

Chaffey College
English 1B: Advanced Composition and Critical Thinking
Paper #2: Value Claim

- The Value Claim (15% of the course grade) calls for students to write a college research paper which makes a moral, aesthetic, or philosophical claim in support of the working thesis of Paper #1; in other words, the value claim will develop and support a portion of the policy claim outline you made previously.
- The Value Claim should be approximately 2000 words (7 to 8 pages) in length, and must be double-spaced and word-processed. MLA documentation style is the norm. As with the policy outline, please submit a description of the audience with the value claim.
- A value claim argues a matter of moral, ethical, artistic, or other non-verifiable judgment. Be careful in choosing the diction of a value claim--avoid simplistic terms like "good" and "bad"; rather, argue terms like "just" or "unjust," "humane," or "inequitable."
- Although this is a non-verifiable claim, Library-based information remains central. As before, choose sources wisely: Make sure they are credible, relevant, authoritative, and recent.
- Further, in value claims, it is desirable to defend the claim with BOTH principles and consequences: Consider not only moral and ethical principles, but effects of those principles and of opposing principles.
- Papers will be evaluated on the quality of thesis and supporting argument; on proper MLA-style integration of relevant, sufficient, and reliable support; and on the quality of written expression, including format, style, mechanics, and grammar. These are the same criteria on which the final paper will be graded.
- All advanced compositions involve unstated premises (AKA warrants)--be sure to consider them carefully. For instance, some premises underlying "the death penalty is unjust because it is inequitably applied" are
 - the death penalty is currently a punishment for some crimes
 - the death penalty is intended by its proponents to bring about justice
- **Content crucial to the development of this paper is available on Moodle.**