



Discussing Current Events Syllabus

Instructor David Billa	Email billa.david@kagawa-u.ac.jp
Lesson Day, Time, Schedule Monday (13:10 – 14:10) – Quarter System	Course Mode TBD
Course Level Upper-Intermediate to Advanced (TOEIC 550+)	Course Materials Instructor will provide lesson materials

Course Overview

This course focuses on reading and discussing various pieces of **news and current events** happening all over the world. Every week, the teacher selects one news article that will be **read and discussed** with the students.

Course Goals

- Build up **vocabulary** through reading genuine English.
- Get familiarized with the journalistic style of written English. It's one of the most commonly available sources of written English to students, but students are rarely used to reading this style of English.
- Being able to better **express their opinions and thoughts** on various societal topics.
- Learn more about various issues from all over the world.
- Allow the students to get the tools necessary to further their practice of English after and beyond their compulsory classes.

Course Content

Every week, the teacher chooses a news article from **various internet sources**. Along with the article, vocabulary activities are provided to help the students understand the piece and **learn new vocabulary**. After reading the article and doing the activities, a discussion on the topic is led by the teacher, inviting the students to express and **share their opinions**.

Lesson Flow

A typical lesson follows the format below (with possible variations from week to week).

1. Warm-up
2. First vocabulary activity
3. Reading the first half of the article
4. Second vocabulary activity
5. Reading the second half of the article
6. Explanations and contextualization from the teacher when needed
7. Students share their opinions on the topic of the week
8. The teacher asks further questions to the students expanding on other aspects and dimensions of the topic.

