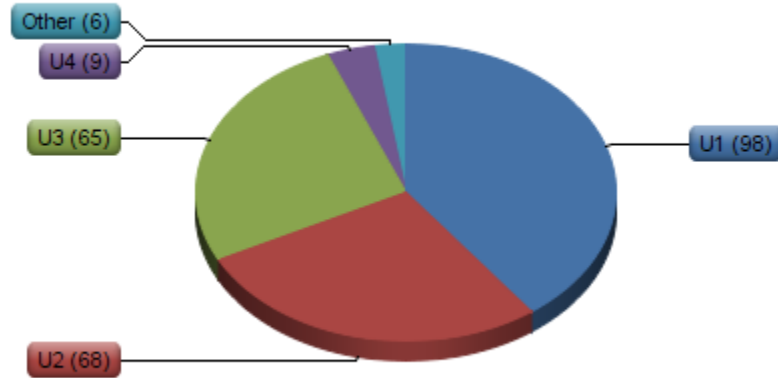


“Reality Check” Survey Fall 2014

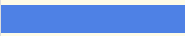








254 participated of 317 enrolled in News Literacy at Stony Brook. 8/21/2014-8/26/2014

1. Your student status:



Other
Sophomore Transfer
sophomore transfer
transfer
F1
Transfer 1st semester

2. In which school is your major?

#	Answer		Response	%
1	College of Arts and Sciences College of Business		96	39%
3	School of Journalism		56	23%
2	College of Engineering and Applied Sciences		37	15%
9	I haven't declared a major		32	13%
8	School of Health Technology and Management		13	5%
4	School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences		9	4%
5	School of Social Welfare		2	1%
7	Sustainability Studies Program		2	1%
6	School of Nursing		1	0%
	Total		248	100%

3. Why did you take this course?

#	Answer	Response	%
1	To fulfill a DEC or SBC (General Education) requirement	149	60%
3	As a journalism major, I'm required to	58	23%
2	It fit in my schedule	43	17%
4	It was recommended by a speaker at orientation	37	15%
6	A friend told me about it	25	10%
7	Other, please specify	23	9%
5	I read a review of the course/professor on line	14	6%

Other, please specify

Got an email about it, sounded interesting.

I am interested in it , and I think I will learn something in this class

I'm interested in the subject

I'm considering majoring in journalism and would like to try an intro course.

course seemed interesting

I might minor in Journalism

Have some interest in it

I believe it will deal with interesting matters.

the possibility of one semester of paid tuition

Exploring the major

It seemed interesting

Interest in the subject

I haven't declared a major, however I want my major to focus on Journalism.

Scholars fellow recommended it to me

to fulfill a stony brook curriculum requirement

I wanted to.

become a new requirement for teaching social studies majors

might want to minor/major in journalism

Course overview appealed to me, specifically because of analysis of credible news sources.

undecided, considering journalism

To Minor in Journalism

I am interested in the course itself

journalism minor

4. When you do access the news, what is your primary source of news?

#	Answer	Response	%
11	Social Media (Facebook, Twitter, Reddit, Tumblr, Weibos, etc)	152	61%
2	TV	150	60%
4	Website	134	54%
5	Friends/Family	79	32%
8	Word of mouth	64	26%
6	Cellphone App	58	23%
1	Newspaper	55	22%
3	Radio	41	16%
7	Magazine	22	9%
9	Pod casts	7	3%
10	RSS news-feed	2	1%
12	Other, please specify	1	0%

5. Which papers do you read for news?

#	Answer	Response	%
2	New York Times	136	61%
1	Newsday	87	39%
4	New York Daily News	49	22%
3	New York Post	36	16%
5	Wall Street Journal	27	12%
11	Other, please specify	25	11%
6	USA Today	25	11%
8	Metro New York	6	3%
7	AM New York	4	2%
10	Long Island Press	2	1%
9	The Village Voice	1	0%



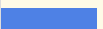










Other, please specify
Suffolk Times
CNN website
Chosun
None
None
BBC
Coloradoan
I don't regularly read the paper
None
none.
Press Republican and Post Star--near my hometown
Staten Island Advance
Wall Street Journal
The Post Standard
No Paper
Journal News (based in Westchester, Rockland, and Putnam)
Nashua Telegraph
southampton press
Huffington Post
Huffington Post, the nation, etc.
none of above
Huffington Post, Washington Post
Washington Post

6. Which TV stations do you watch for news?

#	Answer	Response	%
1	CNN	117	50%
3	FOX (National cable network)	94	40%
7	News 12 (Long Island local station)	91	39%
4	ABC (National broadcast network)	71	30%
5	CBS (National broadcast network)	43	18%
2	MSNBC	37	16%
11	Other, please specify	22	9%
8	New York 1 (NYC local station)	14	6%
9	Al Jazeera (English or Arabic version)	12	5%
6	Public TV (national broadcast network)	6	3%
10	Univision Telemundo	7	3%

Other, please specify
BBC, if available
Euronews, BBC
None
I prefer getting my news from other sources
NBC
stations from Taiwan
TVP Polish TV network
none
BBC
BBC
ESPN
Comedy Central
Colbert Report
BBC
News 12 Brooklyn
none of above
BBC
RT
None
None
BBC

7. Which radio stations do you listen to for news?

#	Answer		Response	%
12	Internet radio		56	30%
2	WINS AM 1010		44	24%
13	Other, please specify		37	20%
9	WALK FM 97.5		28	15%
3	WCBS AM 880		21	11%
11	WSHU FM (regional NPR)		13	7%
4	WABC AM 770		10	5%
10	WBAZ FM101.7		5	3%
1	WUSB FM 90.1		6	3%
8	WALK AM 1370		5	3%
6	WNYC-FM 93.9		4	2%
7	WBBR AM 1130		0	0%
5	WNYC- AM820		0	0%

Other, please specify

None

None

None

None

Rarely listen to news radio

none

Z100

none

WRFF 104.5

am 1380

KUAC 89.9 (Broadcast in AK and broadcasts NPR)

I don't listen to the news on the radio

Z100 100.3,KTU 103.5

96.1 , K104.7

none.

I do not

None

none

105.1

None

Z100, WWYZ-FM Country 92.5, 103.5 KTU

WEPN FM 98.7

970 am

105.1 97.1

none

I do not listen to the radio for news

None

none

i don't listen radio stations

none

None

None

none

I do not listen to radio news

I do not listen to the news on the radio

I don't listen to radio

8. Which websites do you use for news?

#	Answer	Response	%
1	Google News	111	46%
2	Yahoo! News	103	43%
3	The Huffington Post	97	40%
10	BBC.com	54	22%
14	Reddit.com	43	18%
18	Other, please specify	39	16%
5	AOL News	34	14%
6	MSN.com	27	11%
7	TMZ.com	22	9%
8	AP.com	17	7%
9	Reuters.com	10	4%
12	The Daily Beast	8	3%
16	Slate.com	6	2%
13	Gawker.com	5	2%
4	The Drudge Report	2	1%
17	RSS feed	2	1%
15	Digg.com	3	1%
11	RadarOnline.com	3	1%

Other, please specify

Twitter

CNN.com

cnn.com, euronews.com, america.aljazeera.com

Elite daily, mother jones, project censored

Rollingstone.com, nme.com, vice.com

Tumblr.com

CNN.com

smh.com.au

npr.org

the guardian

I don't look up news online either

none.

CNN

foxnews.com, southoldlocal.com

NYTimes.com

New York Times

Buzzfeed

Grantland

Foxnews.com

cnn.com, jpost.com, policymic.com

Fox news

Al Jazeera, NYTimes.com, rt.com, politico.com, npr.com, bloomberg.com, usatoday.com

Dailymail.co.uk, Barstool Sports

New York Times

youtube

espn.com

none

Buzzfeed

NYTimes, Time, Tumblr

cnn.com

cnn.com

Tumblr, Facebook

cnn

TIMES

vice news





Vox.com

sourcefed.com





CNN.com

New York Times online, Washington Post online, News 12 online

9. Rate your opinion of the following statement: "It is important to keep up with the news every day."

#	Answer		Response	%
5	Strongly Disagree		0	0%
4	Disagree		5	2%
3	Neither Agree nor Disagree		28	11%
1	Strongly Agree		70	28%
2	Agree		146	59%
	Total		249	100%

10. Rate your opinion of the following statement: "Most news outlets exhibit bias."

#	Answer		Response	%
5	Strongly Disagree		0	0%
4	Disagree		6	2%
3	Neither Agree nor Disagree		38	15%
1	Strongly Agree		80	32%
2	Agree		125	50%
	Total		249	100%

11. What is the basis for your conclusions about news media bias?

#	Answer	Response	%
14	Other, please specify	4	2%
12	Someone told me the news media is biased, and I believe them	16	6%
13	Not sure	20	8%
7	News outlets show bias in newspaper editorials/selection of talk show hosts	47	19%
3	I have seen convincing reports about bias in the news	50	20%
5	Facial expressions and/or tone of voice make it obvious	54	22%
9	Owners of news outlets control what gets said	67	27%
2	I see conservative leanings	72	29%
8	News is controlled by the outlet's owners and/or managers	72	29%
11	I have compared stories from multiple outlets and seen bias	74	30%
1	I see liberal leanings	81	32%
10	Language - the use of loaded words - shows bias	91	36%
4	Humans are always biased	128	51%
6	Story selection/omission shows bias	129	52%

Other, please specify

Bias direction depends on the news station as well

Different POV already shows bias

Fox News has a conservative political agenda, and MSNBC tends to do the same thing for liberals.

When spoken to the actual source the story is always different with somewhat of what the news gave

12. Rate the following statement: "The news media presents too much trivial news"

#	Answer	Response	%
1	Strongly Disagree	5	2%
5	Strongly Agree	21	9%
2	Disagree	29	12%
4	Agree	64	26%
3	Neither Agree nor Disagree	128	52%
	Total	247	100%

13. Rate the following statement: "The news media presents too much bad news"

#	Answer	Response	%
1	Strongly Disagree	9	4%
5	Strongly Agree	20	8%
2	Disagree	57	23%
3	Neither Agree nor Disagree	82	33%
4	Agree	83	33%
	Total	251	100%

14. If you answered in the question above that you agree or strongly agree that the new s media includes too much bad news, check all the reasons you think the news media includes too much bad news.

#	Answer	Response	%
4	The audience is naturally drawn to tragedy	96	72%
2	Bad news improves ratings and profits	71	53%
3	Good news isn't as interesting. It's easy.	64	48%
1	To incite fear	42	31%
5	To influence political races	32	24%
7	It's the proper presentation of reality	20	15%
6	Bad news is the most important news	19	14%
9	Other, please specify	6	4%
8	That is the new s media's job don't know	4	3%

15. Rate this statement: "I generally feel I get accurate and reliable information from newspapers."

#	Answer	Response	%
1	Strongly Disagree	3	1%
5	Strongly Agree	7	3%
2	Disagree	30	12%
3	Neither Agree nor Disagree	92	37%
4	Agree	116	47%
	Total	248	100%

16. Rate this statement: "I generally feel I get accurate and reliable information from television news"

#	Answer	Response	%
5	Strongly Agree	4	2%
1	Strongly Disagree	11	4%
2	Disagree	52	21%
3	Neither Agree nor Disagree	88	35%
4	Agree	95	38%
	Total	250	100%

17. Rate this statement: "I generally feel I get accurate and reliable information from web-only news outlets."

#	Answer	Response	%
5	Strongly Agree	5	2%
1	Strongly Disagree	11	4%
2	Disagree	64	26%
4	Agree	66	27%
3	Neither Agree nor Disagree	102	41%
	Total	248	100%

18. Rate this statement: "I generally feel I get accurate and reliable information from radio news outlets"

#	Answer	Response	%
5	Strongly Agree	4	2%
1	Strongly Disagree	5	2%
2	Disagree	37	15%
4	Agree	81	32%
3	Neither Agree nor Disagree	123	49%
	Total	250	100%

19. In your opinion, does the U.S. news media have too much freedom or too little?

#	Answer	Response	%
1	Too little freedom	33	13%
3	Too much freedom	37	15%
4	I don't know	65	26%
2	Just enough freedom	114	46%
	Total	249	100%

20. Have you or anyone close to you (family, classmates, neighbors) been included in a news report?

#	Answer	Response	%
1	Yes	115	46%
2	No	135	54%
	Total	250	100%

21. If you answered yes to the above question, how did the experience affect your opinion of the news media?





#	Answer	Response	%
1	Much Better	2	2%
5	Much Worse	3	2%
2	Better	13	10%
4	Worse	14	11%
3	About the Same	100	76%
	Total	132	100%

22. Which of these is the correct language of the first amendment of the U.S. Constitution, which begins: "Congress shall make no law ..."

#	Answer	Response	%
1	"... respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the right of the people to keep and bear Arms; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."	12	5%
2	"...respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; and in all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy public trial."	18	7%
4	I don't know	58	23%
3	"... respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of	160	65%

	the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."			
	Total		248	100%

23. What is the current unemployment rate in the U.S?

#	Answer		Response	%
3	Between 5.1 - 7%		155	62%
4	Between 7.1 - 10%		59	24%
5	Between 10.1 - 13%		21	8%
2	Between 3.1 - 5%		15	6%
1	Between 0 - 3%		1	0%
	Total		251	100%

24. To penalize Russia, the United States has frozen the U.S. bank assets of top Russian corporations and has blocked U.S. travel by top Russian officials in response to what events. (Choose all that apply)

#	Answer	Response	%
7	Russian financing of secessionist organizations in Texas	10	4%
2	The spread of Ebola by passengers flying from Moscow to Kiev	14	6%
6	The infiltration of U.S. corporate servers by Moscow-based hackers.	27	11%
4	The death of 298 people on a Malaysia Airlines plane shot down by pro-Russian forces in Ukraine.	119	49%
3	Russia's annexation of the Crimean Peninsula from Ukraine during a constitutional crisis.	167	69%

25. The name of the Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court is:

#	Answer	Response	%
4	John Roberts	170	70%
1	Sonia Sotomayor	34	14%
5	Sandra Day O'Connor	12	5%
3	David Souter	10	4%
2	Antonin Scalia	8	3%
6	William Rehnquist	8	3%
7	Samon Fish	2	1%
	Total	244	100%

Statistic	Value
Min Value	1
Max Value	7
Mean	3.61
Variance	1.54
Standard Deviation	1.24
Total Responses	244

26. President Obama ordered U.S. air strikes in northern Iraq in late August to slow the advance of what jihadist organization?

#	Answer	Response	%
2	I.S.I.S.	170	69%
3	The Taliban	47	19%
1	Hamas	26	11%
4	Hezbollah	4	2%
	Total	247	100%





27. In mid-August, the Missouri State Police took over night-time street patrols from local police in the city of Ferguson to quell riots after what incident? (choose one)

#	Answer	Response	%
4	The killing of an unarmed teenager by police	213	86%
2	The killing of an armed teenager by police	15	6%
1	The shooting of a policeman by a black teenager	12	5%
3	The shooting of a store owner by looters	8	3%
	Total	248	100%

28. After weeks of protests and conflicting allegations, New York's medical examiner has declared that the death of 43-year-old Eric Garner, a 350-pound asthmatic Staten Island man, was caused by...

#	Answer	Response	%
4	Injuries he suffered in a collision at the end of a high speed chase.	7	3%
1	Stray police bullets fired during a robbery.	9	4%
3	Allergic reactions to almonds in cupcakes from a Staten Island bakery.	11	5%
2	An illegal chokehold police used to subdue him during an investigation.	215	89%
	Total	242	100%

29. What is the approximate death toll (combatant and civilian) in Gaza and Israel as a result of the the exchange of rocket fire that began in July?

#	Answer		Response	%
1	2,000 Palestinians and residents of Gaza, 70 Israelis and residents of Israel		164	66%
2	2,000 Israelis and residents of Israel, 70 Palestinians and residents of Gaza		37	15%
3	200 Israelis and residents of Israel, 170 Palestinians and residents of Gaza		35	14%
4	200 Palestinians and residents of Gaza, 170 Israelis and residents of Israel		11	4%
	Total		247	100%