Sentence Outline
English 102

Note: You are now committed to the topic outlined in this research review. A final paper that deviates significantly from the material presented in this review will not be accepted. You may, however, continue to revise your thesis and/or outline, add or remove sources, and make other changes within the topic you have identified. In fact, these are welcomed and encouraged as evidence of continued thought and effort.

These are the required elements of this assignment:

I. A thesis statement.
The thesis will be evaluated according to whether it:
1. expresses a unified position specific to scope of paper (not too vague, broad or general; not too narrow; not divided between different ideas, etc.).
2. is arguable (plausible but can be disagreed with; not obvious).

II. A sentence outline.
The outline will be evaluated according to whether it:
3. expresses its thoughts thoroughly (major sections; sub-points; examples provided for main points and maybe key sub-points; intro & conclusion outlined as well);
4. is balanced (covers different sides of the debate);
5. has a logical organization (hierarchical; relations among ideas clear);
6. expresses content in grammatically complete declarative sentences—not questions or phrases, and not about the paper (e.g., “Here I will define ‘corruption.’”). They should make assertions about the topic (e.g., “‘Corruption’ refers to the illegal use of money or other value to influence an elected official.”). Only one sentence for each section.

Cite your sources in the outline: list all authors used in each section in parentheses at the end of that section. List all sources in an MLA formatted bibliography at the end of the outline, with new sources added and older ones deleted if necessary as your research project develops.

Grading
This assignment will be scored on each of the numbered items above. Each will receive a score of 4 (A), 3 (B), 2 (C), 1 (D) or 0 (F). The grade will be the average of those scores.

Format
• Typed, with your name, the assignment title, the date and your class and class time (e.g., “English 102 10:30”) single spaced in the upper right corner of the first page.
• Your name on all following pages.
• Thesis statement at the top of the first page.
• Formal outline structure (each level numbered separately and indented from the level above).
• Staple all the pages together in the upper left corner.