The Society of Biblical Literature (SBL) Style is an academic writing style designed for the study of the Bible, the Ancient Near East, and Greco-Roman culture. Check all the boxes on this list to ensure that you are formatting your SBL compliant paper correctly!

**GENERAL FORMATTING**

- Use **12 point font** (p. 8).
- Consult your professor for their desired font type (e.g. Times New Roman, Calibri, etc). Ensure titles and section headings use the same font as the body text (p. 8).
- Set all margins to **1 inch** (p. 8).
- Ensure all indentations are **½ inch** (p. 9).
- All text should be **double-spaced** (except for block quotes and bibliography entries) (p. 8).
- On the first page of the main text, place the page number at the **bottom center** of the page. On every subsequent page of the main text, place the page number in the **top right corner**.
- Likewise, on the first page of the bibliography, place the page number at the **bottom center** of the page, and on subsequent pages of the bibliography, place the page number in the **top right corner** (p. 8).

**TITLE PAGE**

- Create a **2 inch** margin at the top of the title page (p. 9).
- Separate title page elements **2 inches** from one another (p. 9).
- Include the **name of your institution** (p. 12).
- Include the **title of your paper** (p. 12).
- Include the **name of your instructor**, along with the **course’s name** (p. 12).
- Include **your name, the month, the day, and the year** (p. 12).

**BODY**

- The first paragraph of a section should be **left justified. Indent** the first line of every subsequent paragraph in the section (p. 9).
- Separate each section by **two lines** (p. 14).
Ensure that all block quotes are **five lines or longer, single-spaced, indented ½” inch**, with a blank **line above and below** to distinguish it from the main text of the paper (p. 15).

**CITATIONS (Footnotes)**

- Set the size of your font to **10 point or 12 point**. Consult your professor for their desired footnote font size (p. 9).
- Separate footnotes from the text by **2 inches** (p. 9).
- **Indent** the first line of each footnote, then **left justify** the following lines of each note (p. 9).
- Make sure all footnotes are **numbered** from 1 to n, where n is the total number of footnotes in your paper (p. 9).
- If you cite more than one work by the same author, notes after the first instance should include the **surname of the author** and the **name of the work** (p. 10).

**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

- Order bibliography elements **alphabetically** by their first element (p. 17).
- Use **hanging indentation** for bibliography entries (p. 17).
- Bibliography entries should be **single-spaced** (p. 17).
- Separate the first entry and the title “BIBLIOGRAPHY” with **two blank lines** (p. 17).
- Separate entries with **one blank line** (p. 17).

This resource utilizes the [Student Supplement for The SBL Handbook of Style, Second Edition](https://www.sbl-handbook.com/).