

DANT 385.001
Dance History: Primitive Cultures to 19th Century
Fall 2010
Dr. Stephanie Milling

Guidelines for the Thesis Statement and Outline

1. Write a thesis statement for your paper. Your thesis statement should only be one to two sentences in length, and "it should be a statement that can be argued throughout your paper instead of a statement of fact. Also, make sure that the argument you introduce in your thesis statement can be accomplished in the number of pages allotted for the essay" (Keating). Your paper for this class should be no less than 7 pages and no more than 8 pages in length.

Since you will probably need to rewrite your thesis statement after you have completed your paper, you should have completed a rough draft--or be very close to completing a rough draft-- before you turn in the thesis statement and outline assignment. In addition, your thesis statement may continue to change until you turn in your final draft.

2. Underneath your thesis statement, include an outline of your essay. Outlines are helpful for two reasons; first, outlines help writers organize what they want to say before they begin to write a paper; and second, an outline can help writers evaluate the organization of an essay that they have already written. Your guidelines for your outline are as follows: **Include the title or tentative title of your paper.** Your outline should include headings and subheadings to chart the organization and order of the arguments in your essay. A heading should be the main point that you argue in a specific section of your paper. The subheadings should include the specific examples that you use to support and/or clarify your main argument. Your outline does not need to be written in complete sentences; however, your headings and subheadings must be written clearly so another reader could comprehend the content of the paper that you have outlined.

The rubric below will be used to evaluate your work.

Criteria/Expectations for Assignments	5 possible points
<p>WOW: Exceeds expectations, guidelines, and requirements for the assignment</p> <p>The thesis statement is one to two sentences in length and is stated in the form of an opinion. The thesis statement demonstrates a synthesized comprehension of the topic being studied and contains no grammar, spelling, or punctuation errors. The outline is extremely detailed and demonstrates a thorough analysis of and reflection upon the paper topic. Student's ideas are organized and articulated in an exceptional manner.</p>	4.9-5 points

<p>Strong: Meets the expectations of the assignment</p> <p>The thesis statement is one to two sentences in length and is stated in the form of an opinion. The thesis statement demonstrates a synthesized comprehension of the topic being studied and contains few if any grammar, spelling, or punctuation errors. The outline is extremely detailed and demonstrates that the student has engaged in an analysis of and reflection upon the paper topic. Student's ideas are organized and articulated very well.</p>	<p>4.5-4.8 points</p>
<p>Competent: Meets expectations of the assignment</p> <p>The thesis statement is one to two sentences in length and is stated in the form of an opinion. The thesis statement demonstrates some comprehension of the topic being studied and contains few grammar, spelling, or punctuation errors. The outline is detailed and demonstrates some analysis of and reflection upon the paper topic. Organization and articulation of ideas are average.</p>	<p>4-4.4 points</p>
<p>Developing: Almost meets the expectations of the assignment</p> <p>The thesis statement may or may not be one to two sentences in length and/or stated in the form of an opinion. The thesis statement demonstrates a vague comprehension of the topic being studied and contains some grammar, spelling, or punctuation errors. The outline lacks detail and/or demonstrates a vague analysis of and reflection upon the paper topic. Organization and articulation of ideas could use several revisions</p>	<p>3.5-3.9 points</p>
<p>Emerging: Barely meets the expectations of the assignment</p> <p>The thesis statement may or may not be one to two sentences in length and/or stated in the form of an opinion. The thesis statement does not demonstrate comprehension of the topic being studied and/or contains many grammar, spelling, or punctuation errors. The outline lacks detail and/or demonstrates little analysis of and/or reflection upon the paper topic. Organization and articulation of ideas need</p>	<p>3-3.4 points</p>

many revisions.	
Not Yet Does not meet any of the guidelines and/or requirements of the assignment, work is sloppy and unintelligible	2.9 points and below