**Media Paper Guidelines**

You should find one article about a relatively current news story (ideally within the past six months, but can go back a year if necessary) related to one of the topics in the unit.

**Where should I look for the “media story”?**

Any newspaper, magazine, or its online equivalent (nytimes.com, etc.). A magazine like Psychology Today, although it is not an academic publication, is NOT the type of source in mind, as it is a specialty publication. In other words, you should look for an article that someone may run across, even if they are not specifically looking for articles on psychology or science in general.

**What kind of story should I look for? What topics?**

Any story that relates to the topics (Depressive Disorders, Bipolar Disorder, Suicide, and Self-Injury)

**The paper should consist of (doesn’t have to be in this order):**
1) A summary of the article – what information is presented in the media article

2) A summary of the article (Depressive Disorders, Bipolar Disorder, Suicide, and Self-Injury) that is relevant to the article (e.g., if the article talks about remedies for hearing loss, you would talk about how sound waves are transduced into neural energy, etc.)

3) **A critique of the article, using one or more of the following angles:**

* The information presented – is it accurate? Is it complete? Is it clearly presented? Does it leave unanswered questions?
* The validity of any research discussed – were they well-conducted studies? Does the author even give you enough information to be able to tell?
* Usefulness of the information – are there guidelines as to how this information could impact the readers’ lives? Is there guidance for learning more about the topic?

After your paper itself, please include an appendix that has either:

1) the text and source of the article, OR 2) a link to the article itself.

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