



# MAPPING

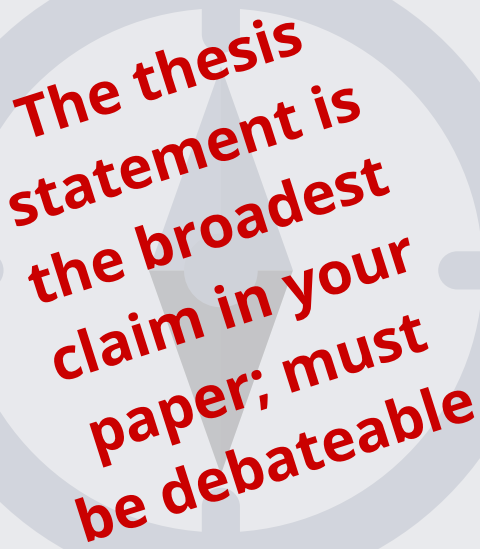
## the research essay

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### INTRODUCTION

- provides context for the topic of the essay and a logical introduction for the thesis statement

### BODY PARAGRAPHS



**The thesis statement is the broadest claim in your paper; must be debateable**

- develop subordinating claims in support of your thesis (i.e. reasons your thesis is true)
- this development includes the provision and explanation of evidence (researched info)
- writer should provide a clear explanation as to how the subordinating claim developed in each body paragraph relates back to/supports the thesis

### COUNTERARGUMENTS

- it's important to be mindful of acknowledging the perspectives of those who might not agree with your thesis
- the placement of your counterargument depends on how contentious the issues is
- phrases like, "while some might argue X, I contend y" offer a basic blue print for counterargument

### CONCLUSION

- the conclusion is your last opportunity to persuade your reader
- focus on reinforcing the importance of your argument rather than restating your thesis and claims