**Outline of Research Paper**

For your rough draft, set up your paper in the clearest and most cohesive format. Follow the guidelines below to create an outline. Use this outline as the bones of your rough draft.

**Introduction**

1. **Hook**: An engaging opening that draws the reader in. Must pertain to your topic/thesis. *Should not be a question because Ms. Burk hates opening a paper with a question because then who will answer your question? It’s confusing.*
2. **Summary of point**: Quickly provide background information that the reader will need to understand your topic/thesis
3. **Map of paper**: Explain what your paper will cover, in the order in which it will be covered
4. **Thesis**: State what your paper will prove

**Body Paragraph (1)**

1. **Topic Sentence**: State what your paper *will prove –* ***this sentence must prove your thesis***
2. **Point**: Provide the main point of this paragraph (the point that your TS says you will prove)
3. **Evidence**: Provide the evidence that will support this point (make sure it is correctly cited)
4. **Explanation**: Explain the evidence and how it supports your point - *do not just restate the evidence, you must EXPLAIN how this evidence supports your original argument*
5. **Concluding sentence**: Here you state what your body paragraph *has proven*

**Body Paragraph (2)**

1. **Topic Sentence**: State what your paper *will prove –* ***this sentence must prove your thesis***
2. **Point**: Provide the main point of this paragraph (the point that your TS says you will prove)
3. **Evidence**: Provide the evidence that will support this point (make sure it is correctly cited)
4. **Explanation**: Explain the evidence and how it supports your point - *do not just restate the evidence, you must EXPLAIN how this evidence supports your original argument*
5. **Concluding sentence**: Here you state what your body paragraph *has proven*

**Body Paragraph (3)**

1. **Topic Sentence**: State what your paper *will prove –* ***this sentence must prove your thesis***
2. **Point**: Provide the main point of this paragraph (the point that your TS says you will prove)
3. **Evidence**: Provide the evidence that will support this point (make sure it is correctly cited)
4. **Explanation**: Explain the evidence and how it supports your point - *do not just restate the evidence, you must EXPLAIN how this evidence supports your original argument*
5. **Concluding sentence**: Here you state what your body paragraph *has proven*

**Conclusion**

1. **Summary of paper/restate thesis**: Provide a summary of what your paper has proven (the point proven in each body paragraph)
2. **Statement of solution**: Provide a solution for the overall issue discussed in the paper
3. **“Concluding Sentence”**: Create an ending that ties up loose ends and gives readers a sense of closure