

**JRN-101/103 News Literacy**  
**A Critical Thinking Course**  
**Based on Current Events**

News Literacy – JRN 101B/103G

**How Do You Know If You're Getting Reliable News?**

**Housekeeping, Announcements & Notes**

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**  
 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

## Evaluated by Independent Experts

News Literacy students, compared to peers who did not take it:

1. Maintained a more diverse news diet than their peers.
2. Demonstrated superior political knowledge, even a year later
3. Were more likely to register and to vote
4. Were more likely to spot flaws in news reports.

Their peers caught up...a year later.

Source:  
Survey of 1,002 Stony Brook students by  
Dr. Christopher Weber, Louisiana State University

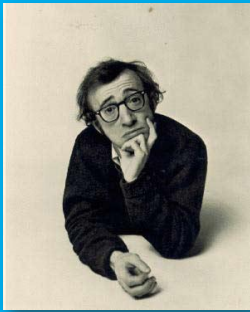
## Studied by Journalism Scholars

*"I'm always verifying sources and things I hear,"* wrote one respondent. *"I make sure I have all of the correct information before making a judgment or a decision."*

*"I believe this class honed an inquisitive mentality which I have kept with me since. The need to always be asking questions of the world around us - and that we should never take the words of another at face value - may seem cynical, yet (is) highly useful in today's times."*

Source: Anonymous survey of Stony Brook students conducted by 2011 Harvard/Shorenstein Fellow Renee Loth

## How to Succeed in News Lit



**"Eighty percent of success is showing up."**  
-Woody Allen

## News Literacy – JRN 101B/103G



**How Do You Know If You're Getting Reliable News?**

## News Literacy Lessons, Daily



## News Literacy Lessons, Daily



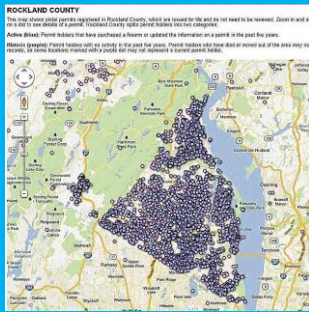
# News Literacy Lessons



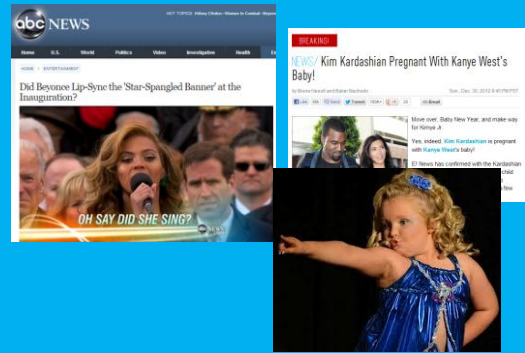
# News Literacy Lessons



# News Literacy Lessons



# News of the Day....Really?



# News Literacy Lessons



# Is Everything About the News, News?



**PoliticalArticles.NET**  
World Politics - Commentary, Opinion & News

Republican Domestic Terrorists & The NRA are The Biggest Security Threat To America

**TOP SECRET**

## WikiLeaks Gathers Army and CIA Documents And Shares Them With The World Is That Okay With You?

Assange leaks 251,287 raw US cables, sparking global outcry

**Toobin: Obama has been 'very tough' on leakers**

**THE INDEPENDENT**

Russian media to face restrictions

**The New York Times**

**Americas**

Ecuador Grants Asylum to Assange, Defying Britain

## How Do We Know What's Reliable?

CNN has identified the alleged gunman at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn. as Ryan Lanza.

According to police, Lanza, 24, is suspected of killing 27 people -- including 20 children -- at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn.

A neighbor of Ryan Lanza's parents in Sandy Hook told The Huffington Post that police are at Lanza's parents house.

The shooter was killed during the rampage and several others were injured.

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## Reliable information is actionable.

It allows news consumers to make a decision, take action or share responsibly with others.

## What Is News Literacy And Why Does It Matter?

## What Can You Conclude?

Beware of the "Freshmen 15" and then some

I'm on personal mission to lose some excess weight, and it reminded me about how much weight I gained (and lost and gained and lost again) in college... I'm talking about the dreaded and feared "Freshmen 15," or when college students gain weight during their first year in college.

**The New York Times**

**Patterns: 'Freshman 15' Is a Myth, a Study Suggests**

Everyone knows that college freshmen typically gain 15 pounds in their first year of college; the notorious "freshman 15."

But that proverbial "freshman 15" may be a myth.

According to a new study, freshmen actually gain an average of 2.2 to 2.9 pounds, and the weight gain has little to do with college introductions.

## What Can You Conclude?

### New JAMA: Love handles lengthen lifespan

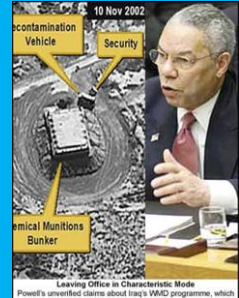
Posted on January 1, 2013 by Steve Millroy | 7 Comments

Don't sweat the love handles and more!

From a [new study in JAMA](#) of 270,000 deaths:

*Relative to normal weight, both obesity (all grades) and grades 2 and 3 obesity were associated with significantly higher all-cause mortality. Grade 1 obesity overall was not associated with higher mortality, and overweight was associated with significantly lower all-cause mortality. The use of predefined standard BMI groupings can facilitate between-study comparisons.*

## How do you know what to believe?

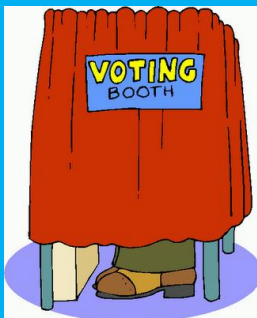


News Literacy is the ability to use critical thinking skills to judge the reliability and credibility of news reports, whether they come via print, television or the Internet.

## How Do You Decide?



## Misinformation and Elections



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.

## 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



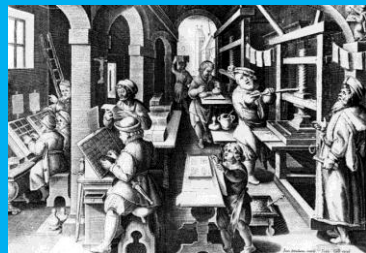
Gutenberg's Printing Press Changes the World

## The First Mass-Produced Book



The Gutenberg Bible

## Within 50 Years



From a Few Books to Six Million

## Books That Changed the World and Challenged Authority



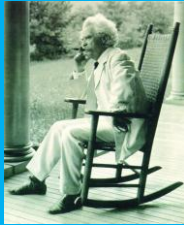
1534 – Martin Luther and His Bible

## Books That Changed the World and Challenged Authority



1776 – Tom Paine's Revolutionary  
"Common Sense"

## Mark Twain on the Printing Press



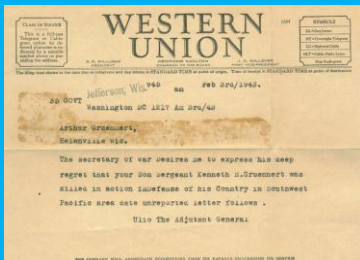
"It found truth astir on earth and gave it wings;  
but untruth was also abroad, and it was supplied  
with a double pair of wings."

## 1815 – The Battle of New Orleans



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

## The Trade-off: Accuracy vs. Speed



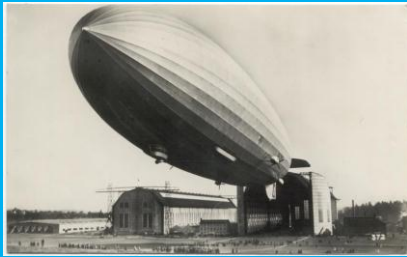
1838 – Samuel Morse Sends First  
Public Telegram in America

## And Then You Were There...

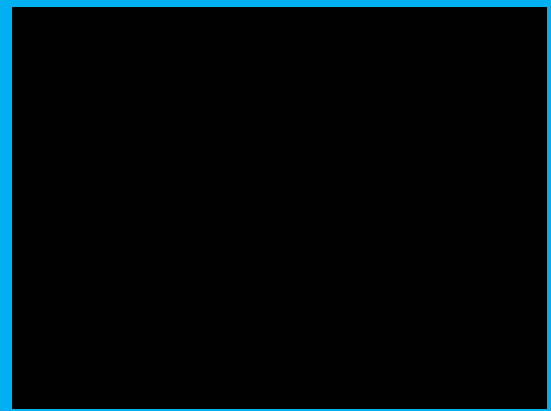


1920 – First News Broadcast of  
Presidential Election Results

## Radio Covers the World Live



1937 – The Voyage of the Hindenburg

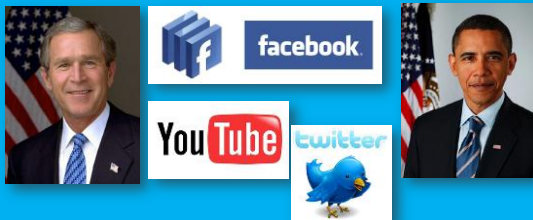


## 1969: The Information Revolution 2.0



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



## Overload



*“Every Two Days We Create As Much Information As We Did Up To 2003.”*  
 Google CEO Eric Schmidt

## Blurring the Lines



Who is a Journalist? Who isn't? Does it Matter?

## Blurring the Lines



News or Entertainment?

## Blurring the Lines



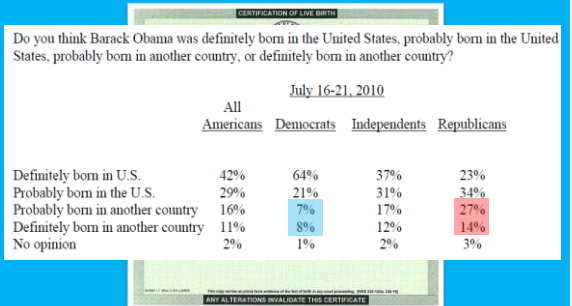
News or Entertainment?

## Blurring the Lines



News or Entertainment?

## Are We Blinded by Our Own Bias?



16% of All Voters & 30% of  
Republicans Continue to Believe  
Obama Not Born in U.S.



What is  
"Cognitive  
Dissonance?"

## New Technologies and Tactics The Crisis of Authenticity



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Home What is the Nassau County News Network?

**Mangano Urges Storm Victims to Apply For State Home Damage Repair Aid**

Posted on January 22, 2013

Nassau County Executive Edward P. Mangano encourages homeowners whose houses were destroyed or severely damaged by Superstorm Sandy to apply for additional funds made available through a new state program.

**Get Mangano's Twitter**

- Mangano calls on FEMA to pay for Mold Remediation
- facebook.com/media/set/?set...  
1 hour ago
- I commended @NYGovCuomo for putting forth an Executive

## Assignment: News Blackout

For 48 Hours

No Facebook (or other social media)

No News...

No Sports Scores...

No Weather...

...Even From Friends or Family

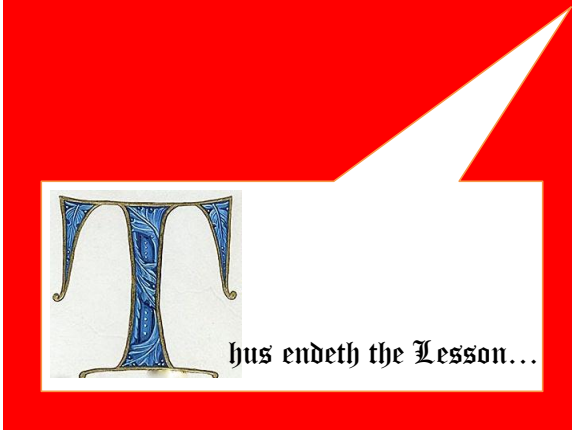
Summarize Your Reaction

## Assignment:

"Reality Check" questionnaire on Blackboard

Must be done before recitation

*There are no right or wrong answers.*



News Literacy students will use **two** sites on Blackboard.

**Lecture**      **Recitation**

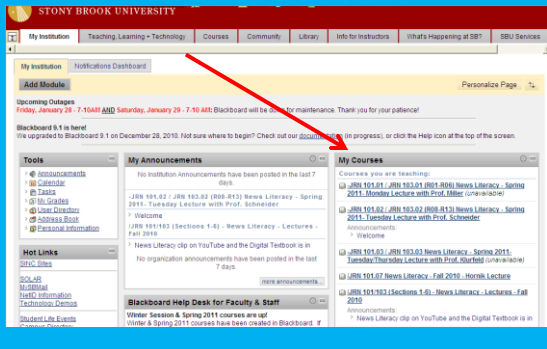
Links **Back To Lecture**

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

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

**Safe Assign**

# BLACKBOARD



# News Literacy Lessons



Steve Buttry, Digital Transformation Editor, Digital First Media



How to verify information from tweets: Check it out  
January 21, 2013 by Steve Buttry