# Activity #5: Global News Stories

## 1. Writing and Research in the Disciplines (ENG 112)

This course, the second in a series of two, introduces research techniques, documentation styles, and writing strategies. Emphasis is placed on analyzing information and ideas and incorporating research findings into documented writing and research projects. Upon completion, students should be able to evaluate and synthesize information from primary and secondary sources using documentation appropriate to various disciplines.

## 2. Global News Stories

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Students will read and research news stories that exist in global societies and present their findings to the class to increase awareness of global news and the effects on local issues.

## 3. Objective:

The purpose of this activity is to help students understand different cultures and global issues through reading, increasing their awareness of global news stories.

## 4. Time:

Can be done daily or weekly

## 5. Materials:

1. Access to news sources
2. Computer and internet access
3. Course Syllabus to keep track of assignments and dates
4. Suggested resources for research are found at the end of this activity.

## 6. Procedure:

1. Each student will read and research current global news stories.
2. Each student will choose a date to present a global news story or a couple major global news events.
3. Each student will respond to questions about the news.
4. Each student will discuss the new story (or stories) they have chosen in class and make connections to local issues, such as oil prices in the Middle East and gas prices in their city.
5. Each student will hand in a one page paper (or longer) summarizing what he or she has presented in class. The paper will include a bibliography of the news source used.

## 7. Assessment:

Students will be assessed on the following:

- level of relevant detail in their presentation
- ability to connect global news story to local issues
- basic standards of presentation: organized content, audibility
- paper adheres to grammatical and academic standards
- papers uses proper citation
- paper has a bibliography of the news source
Activity #5 Suggested Resources:

- www.headlinespot.com/international
- www.virginradio.com
- www.bbc.co.uk
- http://www.pbs.org/newshour/

Resource for finding African news sources:


Resources recommended by the Carolina Center for Study of the Middle East and Muslim Civilizations:

- News Portals from the Middle East: Students can find the links to these papers on the Carolina Center for Study of the Middle East and Muslim Civilizations Middle East Library Guide page: http://guides.lib.unc.edu/middleeasthome/news-ejournals
  - General: Al Jazeera, Albawaba, The Middle East Times, Alhayat, Al Monitor
  - Arab Countries: Cairo Times, Al-Ahram (Egypt), Jordan Times, The Daily Star (Lebanon), Azzaman.com (Iraq)
  - Iran: Ettela’at, Tehran News, Fars News Agency, Abrar
  - Turkey: Hurriyet Daily News, BirGün, Today’s Zaman, Cumhuriyet

- News Resources on Muslim Issues
  *http://islamicommentary.org/: IslamiCommentary: This website is a public scholarship forum that engages scholars, journalists, policymakers, advocates and artists in their fields of expertise. Current social issues and events are widely discussed.
  *http://muslimvoices.org/: Muslim Voices: Aims to promote intercultural dialogue and understanding between Muslims and Non-Muslims through podcasts, videos, public events, art exhibits, and discussions.
*http://muslimmatters.org/: Muslim Matters: Aims to establish a safe, online community which shares and discusses relevant issues along with practical solutions, shaped by the experiences and viewpoints of its writers.

*http://globalvoicesonline.org/: Global Voices Online: Collects political blogs by citizen journalists from around the world and compiles them by region, delivering unfiltered, first-hand accounts of global political events.

*http://sugarstreetreview.com/: Sugar Street Review: A relatively new, online magazine dedicated to the culture of the Arab world and the wider Middle East. Sugar Street provides an alternative to Western media by sharing the best new writing from and about the region, giving insights that will garner a greater understanding of the region.

*http://www.aramcoworld.com: Aramco World: Provides free subscriptions, classroom sets, and online resources to educators with the goal of increasing cross-cultural understanding of the Arab and Muslim worlds.