

## Outlining Your Paper: A Guide

Things to consider before outlining/writing

- 1. What do you believe about this topic? What do you want to argue?
- 2. Why should someone else read what you are writing?
- 3. How are you going to back up your argument? What claims will you make? How do these claims build on one another?

Intro:

- A. **Strong Start:** (Do **not** use a quote) Draw readers in. What is interesting about this topic? Can you relate it to a well-known or recent event? Did you find out anything startling about your topic? Why would/should readers read this paper? Possible ideas: a concession, paradox, description, or an anecdote
- B. Relate sentence #1 to topic--start to pull it all together
- C. Tell us what we need to know--introduce barebones context. What do readers need to know to