

Introduction to World Politics

Foreign News Happenings (FNH) briefs
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Throughout the semester, several events will take place in the world that will have a significant impact. One important skill is to be able to take a news story and draw implications for future actions from it. This is the primary purpose of this assignment.

Assignment

On the course website, there is a link titled “News Index”, which will take you to a listing of all FNH briefs. Clicking on the appropriate link will take you to the submission page. On that page, you need to submit a title, a brief description of the event, the implications of the event for the world, the location of the event, and *two* links to relevant newspaper articles. Your submission will be immediately posted to the web site, albeit without your email or name showing.

Neither newspaper can be US-based. One newspaper must be from the region (preferably the same state) in which the event took place. The other must be from outside that region. Thus, an Israeli who bombs a Jerusalem mosque would require a newspaper from the Middle East (hopefully Israel) and a newspaper from outside the Middle East. I give a point extra credit for foreign-language newspapers (as long as you are able to translate that language at an introductory level).

Grading

Your grade for these will be based on grammar, correctness, and depth of thought with regard to the implications: Why is this important to the United States and to the world? Perfect submissions will receive five points. Anything less than perfect will be worth four points at most.

In terms of depth of thought, clarity, and bringing in outside information:

- Summary section: 2 points
- Implications section: 3 points

From this base:

- Wrong or missing state: -1 point
- A few writing errors: -1 point
- Many writing errors: -2 points
- One bad link: -2 points
- Two bad links: -3 points
- A single incorrect fact: -3 points
- More than one incorrect fact: -5 points