

ACE Study Resource – Writing Handouts

Instructions: Click each link to learn more about useful writing concepts.

[APA Formatting](#)

Review this handout if your assigned essay is in APA format, and you need help with the title page, abstract, headings, and references page.

[APA Quoting](#)

Review this handout if your assigned essay is in APA format, and you need help with citations within the essay.

[MLA Formatting](#)

Review this handout if your assigned essay is in MLA format, and you need help with the first page, heading, headers, and works cited page.

[MLA Quoting](#)

Review this handout if your assigned essay is in MLA format, and you need help with citations within the essay.

[CMS & Turabian Quoting](#)

Review this handout if your assigned essay is in Chicago format, and you need help with the title page, footnotes, endnotes, and bibliography page.

[Thesis Statement](#)

A thesis statement (or main idea) establishes focus/purpose and provides structure to your essay. A thesis is usually located at the end of the first paragraph/introduction, and it serves as a guide to tell the reader what will be addressed in your writing. It is the most important sentence(s) in your work, especially in argumentative and critical papers. Everything in an essay—introduction, body paragraphs, and conclusion—must connect to and support the thesis statement.

[Transitions & Connectives](#)

Learn to use words or phrases that create logical links between sentences, paragraphs, and sections of a paper. These may also help create sentence variety in essays, short answer questions, and more.

Using Evidence for an Argument

Learn the elements to create a strong argument, which aims to persuade readers by using evidence to justify claims, defending a thesis. Learn about the different types of evidence containing specific, verifiable details to support each reason.

Developing Introductions

Learn about the first paragraph of any academic essay, which is an introduction paragraph, informing the reader of the paper's contents. An effective introduction paragraph will engage the reader, explain the subject's background information, and present a thesis statement, discussing the paper's main idea.

Annotated Bibliographies

Review this handout for help with the annotated bibliography, which is a type of works cited (MLA) page. It features the list of sources used, along with a summary of its main points. There are two main parts in an annotated bibliography: the citation and the annotation.

Disclaimer:

- Please use this document as a supplemental resource. You must follow class instructions and expectations set by your professor.
 - This guide does not substitute your class.
 - This guide does not cover the entire syllabus or course.