Three Thesis Statement Models
from Green & Lidinsky, 101-103

Correcting Misinterpretations
- Model used to correct writers whose arguments you believe has misconstrued one or more important aspects of an issue.
- The thesis type is concerned with a **claim of fact**.

“Although scholars have addressed curriculum to explain low achievement in schools, they have failed to fully appreciate the impact of limited resources to fund up-to-date textbooks, quality teachers, and computers. Therefore, reform in schools must focus on economic need as well as curriculum.”

“Although many scholars have argued about X and Y, a careful examination suggests Z.”

Filling the Gap
- Points to what other writers may have overlooked or ignored in discussing a given issue.
- Typically makes a **claim of value**.
- Suggests that something is different than it seems -- “Although it would appear that women have achieved equality in the workplace, their paychecks suggest that this is not true...”

“If America is truly a melting pot of cultures, as it is often called, they why is it that stories and events seem only to be be in black and white? Why is it that when history courses are taught about the period of the civil rights movement, only the memoirs of African Americans are read? Where are the works of Maxine Hong Kingston, who tells the story of alienation and segregation in schools through the eyes of a Chinese child? African Americans were denied the right to vote, and many other citizenship rights; but Chinese Americans were denied even the opportunity to become citizens. I am not diminishing the issue of discrimination against African Americans, or belittling the struggles they went through. I simply want to call attention to discrimination against other minority groups and their often-overlooked struggles to achieve equality.”

“Although scholars have noted X and Y, they have missed the importance of Z.”

Modifying what others have said
- Assumes that mutual understanding is possible
- Typically makes a **claim of policy**

“Although scholars have claimed that the only sure way to reverse the cycle of homelessness in America is to provide an adequate education, we need to build on this work, providing school-to-work programs that ensure graduates have access to employment.”