

CURRENT EVENTS

Throughout the semester you will be asked to keep up on current events in our world, especially as they pertain to our case study nation-states. To assist you in knowing what's going on, we will start class with a current event report every Tuesday and Thursday throughout the semester. On each of these days, one member of the class will be responsible for sharing a news story with the class. A schedule will be provided in class; please note the days you are responsible for as I will not provide you with reminders. The current events assignment has two parts: a written summary and an oral presentation. Details are provided below.

Part I: Written Summary

Find a current (within the past 10 days) article about one of our case study nations (for Tuesday presentations) or the United States (for Thursday presentations). The article should address political, economic, or cultural issues that are of interest in examining the political climate of the given nation. Write a 1-page summary of the article, highlighting the most important information contained in the article. Also include your analysis of the situation and its impact on the political situation in that nation. Provide a correctly formatted MLA citation following your summary. The written summary will be worth **20 points**. Full credit will be earned for summaries that:

- Accurately reflect the article
- Highlight significant points without excessive paraphrasing or quotations
- Provide insightful analysis
- Include a correct MLA citation
- Are well-written

Part II: Oral Presentation

At the beginning of class on your assigned day, you will have two minutes to summarize your article for the class. Due to the limited amount of time, please highlight the most significant issues raised in the article and provide a brief analysis of the situation. We will then take up to three minutes for the class to discuss the event and/or ask questions about it. The oral presentation will be worth **10 points**. Full credit will be earned for presentations that:

- Last between 1½ and 2 minutes
- Focus on important information not trivial details
- Include a concise analysis of the situation
- Lead to a meaningful class discussion and/or question-answer session

My presentation dates: _____