The Writing Center at the ARC presents:
a quick guide to following your own ideas

GENERAL THOUGHTS

Start with a big, general idea. Like Sports.
What kind of sport?
What matters about this sport? Is there a current issue concerning this sport?

NARROWING DOWN ISSUES

Think about what most draws your attention or what you can relate to.
Maybe you've had a sports injury. Maybe someone you know can't play anymore.
Think about all the ways sports injuries affect the sport.

CONCENTRATING ON YOUR ISSUE

How are players affected by injury?
What about the psychological impact?
List the ways that the psychological impact might affect a player's emotional health

BEGINNING RESEARCH

Develop an idea about what you want to do with this information
Start researching that specific issue and all related sub-issues
Identify your stance based on how the topic makes you feel or based on the assignment.

ONCE YOU KNOW YOUR STANCE, BEGIN TO FORMULATE A THESIS