A Brief Road Map to MLA

What is MLA?

MLA stands for Modern Language Association.

This is the format and citation style used in writing about language and literature, as well as in the humanities.

What is the style all about?

MLA has a certain “look” or format. MLA style specifies guidelines for formatting manuscripts and using the English language in writing. MLA style also provides writers with a system for referencing their sources through parenthetical citation in their essays and Works Cited pages.

In-text Citation vs. Works Cited Page

In-text citations are used when you quote, summarize, or paraphrase secondary sources within your essay. They tie into each entry on the works cited page. A secondary source is any source other than yourself that you use in an essay.

The works cited page catalogues where you, or someone else, can find any of the secondary sources used in your essay.

What version of MLA should I use?

Make sure to use the latest version of MLA. See below for an online link for more extensive information.

Who to ask for help?

CASA Writing Studio: drop by or call 737-3695
UNM Taos Library: drop in or call 737-6242
For more information go to: http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/