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/

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</table>

**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**

Differences: date placement, author name, capitalization, parenthesis around edition, source format

**Journal Article on Works Cited vs. References**

Differences: date placement, author name, capitalization, URL not required on MLA entry

**Website on Works Cited vs. References**

Differences: date placement, author name, capitalization, URL not required on MLA entry

Compiled by Megan Pratt, 2015