

# Punctuating Titles Handout—RULES TO LIVE BY

**THERE ARE RULES** for how to punctuate titles of works: italics, underlining, and “quotation marks.”

## 1. Underlining/Italics:

- Long works and collections of short works are underlined or *italicized*
- Underlining and *italicizing* are the same
- If typing, use *italics*. If hand writing, use underlining

### ★ Long Works and Collection of Short Works ★

- **Title of a Novel**

Ex: Frankenstein or *Frankenstein*

- **Title of Book**

Ex: Psychology and Consumer Culture or *Psychology and Consumer Culture*

- **Title of Anthology or Collection of Works**

Ex: An Introduction to Literature

Ex: *The Best American Essays 2003*

- **Title of Magazine or Scholarly Journal**

Ex: U.S. News and World Report or *U.S. News and World Report*

- **Title of Newspaper**

Ex: Chicago Tribune

Ex: *The New York Times*

- **Title of Plays**

Ex: Death of a Salesman

Ex: *Oedipus the King*

- **Title of an Epic Poem or Long Poem**

Ex: The Odyssey or *The Odyssey*

- **Title of Film**

Ex: Edward Scissorhands or *Edward Scissorhands*

- **Title of a Television Series**

Ex: The Simpsons

Ex: *The Twilight Zone*

- **Title of Album (CD, record, or cassette)**

Ex: Bob Dylan's Greatest Hits, Vol. 2 or

*Bob Dylan's Greatest Hits, Vol. 2*

## 2. “Quotation Marks”

- Short works and parts of long works are usually in “quotation marks”

### ★ “Short Works” and “Sections of Longer Works” ★

- **Title of a Short Story**

Ex: “The Lesson”

- **Title of a Chapter**

Ex: “Homer and Aristotle”

- **Title of an Essay**

Ex: “Citizenship in Emergency”

- **Title of an Article in a Magazine or Journal**

Ex: “The North Korea Problem”

- **Title of an Article in a Newspaper**

Ex: “A Year-Long Chance to Relive College Days”

- **Title of a Short Poem**

Ex: “The Sick Rose”

- **Title of a Chapter on a DVD**

Ex: “A Story about Snow”

- **Title of Individual Episode in a T.V. Series**

Ex: “Bart’s Girlfriend”

Ex: “Time Enough at Last”

- **Title of a Song**

Ex: “A Hard Rain’s A-Gonna Fall”