Generic Outline for Research Paper

# Intro – 1 paragraph

## Hook

## Thesis – the answer to your research ques.

# Background information – 2 paragraphs

## Historical background info

## What’s going on today (the “context of the broader conversation” part listed in your rubric)

# Evidence to support your thesis – 5-6 paragraphs

## At least 3 pieces of evidence (reasons), or sub-topics, with 2 paragraphs for each piece. If you can only get one paragraph for a sub-topic, make that your “weakest” argument and place it first in this section. Your other sub-topics then should have 2 paragraphs each.

# Counterclaim & rebuttal – 1-2 paragraphs

## One counterclaim, then refute that counterclaim

# Conclusion – 1 paragraph

## Restate your thesis

## Summarize your main points in 2-3 sentences

## Ask yourself, “So what?”