## MLA Style Guide for

## Mealy Mountain Collegiate Student Research Papers

Recommendations here are based on the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers. Students need to be aware that individual teachers and institutions or departments may vary from these recommendations somewhat and it is wise, therefore, to consult with your teacher before formatting and submitting your work.

FORMAT:

Paper: Use white 81/2 by 11-inch paper.

Margins: Except for page numbers, leave one-inch margins all around the text of your paper – left side, right side, and top and bottom. Paragraphs should be indented half an inch; set-off quotations should be indented an inch from the left margins.

Spacing: The research paper, including quotations, notes, and the list of works cited, must be double-spaced.

Heading and Title: At the top of the first page, at the left-hand margin, type your name, your teacher's name, the course name and number, and the date on separate double-spaced lines. Then double-space again and center the title above your text. (If your title requires more than one line, double-space between the lines.) Double-space again before beginning your text. Do not underline or write the title in all capital letters. Capitalize only the first, last, and principal words of the title. Titles might end with a question mark or an exclamation mark if that is appropriate, but not in a period.

Page Numbers: Number your pages consecutively throughout the paper (including the first page) in the upper right-hand corner of each page, one-half inch from the top. Type your last name before the page number. Make sure the page-number is always an inch from the right-hand edge of the paper (flush with the right-hand margin of your text) and that there is a double-space between the page number and the top line of text. Do not use the abbreviation p, or any other mark before the page number.

Jones 1

John Jones

Mr. G. Hall

English 2201

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Imagery in Macbeth

William Shakespeare's *Macbeth* reveals the story of a tragic character who is brought to personal ruin due to vaulting ambition.

Shakespeare makes extensive use of blood, clothing, and darkness imagery to trace the downfall of the once noble Macbeth.