited


To cite an entire work that has no page numbers—it is often preferable to include in the text, rather than in a parenthetical reference, the name of the person leading the works-cited entry.
Table 1
Degrees in Modern Foreign Languages and Literatures Conferred by Degree-Granting Institutions of Higher Education in the United States^a

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Bachelor's Degrees</th>
<th>Master's Degrees</th>
<th>Doctor's Degrees</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1996-97</td>
<td>13,053</td>
<td>2,470</td>
<td>793</td>
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<td>1997-98</td>
<td>13,618</td>
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<td>1998-99</td>
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<td>2,267</td>
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<td>1999-2000</td>
<td>14,186</td>
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<td>2,517</td>
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<tr>
<td>2005-06</td>
<td>16,762</td>
<td>2,637</td>
<td>777</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


^a. These figures include degrees conferred in a single language or a combination of modern foreign languages and exclude degrees in linguistics, Latin, classics, ancient and Middle and Near Eastern biblical and Semitic languages, ancient and classical Greek, Sanskrit and classical Indian languages, and sign language and sign language interpretation.
Any other type of illustrative visual material should be labeled *Figure* (usually abbreviated *Fig.*).
The list of works cited is printed on its own page. Entries are arranged in alphabetical order.
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