

# Declaration of Thesis

Part one of the final project involves conducting preliminary research, choosing a topic for your paper, and creating a formal thesis statement. Over this week, visit the library databases to narrow down topics.

## OBJECTIVES

01. Begin gathering articles which you will use as reference for your paper.
02. E-mail me at least one article from a selected database relating to your topic.
  - Be sure you include your name for identification.
03. Print out a formal declaration of your proposed thesis. Remember, evidence may later force you to modify your observation. You cannot change topics.
  - A thesis is a declaration which names your topic *plus* a fact regarding the subject, *plus* an observation.
  - A thesis is very specific and shows the direction you will take the paper.
  - A thesis does not show a bias nor an overt opinion regarding the subject.

due Wednesday 06.23.10

*wrong: too vague*

E. A. Poe and C. Gilman both use the Gothic genre in their writings.

*right: shows type of research and documentation*

E. A. Poe in his story “The Black Cat” and C. Gilman in “The Yellow Wallpaper” utilize Gothic elements to instill fear in their readers; likewise, both narrators are reduced to animalistic state of being despite their different roles in the individual stories. Through the protagonists’ tragedies, both authors show a process of deconstruction of upper-middle class value systems in 19th Century America.