**NOTES on COUNTERCLAIMS**

**What is a claim?** main idea/argument/thesis that you are trying to prove

**What is a counterclaim?** a claim that negates or disagrees with the thesis

**What is a rebuttal?** evidence that negates or disagrees with the counterclaim

explanation of why the counterclaim is wrong or not strong enough

**What is necessary for a** counterclaim AND rebuttal

**successful counterclaim?**

**Where is a counterclaim** in the lastbody paragraph or at the beginning of the **typically** **located?**  conclusion

**Why do you need a**

**counterclaim?** 1. Adds credibility – shows you are reasonable and knowledgeable about both sides  
 2. Connects to reader – shows that you have considered both sides  
 3. Strengthens your argument - adds strength to previous evidence; disproves objections from the other side

**What are some ways to** **construct counterclaims?**

* Many people believe/argue/feel that (insert counterclaim), but (claim).
* There is some truth to the argument that (counterclaim); however, (claim)
* Even though (counterclaim), (restate claim).
* It is often thought/imagined/supposed that (insert counterclaim); in reality the truth is (claim).
* It might seem/appear as if (counterclaim) because \_\_\_\_\_\_, but (claim).
* One could say/believe/imagine that (counterclaim); however, (claim).