Fake News, Lies, and Propaganda

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Why a Fake News Class?

WHY NOT?

Partnerships

- College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

- Applied Liberal Arts Program

- Director of Learning Programs and Initiatives

- Learning Librarian

- Communication Studies Librarian

- Psychology & Sociology Librarian

Details of the Course

- 7 Weeks

- 2 Hours per week

- 1 Credit

- "Lab" Based

- Sophomore Standing or Above

- Graded

Class Themes

- Strategies for Identifying "Real" News: Evaluating Sources and Determination of Source Credibility

- Journalistic Integrity and News Production

- The Information Landscape: Media Fragmentation and Social Media

- Fact-checking Statistics and Data

- Is Reality Subjective?

Class Activities

- Reporter visits

- Issues & Controversies and CQ Researcher

- Scholarly Databases

- Blue Feed/Red Feed

- Strategy Websites, Fact Checking Websites, and Bias Websites

- Journals

- Final Projects

That's Right … Their Own Strategy

A SLIDE FROM CLASS:

ONE MORE TIME:

You should care just as much about **WHAT IS NOT** in the news

as **WHAT IS IN** it

Diversity of Thought

"*I think the most important thing to understand is that everyone had different backgrounds going into this class. This means we all had different majors, different ages, and different interests for why we're taking this class. That creates a small think-tank-like community where we can be completely open and honest with our thoughts and can hear different opinions, thoughts etc.*"

Student Driven

"The class is discussion and question driven, which I think is powerful. We're not being told how to find fake news, but rather being given the tools and thought processes to analyze it ourselves. This differentiates the class from other classes as we can't just memorize the course material, we have to actually come up with our own ideas and own opinions about things which is awesome."

Critical Thinking

"This course is unique because it doesn't teach us some specific knowledge but more of a way of critical thinking, learn how to identify fake news, reflect on our experience, common sense, opinion and biases."

Why a Fake News Class?

"I want educators to understand that this class is not about just fake news and how to be less gullible. I see it as a complex discussion about the nature of being a person in today's climate and who is constantly exposed to media from all sources—it's a way for people from all walks of life to figure out how to navigate this complex world and modify their perspective to understand how the information they are presented with is going to help them and enrich them, but also how to be skeptical of what they hear and learn so they can be a more educated citizen who understands their world and how to understand everyone elses. I took this class because as a member of a group who is often targeted by misinformation and I want to help people understand that what they are reading is fake and is not what reflective of me or anyone else."

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