

Name - \_\_\_\_\_

Current Events Assignment – 2021  
SUNY Broome – Public Policy

Having the ability to find information and understand it is the key to becoming a participatory citizen and an educated consumer. One of the best places to find information is in our everyday media. Newspapers, the television, the radio, and the Internet can provide us the necessary information to make the best decisions and choices. Current events can be used to help explain curriculum taught to us in class and provide us with clear-cut examples of how to apply the knowledge that we are learning.

Here are the following requirements:

1. Select an article from a periodical of your choice (from a newspaper or journal – you may use the Internet to find a reputable source). Be sure to choose an article that interests you!
2. The article must be about the public policy issue provided (see the back side of this handout) unless otherwise notified. You may choose a subtopic related to that topic, for example if the topic is Congress, you may choose an article that relates to specifically the House or Senate.
3. You must write a summary and opinion analysis of the article, which includes:
  - a. The actual article cut out or printed from a reputable news source and annotated correctly using the *CHUG method*.
  - b. The title of the article, author of the article, date it was published, and source (newspaper).  
*Format provided on the back*  
  
Ex. “Toy Makers Seek Standards for U.S. Safety”  
by Eric Lipton & Louise Story  
Sept. 7, 2007  
*The New York Times*
  - c. *Summary* of the article developed from your annotation of the text, including the following guidelines:
    - i. Maintain a neutral tone; be objective
    - ii. Keep your focus on the text. Do not state the author’s ideas as if they were your own.
    - iii. Put all or most of your summary in your own words; if you borrow a phrase or a sentence from the text, put it in quotation marks.
    - iv. Limit yourself to presenting the text’s key points.
    - v. Be concise and make every word count.  
**\*at least 8 developed sentences**
  - d. Explain your *opinion* (**at least 6 developed sentences**) while analyzing what the article was written about (what impact could the issue have on you or anyone else). This should be the most prolific portion of your summary. You will be asked to think critically about the article chosen and be ready to discuss its contents intelligently.
  - e. The summary must be @ 1-1 ½ pages, typed and double spaced (11 in. font and 1 in. margins)

(OVER for FORMAT)

Each of these assigned summaries will be collected, discussed, and graded.

**If there are any questions about the assignment (appropriate article, written summary?), please ask!  
Good Luck!**

**Example of the layout to be used for each current event assignment**

Name - _____	
Due Date of Assignment	
SUNY Broome - Public Policy	<b><u>HEADING AND ARTICLE INFO FORMAT</u></b>
Class Period 4	
“On 9/11, Vows of Remembrance”	The spacing for the current event heading and article information should be single spaced and the page layout – spacing – after should be 8 pt. (This is the default setting unless other wise changed)
Robert D. McFadden	
September 11, 2011	
<i>www.nytimes.com</i> ←----- (Notice the ITALICS used for the title of the source)	

The rest of the current event summary should start here with two double spaces between the citation and the first paragraph (**at least 8 sentences**).

There should only be only one double-space between end of your article summary/information and your opinion. The actual summary & opinion itself should be double spaced as shown here (**at least 6 sentences**).

- Current Events Topics for 2020-21:
1. Federalism (9/17)
  2. Civil Liberties (9/24)
  3. Public Opinion (10/15)
  4. Political Parties (10/22)
  5. Campaigns & Elections (10/29)
  6. Congress (11/5)

7. Presidency (11/12)
- 8. Judiciary (11/19)**
- 9. Student Debt (1/7)**
- 10. Domestic Issue: TBD (1/14)**
- 11. International Issue: TBD (1/21)**

**\*These dates are likely to change in the event of a change in class schedule, weather, or instructor’s discretion**