

Guidelines for Incorporating International Current Events into the Classroom

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1. Emphasize the importance of the international scene by regular discussion; once a week is a minimum.
2. Encourage active discussion, not just turning in or reading summaries.
3. Emphasize connectedness between international events and domestic affairs.
4. Guide the discussion in order to make points, but.
5. Encourage free discussion; let the students have their say. State your opinion/interpretation last.
6. Some discussions will be better than others; don't try to force it. On the days when the discussion is "rolling", try to allow extra time.
7. Connect international current events to classroom material, if at all possible.
8. Don't be afraid of tangents and "offbeat" discussions; they can often be very enlightening, but try to keep a general international focus.
9. Encourage student with overseas experience, and international students, to share their experiences; these students can be your most valuable asset.
10. Encourage multiple points of view; contrast the "take" of the *NYT* to the *Times of India* or *Asahi Shimbun*.
11. Violate any guideline, rule, or policy rather than do anything stupid or counterproductive!