What an MLA Essay Should Look Like

The first page of an MLA-style paper begins with a four-line list of information:

- your name (you may provide your student number here as well)
- the name of the instructor
- the course name
- the date in day, month, year format

The header, consisting of the writer’s family name and the page number, is ½” from the top edge of the paper. The information block begins 1” below the top edge. The title should be centered on a line of its own immediately following the above information. Capitalize the main words of the title, excluding only articles (other than those serving as the first word), prepositions, coordinating conjunctions (e.g., and, but, for), and the particle to in infinitives (e.g., to sleep, to dream). Subtitles are introduced by colons (Joyce’s *Stephen Hero: Early Manuscript Corrections*). The first paragraph of the paper begins on the next line, indented by ½”.

Chang 1

Miriam Chang

Prof. A. Hernandez

English 2112, Modern British Novel

10 March 2016

Power, Panopticism, and Post Office Towers in Ian McEwan's *Saturday*

Outnumbered by the thug Baxter and his two henchmen, pinned against a metal door and wounded by the blow Baxter lands on his sternum, Henry Perowne, the neurosurgeon who is the protagonist of Ian McEwan’s novel *Saturday*, carefully plans his options. “Just up the street is a pub, the Jeremy Bentham,” Perowne thinks. “But if it's open this early, the drinkers are all inside in the warmth” (92). That Henry should first think of a pub named after the late-eighteen-century philosopher rather than of the nearer Spearmint Rhino, a strip club, as a place of refuge, reflects
Note that page numbers are in arabic numerals. The left, right, and bottom margins are 1”; the margin for the top of the page is 1”, though the header falls within that.

At the end of the essay, you will need to provide a list of all works cited in the text. Begin on a fresh page, with the words “Works Cited” centered at the top of the page. The entries are arranged alphabetically by the first author’s name. All entries have a hanging indent (Microsoft Word has a special feature for this accessed through the Paragraph dialogue box).

Here is what a works cited page should look like:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Works Cited</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>