## Basic APA Format

APA format is one of the two most commonly used formatting and citation styles. It is commonly used when writing in fields like the social sciences, education, business, and nursing. The below will cover the general basics of formatting. Other resources will cover citations. Please note: The latest edition of the APA manual differentiates between student papers and professional papers. The following is how student papers are to be formatted.

Some instructors may require a running head, which is part of the title put in all caps, in the upper left hand corner of every page. Ask your professor about this.

Title is centered and bold faced on the top half of the first page.

Your entire
paper should
be double
spaced and use
size 12 font.
The margins
should all be
one inch.

Flip over to see the next page PURDUE LAB'S SAMPLE PAPER

The Purdue Online Writing Lab's Sample Title Page:
Following the American Psychological Association's Guidelines

Polly Purdue

Department of English, Purdue University

ENGL 999: Course Name

Dr. Professor's Name

November 11, 2019

In the top right hand corner of every page, put the page number.

In the center of the first page, put your name, the school's name, the course number and title, the professor's name, and the due date.

Do not put this in bold.

## Basic APA Format Cont.

NOTE: Some APA style papers require page 2 to be an abstract. For this, put the word Abstract in bold print, centered, on the first line. Following this, write a paragraph summarizing the key points of your paper. Do not indent or put this in bold print. This is not usually required for student papers unless your instructor specifically asks for it, and is not shown here. Ask your professor if this page should be included; if not, page 2 will be the beginning of your paper. If it is needed, your paper will begin on page 3.

> Put the title of

the top of

the page, centered

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