Tips for Writing Your Thesis Statement

 ✓ Determine what kind of paper you are writing:

• **Analytical** – breaks down an issue or idea into parts, evaluates the issue or idea, and presents the breakdown and evaluation to the audience
• **Expository** – explains something to the audience
• **Argumentative** – makes a claim about a topic and justifies this claim with specific evidence. Claim can be an opinion, a policy proposal, an evaluation, a cause-and-effect statement, or an interpretation

 ✓ Your thesis statement should be specific – cover only what you will discuss in your paper and is supported by evidence

 ✓ The thesis statement usually appears at the end of the first paragraph

 ✓ Your topic may change as you write, so you may need to revise your thesis statement to reflect exactly what you have discussed in the paper