

PAPER TOPICS DUE

What is required when my paper topic is due?

- 1 Give me a few sentences on your topic
- 2 Provide me with a concise thesis statement
- 3 Provide me with a list of sources you will draw from (this could be reading we've done in class or external reading). I do not care what citation format you use for this but I must be able to track down the source.

Why are you requiring a paper topic?

I want to make sure your topic isn't too large in scope for this class. Additionally, I want to make sure you are picking sources relevant to the material for this class.

How is this different from my project plan?

Your project plan (due after your paper topic) will be a full outline of what you argue. I will provide you with more instruction on what is required for a project plan below.

PROJECT PLAN

A project plan is a full outline of what you plan to argue. You will be required to hand in an outline of your entire paper AND a brief summary of the sources you intend to use.

EXAMPLE PROJECT PLAN (what you need to accomplish in green)

- I. Introduction
 - a. Introductory sentence: "In this paper I will be discussing...."
 - b. Thesis: "I will argue that....."
 - c. Roadmap: "First I will..., second I will..., third I will...."
- II. Background / Exegesis
 - a. You must provide relevant background information on your given topic. For most of you this means a few paragraphs (at least) on the issues at hand and a rehearsal of a person's argument you intend to use/criticize in your positive argument.
 - b. For your project plan you can put this in bullet format (no need to write out in full sentences)
- III. Your Positive Argument
 - a. You must give three reasons in support for your thesis.
 - b. These reasons must be supported by evidence and/or argument.

- c. For your project plan please write your argument out in “standard form” such as:
 - i. P1: My first premise is.
 - a. Give some support for this claim (bullet points for project plan is fine)
 - ii. P2: My second premise is.
 - a. Give some support for this claim (bullet points for project plan is fine)
 - iii. P3: My third premise is....
 - a. Give some support for this claim (bullet points for project plan is fine)

IV. Objection / Response

- a. Give one objection to one of the reasons presented in section III.
- b. This objection SHOULD NOT be a negation of your main claim (i.e. your thesis)
- c. Your response should be able to dismiss (even just partially) the worry of your objection.
- d. For your project plan describe your objection in 1-2 sentences and tell me which one of your premises it objects to.
- e. For your project plan, in 1-2 sentences describe your response.

V. Conclusion

- a. You must have a separate paragraph summing up to your audience what you accomplished in the paper (1-3 sentences).
- b. You do not need to write out your conclusion for your project plan, just make sure it is in your outline as a “conclusion”