

What is APA Style?

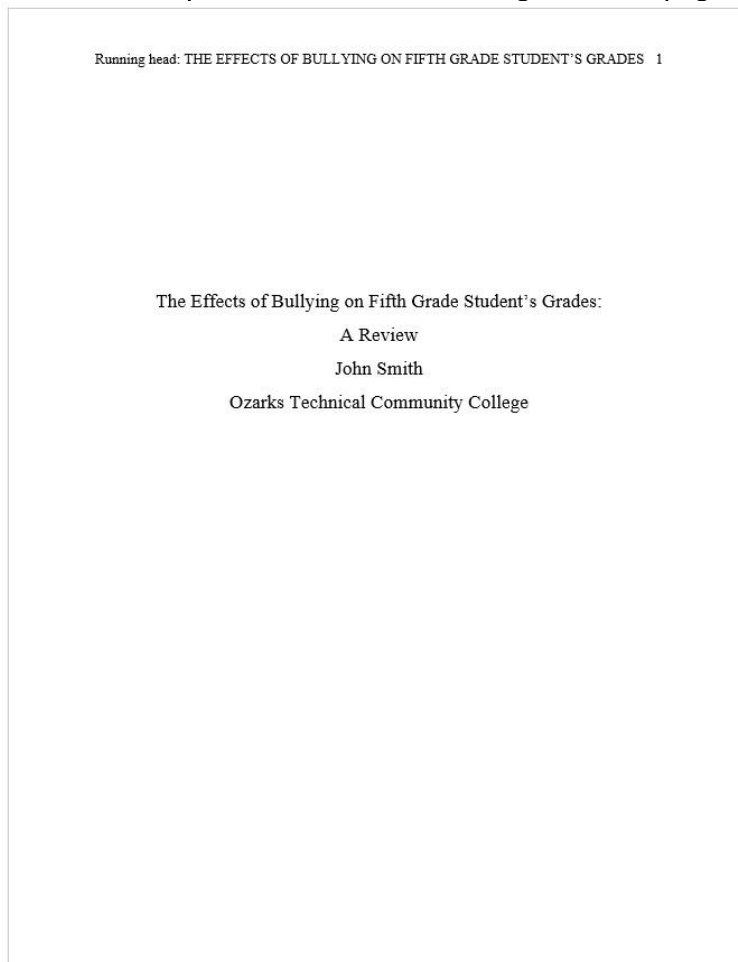
APA Style is the formatting style of the *American Psychological Association*. This type of format is generally used in the social science fields. This guide is based on APA's 6th Edition manual.

What is the format of APA Style?

- APA Style papers include a **title page**, **running head**, **reference** page, and sometimes an abstract. APA Style is double spaced, 12pt Times New Roman font, with 1" margins.

What is a title page?

- Unlike MLA, APA papers require a **title page**. Sort of like the title page in a book, this lists the information about you, and who you're writing for, centered in the paper: **Title, Author, University**. It also includes a **running head** and **page number** at the top.



- The **running head** and **page number** go in the **header** of the title page, and every page after that, with the **page number at the top right of the page** and the **running head at the top left of the page**.

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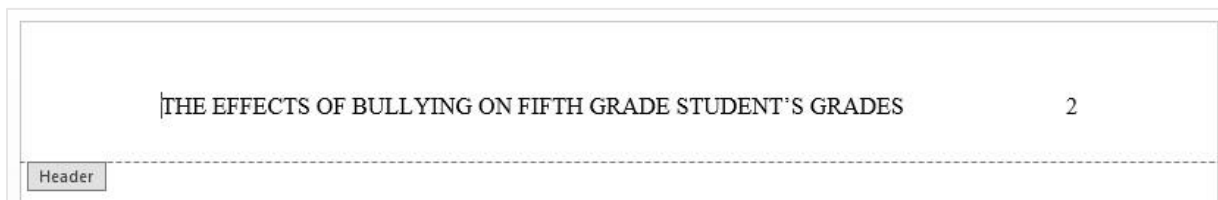
What is a running head?

- A **running head** goes at the very top left of every page in your paper. It is the title of your paper, carried over. The running head is **in all caps**, and should contain **no more than 50 characters** including spaces and punctuation. The running head on **your first page should have the words “Running head” before the title**, but the running head on every page after that should have *just* the title.

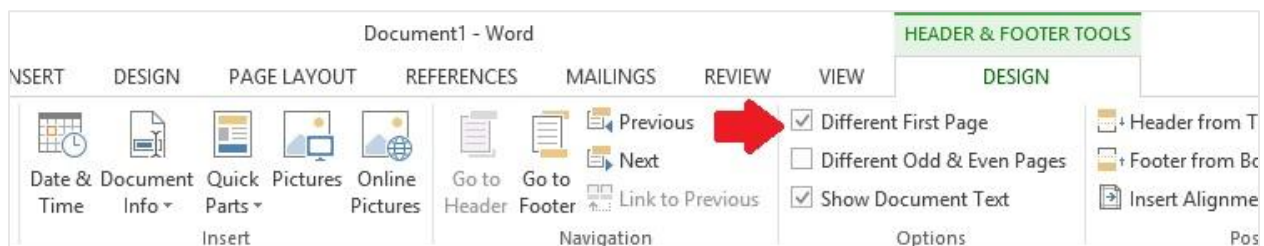
Page 1:



Page 2 onwards:



- The running head on the first page is different from the rest of the paper. **To set this up in Microsoft Word, you can double-click on the Header of your paper, select the Design tab, and check the box marked Different First Page.** Then you can edit the header of your first page separate from the rest of the paper.



Do I title my source page “Works Cited”, “References” or “Bibliography”?

- **References.** Your list of references should be on a separate page, double spaced, with hanging indents. For info on APA citations, check out our [APA Citation Guide](#).

Need some help with APA?

Go to otc.edu/library & look for the Ask A Librarian button:



Or contact the **OTC Writing Center** at writingcenter@otc.edu or 417-447-8235.