

## **ENGL 1301: Argument Essay**

### **Prewriting #1: Converting MLA to APA Format**

---

#### **Purpose**

This prewriting exercise will help you transform your informative synthesis essay from MLA format to APA format, which is commonly used in the social sciences and other disciplines. This change in formatting reflects the transition from informative to argumentative writing and will prepare you for diverse academic writing expectations.

#### **Instructions**

##### **Part A: Document Formatting Changes**

1. **Create a new document** using your informative synthesis essay as the starting point. Save as or save a copy. Name it Essay 3, Argument Essay, or whatever makes sense to you. Just make sure you retain a copy of your MLA formatted Informative Synthesis essay.
2. **Update the font and spacing:**
  - It should stay the same.
3. **Header and Page Numbers:**
  - Update to APA style
4. **Title Page:** Create an APA title page

##### **Part B: In-Text Citation Changes**

1. **Parenthetical Citations:** Convert MLA citations to APA format
  - MLA: (Author's Last Name Page#)
  - APA: (Author's Last Name, Year, p. #)

Example:

#### **Checkpoint Questions**

After completing your conversion, answer these questions:

1. What challenges did you encounter when converting in-text citations?
2. How does the APA title page differ from the MLA header information?
3. What differences do you notice between MLA Works Cited entries and APA References entries?
4. How might these formatting differences reflect the different purposes and audiences of various academic disciplines?
5. Why do you think APA format emphasizes the year of publication in its citations?