

Chaffey College
 English 1B: Advanced Composition and Critical Thinking
 Paper One: Policy Claim Outline

- Paper #1 (15% of the grade) calls for students to create a **sentence outline** (not a paper—just a detailed outline) and to support with research a working thesis based on one of the topics identified below. This outline will eventually turn into the final paper in the class (the Portfolio Claim), a carefully revised and edited write-up of the groundwork laid in this outline.
- Please choose and narrow one of the following topics for the project:

Should Affirmative Action laws be changed?	Should marijuana be legal for medicinal and/or recreational use?
Should GMO foods be labeled?	How does the "princess" stereotype harm girls? What should be done?
How should student evaluations of teachers be used?	Should college athletes be paid?
How can schools better support LGBTQ youth?	Should childhood vaccination be mandatory?

- Begin research on the topics that interest you immediately! Within a couple of days, start your research through a college or university library.
- In the final outline, working thesis statements must be “should/should not” policy claims and must be supported by at least two claims of value and one claim of fact.

A policy claim makes an assertion about a course of action the reader should take; in other words, it is an argument (claim) about an actionable topic (policy).

A value claim makes a qualifiable assertion; in other words, it is an argument (claim) about a moral, ethical aesthetic, or philosophical topic (value).

A fact claim makes a quantifiable assertion; in other words, it is an argument (claim) about a measurable topic (fact).

- The “finished” working thesis and sentence outline should be approximately four pages in length, must evidence Library research, and must be presented in proper outline format.
- With the working thesis and sentence outline, students must submit a brief description that identifies both who the audience is and what beliefs, values, and opinions they hold.
- Papers will be evaluated one-third on the quality and development of the working thesis and sentence outline; one-third on deployment of relevant, sufficient, and reliable support; and one-third on the pedigree and format of the outline.
- **Important guidelines on creating sentence outlines as well as other content crucial to the development of this paper are available on Moodle.**