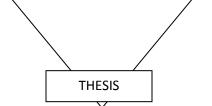
GOING FROM A TOPIC TO A THESIS (Bolinder-ENGL 1013)

- 1. Identify topic.
- 2. Narrow topic to a manageable focus.
 - A. What is the issue or category within that topic?
- 3. Add tension or consequence to the focused topic.
- 4. What is the question or assertion guiding your focused topic?



- 5. Add the significance of the assertion for a particular context or group of stakeholders.
 - A. Who or what is affected by your assertion?
- 6. Stake a claim and/or offer a solution to the issue. Include a SHOULD, SHOULD NOT statement.

EXAMPLE

1. Health care

implemented:

- 2. Health care and nursing
- 3. Current nursing shortage in Northwest Arkansas
- 4. What has been/is/will be the effect of the nursing shortage on health care in Northwest Arkansas?
- 5. What are the ramifications of the nursing shortage for hospitals and teaching institutions in Arkansas? What is being done to address this?
- 6. Those who can solve this problem are in state government and schools of higher education.
- PROPOSED SOLUTION: Students in Arkansas who choose to study nursing should receive reduced tuition in exchange for a five year work commitment upon graduation because it will benefit medical, educational, and public sectors.

Directions: Take your proposed topic through the following thought process. If you cannot answer the questions below about your proposed topic, then you don't have a workable topic. Please come to class on Thursday with the nine questions below answered and ready to turn in (on a separate sheet of paper).

TOPIC: (Education, the Environment, the Economy, Health Care)

	TOPIC:
2.	Your focused subject (or the problem) within the topic:
3.	Your question about the topic:
4.	Your (or someone else's) connection to the topic:
5.	Your topic in the news/media/Arkansas:
6.	Who can solve the problem?:
7.	The people affected by your topic:
8.	Potential solutions to the problem—STAKE A CLAIM in the form of a SHOULD/SHOULD NOT statement:
9.	The people whose lives will be harmed if your proposed solution is not considered or