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Global Newspaper Assignment

Christi Siver

College of Saint Benedict/Saint John's University

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Introduction to International Relations

Global Newspaper Assignment

Find four articles (approximately 500 words each) from national news sources (using library databases, specifically Access World News or Proquest International Newsstream) on your topic. One of your articles should be a news source, the other three must each be editorial/opinion from different countries. *Be careful that the international articles are not just reprints of articles from the United States.* You may use translated news reports from BBC Monitoring. **All articles must be from 2020 and later.**

The articles should take a position on the topic – they should not be purely descriptive; editorials are ideal. Your articles must have authors or be the product of the publication’s editorial board. You should select articles that are from relevant countries and reflect a range of perspectives, not just the first articles you find. You will complete a worksheet outlining your reasoning for selecting these articles.

Learning goals for this assignment:

1. Become more familiar with an international topic.
2. Develop experience with the library databases.
3. Improve research skills to identify relevant non-U.S. perspectives
4. Practice analytical skills to become *critical consumers of political information*.
 - a. Learn to distinguish between authoritative and unreliable information sources.
 - b. Understand the importance of considering perspectives beyond U.S. media sources.
 - c. Understand when and how to cite properly.
 - d. Synthesize ideas from multiple sources.
 - e. Understand how reading multiple perspectives presents a more nuanced view of international relations.
5. Reflect on the value of relevant non-U.S. perspectives.

You **MUST** use the library’s research databases, not Google, to find these articles. Your final report, with a cover page, page numbers, bibliography and a copy of all of the articles (not links)

will be submitted via Canvas. You can either paste your articles into a Word file or convert them to PDFs. It must be clear that you found them using library databases – articles accessed any other way do not meet the criteria of the assignment. You also need to submit your Research Worksheet.

SAMPLE OUTLINE:

- Introduction: Briefly describe your topic and note the importance of examining multiple perspectives on the issue – your thesis should directly answer the question “Why is it important to examine this issue from multiple perspectives?”
- A brief paragraph describing the topic (draw on U.S. article)
- A summary paragraph (including specific details/quotations) for each of the three non-U.S. articles (each from a different country) and the perspectives they offer on the issue.
- A reflective concluding paragraph on how these articles helped you better understand the topic than you might have if you had relied on only the U.S. source.

Use Chicago Style (footnotes) for citation (see back of assignment for specific guidelines). There are videos on Canvas if you need help inserting footnotes in Microsoft Word or with Chicago style citation. You should also include a bibliography that includes your four articles and any sources you used to help you understand the topic. Your report should be approximately 1,000 words in length (Not including footnotes or bibliography).

Your assignment will be graded using the following rubric:

Criteria	Point
Part A: Research	
Identification of relevant U.S. source on assigned topic	5
Selection of three non-U.S. sources directly relevant to the topic (and inclusion with final paper)	30
Discussion of research and selection process for articles (Research worksheet)	10
Part B: Analysis	
Argument for the value of considering multiple perspectives on this issue	5

Well-organized presentation of issue and US article	10
Identification and discussion of perspectives in non-U.S. articles	30
Proper attribution and citation	10
Part C: The Reflection	
Reflection on the value of considering multiple perspectives for understanding international relations and the limits of relying on a single perspective	20
TOTAL	120

Chicago-Style Citation Quick Guide

The following examples illustrate citations using the notes and bibliography system. Examples of notes are followed by shortened versions of citations to the same source. **You do not need to provide hyperlinks for information found in the library databases.**

Article in a newspaper or popular magazine

Footnote

1. Kevin Baxter, “Demands for ‘equal pay’ as espoused by the U.S. women’s soccer team, would require an honest conversation and a deep dive into accounting,” *Los Angeles Times*, July 14, 2019, D2.
2. Eni Aluko, “People have fallen for women’s football. We must ensure it’s a long-term relationship,” *The Guardian*, July 27, 2019, 49.

Shortened version of footnote (for use after first full citation in footnote)

3. Baxter, “Demands for ‘equal pay’,” D2.
4. Aluko, “People have fallen for women’s football,”: 50.

Bibliography

Baxter, Kevin. “Demands for ‘equal pay’ as espoused by the U.S. women’s soccer team, would require an honest conversation and a deep dive into accounting.” *Los Angeles Times*, July 14, 2019.

Aluko, Eni. "People have fallen for women's football. We must ensure it's a long-term relationship." *The Guardian*, July 27, 2019.

Introduction to International Relations

Global Newspaper Assignment Worksheet

1. What is your topic for the newspaper assignment?

2. What keywords did you use to search for your U.S. article? Keep track of the keywords you try here along with the database you used them in. Describe your search strategy.

3. What U.S. (national, not regional) newspaper did you use? Why did you choose this article?

4. What non-US articles did you select to use in the paper? Why?

Look up each of the countries on the World Press Freedom Index (<https://rsf.org/en/index>) and list their scores. How does their score influence your assessment of the article's perspective?

5. For the following questions, fill in the table below:

Who is the author? What are their qualifications? If the author is an editorial board, who is on the board?

What is the title of the article? Did the title accurately convey the content of the article?

What kind of publication is the article in? Does it have a known perspective?

What date was the article written? Is there anything about the date of the article that is significant? Is it responding to a particular event/policy?

Who was the article written for? A local audience or global audience? How can you tell?

What perspective do you think the article represents? Why?

Author	Title	Publication	Date	Audience	Perspective
1)					
2)					

3)					
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6. How does the U.S. article differ from the non-U.S. articles? What do you think explains the difference?

7. How did searching for non-US perspectives shape your final paper? What could you have missed? (word count)