

Differences between MLA and APA

Comparison of MLA and APA style

	MLA	APA
Governing Body	Modern Language Association	American Psychological Association
Users	Humanities	Social Sciences
aka	Author-Work	Author-Date
Bibliographic list	Works Cited	References
Order of entries in bibliographic list	Alphabetical by author, then alphabetical by work	Alphabetical by author, then chronological by work
Names	Last, First, Middle Initial	Last, First Initial, Middle Initial
Dates	Not used in-text	Prominent in-text
Article Titles	In quotation marks	Not in quotation marks
Capitalization	All Major Words Capitalized	First words only capitalized
Notes (Foot or End)	Not used for references	Not used for references
In-text parenthesis	(Name space page number)	(Name comma year comma p.#)
Example	(Levin 13)	(Levin, 1982, p. 13)
And	Spelled out	Ampersand except running text
Secondary citation	(qtd. in Levin 13)	(cited in Levin, 1982, p. 13)
Publisher's names	Many abbreviated	Rarely Abbreviated
Trailing punctuation	Not underlined	Underlined
Multiple works by same author	Works alphabetical, three hyphens and a period for name	Works chronological, name repeated for each entry
Et al	Four or more authors	3 or more authors
Tense of reporting	Present: Smith claims. . .	Past: Smith claimed. . .