

Weekly News Reports



Fact v. Bias

fact: a piece of information presented as having objective reality

bias: a personal and sometimes unreasoned judgment

1. What sources of information could you reasonably expect to be fact-based? Why?
2. What sources of information might you find to be biased? How so?
3. What are some examples of bias that are currently in the world headlines? Explain.

This course is a study of how things work in the many realms of Canadian politics on the international stage. It is important in this course to constantly be in touch with what is happening in the “real world” so that we may relate what we learn in the class to what is really happening ‘out there’.

Throughout the year it will be the responsibility of the members of the class to run a series of weekly reports on the state of Canadian politics on the international stage. Each week a pair of students in the class will present a 10-15 minute current events report which will cover several different aspects of Canadian and world politics. It is expected that students will attempt to generate some discussion on the topics raised.

Each group or person will be required to present one report during the year. Some ways you may choose to get your information are:

- watching the TV news;
- analysing internet sites;
- looking at newspapers for bias in reporting events;
- understanding the uses and abuses of public opinion polls;
- appreciating the differences between news magazines and journals;
- measuring public opinion through interviews;
- understanding how pictures are used in reporting the news.

You will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- Variety of Issues Covered
- Accuracy of Information
- Method of Delivery
- Ability to Generate Discussion