MLA and APA Side-by-Side

Side-by-side comparison showing the differences between the two citation styles.
For more information: https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/

Set-Up	Bibliography Name	Cover Page	Font	Page Margins	Line Spacing
MLA	Works Cited	No	Times New Roman - 12pt	1"	Double
APA	References	Yes	Times New Roman - 12pt	1"	Double

Direct Quote in Text	
MLA	"The idea of race has been socially constructed in similar ways" (Rothenberg 9).
APA	"The idea of race has been socially constructed in similar ways" (Rothenberg, 2007, p. 9).
MLA does not require the year, a comma after the author's name, or a p. before the page number.	

Direct Quote with Author Name in Text (MLA-preferred)	
MLA	According to Rothenberg, "The idea of race has been socially constructed in similar ways" (9).
APA	According to Rothenberg (2007), "The idea of race has been socially constructed in similar ways" (p. 9).
MLA does not require the year, a comma after the author's name, or a p. before the page number.	

Paraphrase or Summary Citation in Text	
MLA	The social construction of race is very similar to the way gender stereotypes were constructed (Rothenberg 9).
APA	The social construction of race is very similar to the way gender stereotypes were constructed (Rothenberg, 2007, p. 9).
MLA does not require the year, a comma after the author's name, or a p. before the page number.	

Book Entry on Works Cited vs. References	
MLA	Rothenberg, Paula S. *Race, Class, and Gender in the United States*. 3rd Ed. New York: Worth Publishers, 2008. Print.
APA	Rothenberg, P. (2008). *Race, class, and gender in the United States* (3rd Ed.). New York, NY: Worth Publishers.
Differences: date placement, author name, capitalization, parenthesis around edition, source format	

Journal Article on Works Cited vs. References	
MLA	Dolby, Nadine. "Research in Youth Culture and Policy: Current Conditions and Future Directions." *Social Work and Society: The International Online-Only Journal* 6.2 (2008): n. pag. Web. 20 May 2009.
APA	Dolby, N. (2009, May 20). Research in youth culture and policy: Current conditions and future directions. *Social Work and Society: The International Online-Only Journal 6*(2). Retrieved from http://www.socwork.net/sws/article/view/60/362
Differences: date placement, author name, capitalization, URL not required on MLA entry	

Website on Works Cited vs. References	
MLA	Coates, Ta-nehisi. "What We Mean When We Say 'Race Is a Social Construct'" *The Atlantic*. Atlantic Media Company, 15 May 2013. Web. 07 Mar. 2015.
APA	Coates, T. (2013, May 15). What we mean when we say 'race is a social construct' Retrieved March 7, 2015, from http://www.theatlantic.com/national/archive/2013/05/what-we-mean-when-we-say-race-is-a-social-construct/275872/
Differences: date placement, author name, capitalization, URL not required on MLA entry	