

## Case Study#3 Navigating America's Media Landscape *Grading Rubric*

April 8, 2019

	Excellent work			Insufficient work
(1). Briefly describe the role of the news media in a democracy and compare and contrast this discussion with what we know about ongoing trends in U.S. foreign policy news coverage over the past several decades.	<b>Clearly describes</b> the three major functions the news media plays in a democracy. <b>Clearly identifies</b> at least three trends or characteristics that the readings and class discussion have focused on.			Fails to mention all three major functions of the news media in a democracy. Fails to identify at least three trends of news media characteristics discussion in the readings and class or describes them inadequately.
(2). Discuss the strategic and psychological dimensions of foreign policy news coverage in the U.S. Consider both how the senders of information can shape the delivery of news and the way publics receive and interpret the news. Provide a brief discussion on how this may shape the relationship between public opinion formation and the mass media.	Includes a discussion of how peoples consume media these days but also how the media provides news in the 21st century. <b>Clearly connects</b> this discussion to the Entman and Herrmann readings (framing and motivated reasoning). <b>Clearly distinguishes</b> between the sender and receiver side of the mass media and explains how they are related or interact. <b>Briefly discusses</b> the relationship between news coverage and public opinion and how this may related to different styles of leadership.			Fails to adequately explain the operation of and connection between framing and motivated reasoning in today's news coverage. Does not explain the connection between news coverage and public opinion formation and how they can influence each other.

<p>(3). With this framework in place, identify a salient foreign policy related news story and examine how different news outlets (e.g. Infowars vs NPR) cover the story.</p>	<p><b>Clearly identifies</b> a current news story related to U.S. foreign policy. Finds examples of this news story in <b>three different news outlets</b>. <b>Clearly identifies</b> the operation of different themes, concepts, and mechanisms discussed in class and explains how they operate within each article. <b>Matches</b> these mechanisms and concepts with clear and brief examples from the actual news text and explains each connection in some detail.</p>			<p>Fails to provide a clear explanation for why you matched an article with a specific trend or characteristics and fails to provide evidence for your selection.</p> <p>Fails to clearly explain why you placed your articles in the specific location on the news media map.</p> <p>Fails to identify various mechanisms, concepts, or themes within the articles, does not match these with specific passages from the news text or does not provide a clear explanation for their linkage.</p>
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