Format of Research Papers:
Research papers have very specific formats that they are to follow. MLA and APA each have their own distinctive format that they wish you to use. I will present both of them in the pages following. First, I will present an overview of the format style, then I will show you a sample of that style. I will do MLA on first, and then APA.

MLA TITLE PAGE FORMAT GUIDE

For the MLA paper, note that:

1. MLA officially does not require a title page, but your instructor most likely will ask for one. Thus the examples show you the actual MLA format, and the common revised title page format.

2. If you use a title page in MLA, it is not counted in the page count. Page 1 is ALWAYS the first page containing the text of your paper.

3. If you use a title page, page 1 begins with the title centered 2 inches from the top of your paper. This is the only deviation allowed from the standard 1 inch margin.

4. You must include your last name 3 spaces to the left of the page number in the upper right hand corner of every page of text, including the Works Cited page. This information should be located in the Header 1/2 inch from the top of the paper.

Being a research paper, your paper will also have:
1. 1 inch margins all around: top, bottom, left and right
2. everything double spaced
3. A Works Cited page that is a numbered page beginning on the first page following the last page of text.

REALIZE THAT THESE ARE THE GUIDELINES FROM THE MLA HANDBOOK. YOUR INSTRUCTOR MAY REQUIRE A DIFFERENT FORMAT. ALWAYS BE WILLING TO ADAPT TO THE INSTRUCTOR'S PREFERENCES, AS THEY GIVE THE GRADE.
Perverted Trash!: Public Perception of Comics as a Mass Medium

In the June 11, 1984, issue of The New Yorker, noted comic book creator Scott McCloud stated, "The basic misconception most people share is that comics are a genre. They're not -- they're a medium" (36). This quote neatly summarizes the basic problem facing the medium of comics today. To most people, comics is a style of communication that can communicate only a certain type or genre of story. If comics is used as a comic strip, it is expected that the content will be humorous, such as Garfield, Peanuts, or even Doonesbury, or sentimental like Mary Worth. If comics is used in comic books, the typical reader will expect the content to include stories about superhuman characters like Batman and Superman, or stories intended for children with characters like Little Lulu or Donald Duck. Each of these forms of comics is limited by what the public has been conditioned to expect from them. In turn, the creators and publishers of comics have acquiesced to the public's limited vision and only created works that fit within the reader's expectations.

This limited vision of what comics can contain not only limits the content, it also limits the medium itself by defining the medium not by what it is, but rather by its content. Comics is unique...
This is more typical of the type of format an MLA instructor will actually ask students to use. However, it is not the official MLA form.

Perverted Trash!:
Public Perception of Comics as a Mass Medium

by
James S. Kosmicki

English 799
Professor Edwards
6 August 1990
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