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ASSIGNMENT - News Briefing

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ASSIGNMENT

News Briefing

Staying abreast of current events and the way associated data is visualized is an essential component of becoming an effective information designer. On Thursdays, we will begin class with a brief student-led discussion about a **news event that relates to the content of this course**. It can be a current event or an older news piece, but the source link must be active and there **must be an element of information design** included with the source. Each student will sign up for a class period in the semester to present a news item to the class and lead a brief discussion on the topic(s) addressed in the article.

Each News Briefing memo should include the following:

1. Proper **memo format**.
2. An **advance organizer** that gives the title, author or creator, publisher or video platform, and URL to the news item source.
3. A **brief summary** of the article and the designed information that is clear and concise while still providing sufficient information for the reader to respond to the discussion questions.
4. An **analysis** of the information design in the news item. The analysis should do the following:
 - Address the situation or topic raised in the article and its corresponding information design.
 - Identify the target audience and key characteristics of that audience that may have informed the information design.
 - Critique the design of information.
 - Utilize at least one concept we've learned thus far in the course in the analysis.
 - Cite the concept(s) you use based on class texts, using proper APA format for in-text citation.
5. At least **two discussion questions** designed to provoke conversation among the class.
6. A **reference page** using proper APA citation formatting and proper APA reference page formatting.

Each in-class presentation should include the following:

1. Present a **verbal** summary of the article.
2. Provide a brief **verbal** analysis of the situation or topic addressed in the article.
3. Facilitate a **group discussion** using two discussion questions that you've written.

Prior to your in-class presentation and discussion facilitation, you will upload your memo as a docx file. **Your file upload is due 15 minutes before the start of class on the due date, and you will deliver your news briefing to the class on the day you submit it.**

ACCEPTABLE NEWS SOURCES INCLUDE

- reliable news outlets at the local, national, or international level.
- blog posts from business websites or professional networking sites like LinkedIn.
- government and NGO reports.
- professional association websites.

Students will select their news briefing dates in class, and the schedule will be posted in the assignment page on Canvas.