**Current Events Syllabus**

Instructor: Mr. Augustine

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**Course Description:**

This course provides students with opportunities to explore and analyze the news. It will examine various social, political, economic and cultural events taking place throughout the world. Students will be expected to contribute toward class discussions and debates. Diverse viewpoints are welcome, and critical thinking skills are a must.

**Course Materials:**

Notebook for journaling and note taking

Pen or Pencil

Internet access to teacher website (contains links to news sites)

**Assessments / Assignments:**

Monthly Exam on local, state, national, and worldwide news

Weekly article summaries (Regional, International, Political, Business, Sports, Health, or Science)

Classroom activities (projects, debates, and discussions)

Grading Scale

100-90= A

89-80= B

70-70= C

69 & below= Failing

\*Late submissions will be subject to teacher discretion.

\*Extra credit will be available through the website blog discussion.

**Illinois State Goals and Standards:**

Constructing Essential Questions SS.IS.1.9-12: Address essential questions that reflect an enduring issue in the field.

Constructing Supporting Questions SS.IS.2.9-12: Explain how supporting questions contribute to an inquiry.

Determining Helpful Sources SS.IS.3.9-12: Develop new supporting and essential questions through investigations, collaboration, and using diverse sources.

Gathering and Evaluating Sources SS.IS.4.9-12: Gather and evaluate information from multiple sources while considering the origin, credibility, point of view, authority, structure, context, and corroborative value of the sources.

Developing Claims and Using Evidence SS.IS.5.9-12: Identify evidence that draws information from multiple sources to revise or strengthen claims.

Communicating Conclusions SS.IS.6.9-12: Construct and evaluate explanations and arguments using multiple sources and relevant, verified information.

Taking Informed Action SS.IS.8.9-12: Use interdisciplinary lenses to analyze the causes and effects of and identify solutions to local, regional, or global concerns.