Current Events Assignment – Economics (50pts)

In Comparative Politics it is important to stay informed about what is happening in the world. To accomplish this, a student or a pair of students will give a presentation to the class at the end of each week. For your assigned week, you should prepare a PowerPoint presentation that meets the following requirements:

1. You presentation should be no longer than 20 minutes in length (10 minutes if solo).
2. Your PowerPoint presentation should have one slide for each story. Your slide must identify the category the event belongs in (see categories below), a headline/title that helps identify the story and a visual (graph, photo, etc). Your slide may NOT contain other information
3. You may NOT read to the class. You should be familiar enough with your presentation that you can do your presentation in a clear and articulate manner. You must know how to pronounce the names of people, places, things etc. Include positive analysis (what is happening) and normative analysis (evaluate what should happen as a result)
4. On the day of your presentation you must provide a properly formatted (MLA), typed works cited page. You should use reputable news sources. Please ask prior to your presentation date if you have any questions regarding your sources. When in doubt just ask.
5. Your stories should cover the week leading up to your presentation. You should cover a minimum of 10 different events (6 events if solo).
6. Create two questions about events you covered for students to answer in their journal. Good questions will be rewarded i.e. questions that provoke thoughtful discussion that is relevant to the course. No questions regarding news of the bizarre.

**Themes/Categories**

Scarcity forces tradeoffs

Cost vs Benefits (opportunity cost)

Thinking at the margin (law of diminishing returns)

Incentives matter

Trade makes people better off

Markets coordinate trade (the invisible hand)

Future consequences count

Are all economic decisions rational?

Supply and demand (prices)

Investing – risk vs return

Role of government in the economy

Economic indicators

News of the bizarre (no more than one event)

Local News (no more than one event)