

Current Events – 2nd Semester Revision

Why do we study history? Perhaps the most important reason we study history is *to gain an understanding of the world as it exists today in order to create change in the future*. Therefore, in order to make the material that we study in class more relevant to today’s globally connected world, we must also examine the events that are occurring in the present. Through this assignment you will gain an understanding of different issues, events and people that will continue to influence the future of our planet.

Every Early Release Wednesday this year, you will discuss current events in a small group of 3 to 4 students. On the Friday prior to the early release Wednesday, several articles will be made available in class for you to choose from. You need to choose **two (2)** articles to **read, annotate and be prepared to discuss**.

Extra Credit will be made available as part of the Current Events assignment each week. In order to earn up to 5 points of extra credit, students will need to find their own article in which to read, annotate and discuss with the class. Extra Credit articles must be turned in on the day of the discussion (or the day of the students return to class, in cases of excused absences). Your articles must adhere to the following rules:

- Published no earlier than 10 days prior to the date of each discussion.
- Articles must have a named author (exception: Associated Press articles)
- Be at least 1.5 pages in length when printed in a 12 point font.
- Your articles must be **internationally focused**. Your articles may mention the United States, the content of the article should be primarily about some other part of the world.
- Your articles **MUST** come from the following publications:

New York Times	Wall Street Journal	The Associated Press
The Economist	Washington Post	Reuters
The Los Angeles Times	Time	BBC
Chicago Tribune	News Week/The Daily Beast	Al Jazeera
National Public Radio (NPR)	The Atlantic	The Christian Science Monitor

Each week you will be assigned a topic from the list below. After locating 2 to 3 articles, you will print, read and annotate the articles and then share the information with your discussion group. Annotations should focus on the Who, What, Where, When, and Why/How and represent your interaction with the article. Your article must contain citation information: Author, Title, Date Published, Publisher, etc. You will turn your annotated articles in after the discussion. You will put a heading on your articles including your name, date, class period and topic.

If you are absent on the day of the discussion, you must arrange with Mr. Bennett to participate in an alternate discussion in order to make up the participation points.

Wednesday Discussion Dates:

Second Semester

February 10, 2016
February 24, 2016
March 9, 2016
March 23, 2016
April 20, 2016
May 11, 2016

Grading:

2 Articles Read and Annotated: 10 Points 10 Points
Extra Credit Article Read and Annotated 5 Points
Discussion Participation: 5 Points