

Jennifer Kerry
Professor O'Donnell
ENG 1001-16
12 June 2003

Double space:
Student's name
Instructor's name
Course number
Date

Last name and page number in the Header. Click on the **Insert** menu. Click on **Page Number**. Choose the top right position (Plain Number 3). Type your name and a space in front of the number. Click the red X at the top right of the screen to exit.

Kerry 1

Justice, Revenge, and Fire in *Agamemnon*

In the trilogy, *The Oresteia*, Aeschylus explores the themes of justice and revenge. *Agamemnon*, the first play of the trilogy explores Clytemnestra's dual motives for Agamemnon's murder in relation to the themes of justice and revenge. On one hand, murdering Agamemnon is an act of justice bringing light of truth to the darkness of her husband's act of sacrificing their daughter Iphigeneia. However, Agamemnon's murder can also be viewed as an act of violent revenge that creates an unending circle of retributive murders in the house of Atreus. In *Agamemnon*, Aeschylus uses the symbol of fire to explore the two different views of Clytemnestra's motives and actions.

Today, it is hard to imagine a justice system similar to the system underway in Greek society when Aeschylus wrote his plays. The system of justice in a Greek society allows one to view Clytemnestra's murder as a form of true justice bringing light to a dark matter, rather than a cold, ruthless murder. The old Greek tradition demanded that a family member seek retribution for the murder of his/her kin by killing the person responsible for the murder. In writing *The Oresteia*, Aeschylus gives Clytemnestra justifiable motive to murder her husband. Agamemnon sacrifices their daughter Iphigeneia to the God Artemis so that he and his men can continue on to conquer Troy. The Greek justice system allowed retribution in the form of murder, and Clytemnestra may have solely been following the tradition of Greek justice by killing Agamemnon. Agamemnon murdered her daughter, and therefore,

Note these important formatting aspects:

- The page is double spaced.
- The first line of each paragraph is indented.
- The margins are one inch.
- The title is centered with the important words capitalized
- The last name and page number appear, even on page one.



*Illinois Valley Community College
Writing Center*

PAPER FORMAT IN MLA

The rules below are in accordance with the Modern Language Association's MLA Handbook 7th Edition. Consult the MLA Handbook in the IVCC Writing Center or in Jacobs Library if you have more questions.

Heading. On the first page, in the upper left-hand corner, place your name, your instructor's name, the course, and the date on separate double-spaced lines. Write the date in the Day Month Year format, as in 14 May 2008.

Title of Your Essay. Center the title. Do not underline or bold the title. It should be double spaced from the text of the paper. No extra spaces are needed.

Titles of Other Works. If you mention titles of other works in your essay, follow these rules. Use italics for titles of larger, whole works and quotation marks for titles of shorter works that are parts of larger works. In other words, cite entire works using italics and smaller works or parts of works using quotation marks. (Note: underlining is not used in any style.)

Page Numbers. Number all pages in the upper right corner of the page preceded by your last name. In Word 2007, click on the *Insert* menu. Click on *Page Number*. Choose the top right position (Plain Number 3). Type your name and a space in front of the number. You may need to change the font of the name and page number by clicking on the Home tab. Click the red X at the top right of the screen to exit.

Margins. Use 1-inch margins. Do not align the right margin. In Word 2007, check your margins by choosing *Margins* in the *Page Layout* menu.

Line Spacing. Double-space the entire document. There should be no extra spaces between lines.

Indenting. Indent the first line of each paragraph $\frac{1}{2}$ " by hitting the Tab key once.

Font. Use Times New Roman 12-point font.

Works Cited. Include a Works Cited page that lists the works you quote or paraphrase, if your assignment requires that you use sources.

Flip the page to see a sample first page from a paper in MLA. \Rightarrow