



Global Encounters
International Student
Video Conferences

THE MIDDLE EAST IN TRANSITION (PART I) INTERNATIONAL VIDEO CONFERENCE

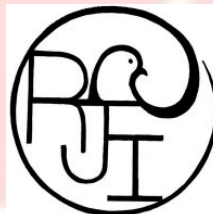
October 27 2011

9 – 10:30 am MT / 11 am – 12:30 pm ET

TEACHER'S GUIDE

CONTENTS

<u>JOINING THE VIRTUAL CLASSROOM</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>ACTIVITY OUTLINE</u>	<u>3</u>



RESEARCH JOURNALISM INITIATIVE

October 19, 2011

Dear teacher,

The [Centre for Global Education](#), the [Research Journalism Initiative](#), and [TakingITGlobal](#) would like to extend a warm welcome to part 1 of the **LIVE from the Middle East in Transition** video conference. We are excited to have you and your students engage in the interactive virtual classroom and participate in the October 27th live event, which features extraordinary guest speakers from the Middle East who will tell their own stories and share how they have handled the choice between violence and non-violent resistance in the fight for self-determination and statehood.

This guide was designed to help you facilitate your students' participation in the video conference and the pre-conference activities. It contains instructions on how to join the virtual classroom and an overview of the lessons housed there. The activities and resources in the virtual classroom are meant to provide a foundation to understand the complexity of the issues at hand and inform active participation in the live event. We recognize that many perspectives on this topic may be considered "radical" in some educational environments. With this in mind, we have done our best to provide flexibility and choice in the completion of online activities to allow you to determine how to best engage your students. We appreciate your willingness to address as many different perspectives as possible with your students.

We welcome your feedback after the event, and we hope you and your students have a powerful learning experience. If you have colleagues who are interested in the video conference but were not able to register in time to take part, please let them know that they can watch the event in real time by visiting <http://www.livestream.com/globalencounters>.

Thank you again for your participation.

Warmly,

The Global Encounters team

JOINING THE VIRTUAL CLASSROOM

1. Go to <http://encounters.tiged.org/MIT11/register/> and enter registration code **peace**.
2. Share this link and code with your students so that they can join the class. (*Note: If you and your students are not yet members of TakingITGlobal you will be prompted to create a free account.*)
3. After joining the classroom you can visit <http://encounters.tigweb.org/> for easy access to this and any other classes you are part of (listed under “My Events” on the homepage).

If you need assistance with the virtual classroom, e-mail education@takingitglobal.org for personalized help.

ACTIVITY OUTLINE

Ahead of the video conference, you will lead your class through 3 lessons available in the [assignments](#) section of the virtual classroom, each designed to take a 60-minute class period to complete (though day 3 may be assigned simply as homework). Lessons also include corresponding homework to provide an opportunity to participate in the virtual classroom. We ask that you strongly encourage and support this participation and consider grading contributions as a requirement for the class you are teaching.

In order to keep online contributions manageable, not all students’ writing should be posted to the virtual classroom. Instead, please choose or have your class choose 1-2 pieces of writing to post as a blog or have students work together to create a collective blog post summarizing the main ideas identified by the class. Individual student participation is welcomed at any time through online [discussions](#) and posting comments on [blogs](#) submitted to the classroom. If you would like to go beyond the activities of the virtual classroom, we have also provided a folder of [additional resources](#) for you to explore and utilize as you see fit.

Day 1: An Introduction to the Principles of Non-Violence

Class Time	Students are introduced to the foundations of non-violence in philosophical and practical terms, and explore their own understandings of non-violence before reflecting on examples of non-violent movements throughout history.
Homework	Students write about their understanding of non-violence and its success and failure to create social change in different historical contexts. Each school is invited to post 1-2 of these reflections as an in-depth blog. HOMework TO BE POSTED IN THE VIRTUAL CLASSROOM BY OCT 22

Day 2: Can Violence be Justified?

Class Time	Students watch speeches by Malcolm X and interviews with South African Apartheid fighters justifying the use of violence. They also explore the Forgiveness Project and the UN Charter on the use of force by states, leading to a discussion of the question, “Are there any scenarios in which violence is justified and if so, where do you draw the line?”
Homework	Using a variety of historical examples, students write a discussion posting in support of violence in principle, and one opposing it. Each school is invited to post 1-2 of these reflections as an in-depth blog. HOMework TO BE POSTED IN THE VIRTUAL CLASSROOM BY OCT 24

Day 3: A History of Violence and Non-Violence in the Middle East (Optional)

Class Time and/or Homework	Students research the history of a violent or non-violent movement in the Middle East within the last 50 years and look at opinions supporting and opposing this movement’s tactics. They then reflect on the previous 2 days’ study of violence and non-violence to assess whether they believe this movement to be justified in the approach it took. Each school is invited to post 1-2 of these reflections as an in-depth blog. HOMework TO BE POSTED IN THE VIRTUAL CLASSROOM BY OCT 25
-----------------------------------	---