How Do You Know If You’re Getting Reliable News?

How Do We Know What’s Reliable?

While You Were Away…

What Is News Literacy And Why Does It Matter?
News Literacy is the ability to use critical thinking skills to judge the reliability and credibility of news reports, whether they come via print, television or the Internet.

Reliable information is *actionable*.

It allows news consumers to make a decision, take action or share responsibly with others.
Misinformation and the 2010 Election

University of Maryland Study

Why News Literacy Matters:

In the Information Age, YOU the consumer are now in charge of determining what is reliable and what is not.

News Literacy In High Places

News Literacy Matters

Obamanewslit.wmv
How to Succeed in News Lit

This is a course about news literacy.

Watch, listen, read every day.

Classroom Etiquette

- No Cellphones
- No Smartphones
- No Texting
- No Talking
- No Sleeping
- Be on Time

Violators will be asked to leave class.

News Literacy – JRN 101B/103G

This course satisfies either DEC B or G.

NOT BOTH

You have until the add/drop deadline to decide which DEC applies.

How to Succeed in News Lit

“Eighty percent of success is showing up.”

- Woody Allen
**Win One Semester’s Tuition**

Spring 2011 Winner
Stephanie Baker, Junior Health Sciences

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**BLACKBOARD**

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**Safe Assign**

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**News Literacy**

On Blackboard: A Tale of *Two Sites*
News Literacy students will use two sites on Blackboard.

Your News Literacy Lecture site on Blackboard will look something like this:

Your News Literacy Recitation site on Blackboard will look something like this:

Take The Student Questionaire

Click on the announcement. It will take you right to the survey. This survey provides a snapshot of student attitudes and knowledge about the media.

There are no right or wrong answers.
News Literacy Matters

(Or, What Happened During The Break and What It Has to Do With News Literacy)

SATcheat.wmv

While You Were Away...
Simons $150 Million Gift to Stony Brook

Kim Jong-il, Supreme Leader of North Korea, dies; leadership passes to his son, Kim Jong-un

Drone.wmv
Last U.S. ground troops leave Iraq on Dec. 18

"Arab Spring" Continues
U.S. National Science Advisory Board for Biosecurity asks medical researchers to withhold publishing details of H5N1 avian flu virus.

From One “Berg” to Another
The Revolution in Communications in Your Lifetime

986 A.D.: Viking Explorers Discover North America

The Dark Ages
A Monk Spent Months to Produce a Single Book
Gutenberg’s Printing Press Changes the World

The First Mass-Produced Book

Within 50 Years

Books That Changed the World and Challenged Authority

From a Few Books to Six Million

1534 – Martin Luther and His Bible
Books That Changed the World and Challenged Authority

1776 – Tom Paine's Revolutionary “Common Sense”

Mark Twain on the Printing Press

“It found truth astir on earth and gave it wings; but untruth was also abroad, and it was supplied with a double pair of wings.”

1815 – The Battle of New Orleans

Almost 2,000 Soldiers Died 15 Days After the End of the War of 1812

Accuracy and Speed Tradeoff

1838 – Samuel Morse Sends First Public Telegram in America
Radio Covers the World Live

1937 – The Voyage of the Hindenburg

Hindenburg.wmv

And Then You Were There…

1920 – First News Broadcast of Presidential Election Results
1969: The Information Revolution 2.0

While we were marveling over live TV from the moon…
The Internet was born: ARPANET

The Information Revolution 2.0

Between the end of Bush’s first term, and the beginning of Obama’s first term, Web 2.0 changed the rules.

Challenges for Consumers

Challenge #1: Information Overload
Challenge #2: The Blurring of the Lines
Challenge #3: Overcoming Your Own Bias
Challenge #4: A Crisis of Authenticity

“Every Two Days We Create As Much Information As We Did Up To 2003,”
Google CEO Eric Schmidt
Challenges for the News Consumer

Is everyone a “journalist”? 

The Blurring of the Lines

News or Entertainment?

Can you handle the truth?

colbnorway.wmv
Even after the release of the long form birth certificate, a significant percentage of the population still believes Obama to be Muslim.
Assignment: News Blackout

1) For 48 Hours
No Facebook (or other social media)
No News…
No Sports Scores…
No Weather…
…Even From Friends or Family
Summarize Your Reaction

“My Assignments” on Blackboard:
Each lecturer must update this slide for his or her own lecture!!!
Republican Party presidential primaries begin

Ecuadorian courts validate $18 billion fine against Chevron over pollution

Hydraulic fracturing, a.k.a. fracking, linked to earthquakes in Ohio, Texas, Arkansas, Colorado, and Oklahoma

The repeal of Don’t Ask Don’t Tell
Gov. Cuomo signs new tax limits into law

Philippines death toll rises above 1,500 from Tropical Storm Washi

Jamaica’s new prime minister pledges that country will become a republic

Large Hadron Collider (LHC) at CERN discovers new resonance $\chi_b (3P)$, but search for elusive Higgs-Boson continues
Warmest recorded temperature at South Pole (-12.3 C) as global CO2 emissions reach all-time high.


7 largest U.S. banks set aside a record $156 billion in compensation to executives and employees.

Dispute between Iran and U.S. over Iran’s potential for nuclear weapons development prompts economic sanctions, and in retaliation Iran conducts military exercises and threats to close the Strait of Hormuz.
U.S. Navy rescues Iranian ship held by pirates... Twice

Iran accuses U.S. of staging pirate rescue like a 'Hollywood drama' as military drills escalate in the Gulf

100-mile oil slick off Nigerian coast, caused by a deepwater oil rig operated by Shell