News Reports

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Authentic Assessment Symposium
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Challenges of teaching International Relations (IR)
News Reports

3 brief reports = 30% grade combined
Due by week 8; students decide when to submit before then
300-words/report
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Find a news article + apply an insight/theory from class
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Are the IR insights/theories relevant for a clearer/deeper understanding?

Do these IR insights/theories have shortcomings/problems?
Why is this authentic assessment?

Community-relevance from our social context
  Engaged in the real-world
Bridge the gap between (big) theories + practice
  Self-directed and learning by discovery
  Sustained tasks over time
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Critical thinking: does theory even ‘work’?
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Mini example:
   Security Dilemma + Arms Races
   Constructivism + IKEA
More classic assessment methods

- Multiple-Choice Questions
- Short Q&A
- Book Reports
- Essays
- Written Exams
Can other disciplines apply ‘news reports’?

Law

Architecture/Art History
• ‘snap a photo’ analysis •

Politics & Public Administration

Economics
• news reports •