



ANIMATION: ON CLICK, TANKMAN PHOTO REPLACED BY DUCKMAN PARODY

Technology has always served to amplify the Power of Information. In Lecture 1, we talked about the historic force of Gutenberg's press and Zuckerberg's social media movement. The printing press served to multiply the Power of Information., leading the way to greater democratization of access to information, something which ruling elites have jealously guarded since the beginning of recorded history. The advent of the Internet and more recently Social Media have further democratized not just access to information but also the spreading of it.

In China, the regime has tried for over 24 years to erase the national memory of the bloody crackdown on citizens in June of 1989. This iconic photograph has long been banned and next to impossible to see on the Internet in China.

Whenever the anniversary of June 4 rolls around, Chinese Internet censors block any term that might refer to June 4, but China's netizens have been empowered by social media. They have clever ways of evading censorship – instead of June 4 1989, they tried 1089 for a while. Most recently they used May 35 or 535 (may 31 plus 4 days). The government stopped that too, but the human creativity unleashed by social media countered with this picture, which went viral before the censors could stop it.

This lecture is about the never-ending struggle to control information – why is information so powerful and why people will go to unimaginable lengths to spread it and to control it



PRE-VIDEO SLIDE. THE NEXT SLIDE WILL LAUNCH AN EXCERPT OF PEARL'S HOSTAGE VIDEO (1 MINUTE: NO VIOLENCE)

But the struggle to control information is not just some cat and mouse game played out on the Internet

This is Wall Street Journal South Asia Bureau Chief Daniel Pearl.

"Danny" as his friends called him, was born in Princeton, New Jersey, and grew up in Los Angeles, the son of a computer science professor. He graduated from Stanford University in 1985, where he co-founded a student newspaper. He got an internship at the Indianapolis Star and spent a winter in Idaho, busing tables to pay for his ski pass. After a trip through Russia, China, and Europe, he joined the Berkshire Eagle, a legendary small-town paper in western MA.

He moved up: to the San Francisco Business Times and then to the Wall Street Journal by 1990. Promotions followed: Atlanta; Washington, DC; London; and then South Asia Bureau Chief in Mumbai, India.

January 23, 2002, he was in Pakistan to investigate links between Richard Reid (the "shoe bomber") and Al-Qaeda.

It seemed like a lucky break when he got a call telling him where to rendezvous for an interview with Sheikh Mubarak Ali Gilani in Karachi. A militant group calling itself The National Movement for the Restoration of Pakistani Sovereignty kidnapped him near the Metropole Hotel. Using a Hotmail address, they declared him a CIA operative and listed the usual demands: release prisoners, change policy, withdraw troops...or else.

Here's the video they posted. (LECTURER: CLICK NOW TO LAUNCH HOSTAGE VIDEO)

The Power of Information

Danpearl.wmv

NEWS FELLOW: LINK VIDEO TO THIS SLIDE AND SELECT
“START AUTOMATICALLY”

AFTER VIDEO:

There was no response to public pleas from Pearl's editor, nor from his wife Mariane, who was six months pregnant with their first child.

Nine days after Danny Pearl was kidnapped, his captors released a video of themselves cutting his head off.

On May 16, 2002 (about 4 months after the kidnapping) Danny's severed head and decomposed body were found cut into ten pieces, and buried in a shallow grave at Gadap, about 30 miles north of Karachi. In the grave was the jacket of the tracksuit Pearl was wearing in this photo, taken by his kidnappers when they grabbed him.

His son, Adam Daniel Pearl, had already been born.

The Power of Information: Today's Themes

There is a universal need
to receive and share information.

People kill
– and risk death –
over information.

The battle to control information
is also universal - and changing with
technology.

(Animation: When ready, click for each lecture theme)

Why would Al Qaeda leaders target someone armed only with a laptop full of interview notes, a notebook and a pen?

And why would Danny Pearl, armed with only a notebook and a pen, purposely meet with people who presumably want to blow up airliners full of civilians?

A Jew, investigating Al Qaeda...on Al Qaeda's home turf.

An American in Pakistan.

Why would he do that?

Clearly, from the title of the information, we think information is powerful stuff. So powerful, Danny Pearl died seeking it.

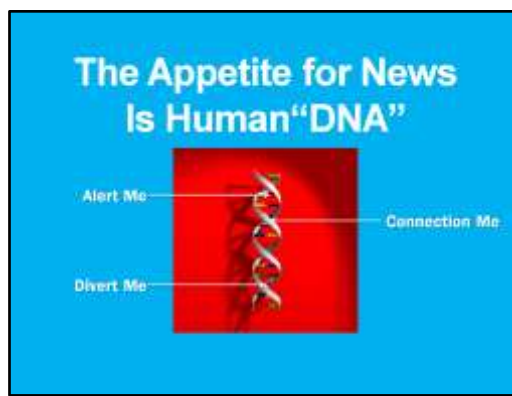
Here are the three main themes of today's lecture, in which we hope to explore this idea of the power of information.

Why is there a universal
need to share and
receive news?

Why IS there a universal need to share and receive news?

ASK: How many of you share news as you read it...linking Facebook posts, re-tweeting or tweeting items of interest or blogging or “*LIKE*” ing items posted by others, re-posting Tumblr items....

What is it about us that we all seem to need to receive and share information?

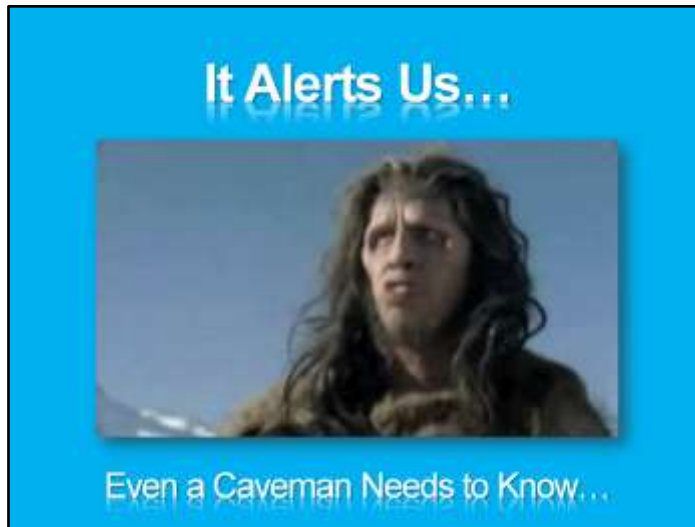


Animation: Hunger for News is part of our “DNA” (metaphorically speaking)

Every society studied by anthropologists - no matter how primitive - prized a system for exchanging news.

What is this Need to Know? Think about your day on campus. The most common question is... “What up?”

For purposes of this course we observe that humans seem to need three kinds of news: Alerts, Diverts, Connects. Hang on to those ideas, They’re useful in the writing assignments for this course.



PRE-VIDEO SLIDE. THE NEXT SLIDE WILL LAUNCH THE FUNNY FED-EX AD (38 seconds)

Without information systems that alerted them to danger, humans wouldn't have survived. This highly scientific reconstruction shows how humans need information that alerts them to new opportunities and alerts them to danger.

(LECTURER: CLICK NOW TO LAUNCH VIDEO)



Caveman.wmv

NEWS FELLOW: LINK VIDEO TO THIS SLIDE AND SELECT "START AUTOMATICALLY"



Okay, so let's think about serious alerts we rely on.

News includes information that alerts us to dangers or opportunities dead ahead, as many of us learned last fall when Superstorm Sandy AND a full moon combined to knock out power to millions of people in New York, New Jersey and Connecticut.

Or in August (2013) in California, when Governor Jerry Brown declared a state of emergency in San Francisco due to wildfires that threatened to choke the water supply with ash.



ANIMATION. FIRST Energy Drinks, THEN THE Emergency Room.

Ask: Do you like energy drinks?

Here's a report that alerts you to news you can use.



NEWS FELLOW: LINK VIDEO TO THIS SLIDE AND SELECT "START AUTOMATICALLY"

Plays Australian report on energy drink worries.

Primeval humans wanted to know if there was a lion staking out the water hole.

You might want to know if it's a good idea to chug a Red Bull
(Lecturers, here is some more background,

Report Finds Spike In Energy Drink-Related Emergency Room Visits: Indicates ER Visits Doubled In Last 4 Years From 10,000 To Over 20,000

January 16, 2013 8:39 PM

NEW YORK (CBSNewYork) — Energy drinks are the fastest growing segment of the carbonated soft drink market.

Trouble is, most people don't realize that they can be hazardous to their health and the Food and Drug Administration is already investigating [the safety of energy drinks](#) after a number of deaths were linked to them, CBS 2's Dr. Max Gomez reported.

"The first question I ask when I see a young person with a rapid heart beat and anxiety is 'Have you taken any energy drinks?'" said Dr. Stephen Meldon, the Vice Chair of the Emergency Services Institute at the Cleveland Clinic.

A report from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration said ER visits doubled in the last four years from about 10,000 to more than 20,000.

Doctors said those high doses of caffeine and other additives can cause a number of reactions.

In recent years sales have soared for the top three energy drink companies. — Red Bull, Monster and Rockstar and marketers main target is young people.

The government report found those same young people, ages 18-25, were the most common age group to need emergency treatment.

<http://newyork.cbslocal.com/2013/01/16/report-finds-spike-in-energy-drink-related-emergency-room-visits/>



Let's be honest. We don't read political news and cops and crime news all the time.

We also can't resist reading about celebrities, or following news that amuses us.

Don't be embarrassed to admit you're an ESPN addict, a People Magazine reader...or a Page Six Devotee. The fact is, news is often a form of entertainment, whether we're laughing at the antics of the rich and famous or chuckling over some witty quip in a debate in the U.S. Senate.

Miley Cyrus' nasty number at the VMAs burst previous records, provoking 300,000 Tweets per hour.

Beyoncé's every move is chronicled, both on the "Bossip" website, but in mainstream news outlets.

Li'l Scrappy's scrap at a gas station gets reported like news

George Clooney and Sandra Bullock's arrival in Venice to start filming "Gravity" got covered worldwide.

Stories that amuse and entertain us are also news.



Animation: Very silly. On click, a suspiciously FTD runner deliver's Cicero's news letter, and then Cicero's quote arises.

And it's really nothing new.

The Roman Emperor Cicero ordered news about Rome delivered to him by messenger when he was away. He griped that the news in these letters was a lot of tittle-tattle and gossip: which gladiator was paired off with which...who was on trial for what scandalous or embarrassing crime...what leak about the Emperor was making the rounds.

It is human to seek information that diverts or entertains us and that has always included a fair amount of tabloid news and sports reports.



As did stories told around the campfire or in the darkness of grass huts at the dawn of human history, some news stories connect us. The telling and re-telling of them. The discussion of them...That's deep in our DNA. Human Interest stories help us rehearse how we'll rise to the occasion when life's inevitable losses hit us.

Here's an example:

When Superstorm Sandy hit last fall, Breezy Point, NY, CBS National Correspondent Michelle Miller found survivors returning to the scene of the Breezy Point fire to salvage what they could from the ashes of their homes.

It Connects Us...

SandyBreezyPoint2:22.wmv

Sandy's Aftermath

News Fellow, link above-named video here.



History connects us, too.

On June 11, 1963, President John F. Kennedy made a nationally televised address calling for a drive for more civil rights. That same night, NAACP leader Medgar Evers was murdered in Mississippi, spurring civil rights leaders to organize a march on the Capital to demand equal rights for all Americans and call particular attention to voting rights for African Americans.

Of the estimated 250,000 who attended, about 60,000 were white and people came from all over the country. There were few arrests, but every network carried the speech live, introducing Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. to the nation. The coverage of the 50th anniversary of that march and the “I Have a Dream” speech is the kind of story that builds a common history, which connects us.

PAUSE FOR TRANSITION.

These patterns , seeking information that alerts us, that diverts us ,that connects us...make us human, which is why in News Literacy we assert that the need for information is in our DNA.

But information-seeking and information-spreading have a lot to do with power... which makes it dangerous.

A 48,000-hour Blackout



During five and a half years as a prisoner of war... *"The thing I missed most was information...free uncensored, undistorted, abundant information."*

Animation: On Click, modern McCain photo and quote appear, together

Some of you learned from the Black Out assignment just how much you miss information.

Here's the mother of all blackouts: In October 1967, while on a bombing mission over Hanoi, John McCain he was shot down, seriously injured, and captured by the North Vietnamese. He was a Prisoner Of War until 1973, during which time he was tortured , but refused his captor's offer to move him up the release list, sending him home early. His war wounds left him with lifelong physical limitations.

His captors knew that an extra measure of torture would be keeping him ignorant of what was happening in the world.

DO 2ND CLICK NOW

McCain, not always a fan of the News Media, says he missed news the most while in prison.



ANIMATION: CLICK BRINGS UP WEINER ONCE YOU HAVE SET UP THE STORY

People who know something that others don't have a hard time keeping it to themselves.

ASK: Have you ever known a secret about a friend or brother or sister? One that gave you power over them?

That's the root of the power of information, that schoolyard dynamic by which one person can make another person's life more difficult with a select piece of information. There's power in protecting the secret, but there's also power in divulging it.

She looks like the proverbial cat that ate the canary, doesn't she? What do you suppose she knows?

[CLICK HERE TO BRING UP WEINER](#)

Consider this case:

Anthony Weiner was a seven-term Congressman who Tweeted some interesting photos to young admirers until 2011, when those photos went public, forcing him to resign from Congress.

This year, he made a surprising comeback, promising all that weird sexting was a thing of the past. He was being taken seriously as a candidate for Mayor of New York... until Sydney Leathers, the woman on the right, came along with a fresh set of nasty messages candidate Weiner had sent her.

His chances look pretty poor.

The Power of Information: Three Themes

There is a universal need
to receive and share

Why do people kill
– or risk death –
over information?

The battle to control information
is also universal

Why would a government or other entities kill over a little information?

And why would a journalist risk death to get information out and into the public's hands?



Marie Colvin, a 56-year-old native of Oyster Bay, Long Island who was one of the most recognizable and famous foreign correspondents in the world. She specialized in bullies, telling the world which leaders were doing evil things to their citizens or to those of enemy armies.

On February 22, 2012, Syrian President Bashir alAssad was systematically shelling residential neighborhoods to wear down the support for rebel forces fighting his government.

The Sunday Times of London was one of the few western news organizations with a reporter inside Syria: the intrepid Marie Colvin.

Here's a video montage about Colvin in Syria.



ColvinMontage.wmv

NEWS FELLOW: LINK VIDEO TO THIS SLIDE AND SELECT “START AUTOMATICALLY”

Colvin was, we believe, targetted by Bashir AlAssad’s troops because she was reporting on the atrocities inside Syria.

In her memory, Stony Brook University has launched a million-dollar campaign in her memory, to bring a top foreign correspondent to meet with students each year and to train Stony Brook journalism students to report from foreign countries.



ANIMATION: CLICK BRINGS IN THE CHARTS and THE LOWER HEADLINE

Here are some facts, collected by the Committee to Protect Journalists, that sometimes surprise students.

Already in 2013, 36 journalists have died, that's a much faster pace than the average, which is three every month.

[CLICK HERE TO BRING IN CHARTS AND LOWER HED](#)

In 2012, almost half were murdered, more than a third were killed covering combat and some died on other types of dangerous assignments.

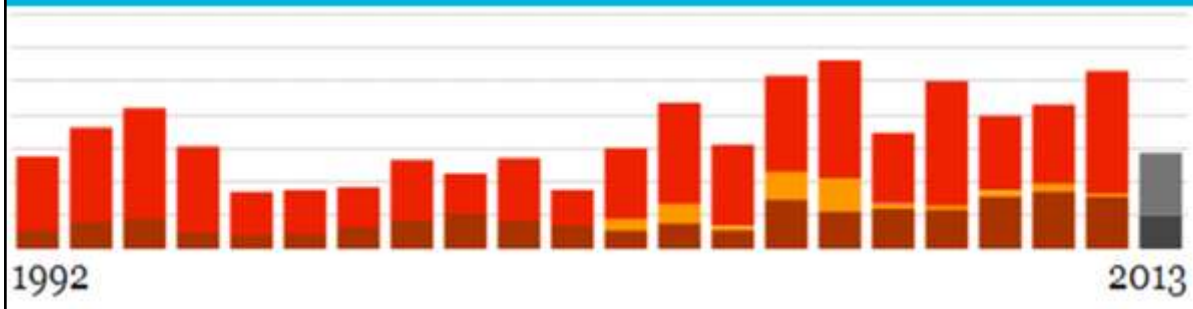
Meanwhile, the number of people held in prison for committing the "crime" of journalism is steadily rising.

It's a widespread phenomenon, this violent attempt to keep information out of your hands.

CPJ: 36 Journalists Killed So Far in 2013

Deadliest Countries in 2013

- | | | |
|----------------|---------------|------------------|
| 1. Syria: 17 | 4. Brazil: 3 | 7. Turkey: 1 |
| 2. Egypt: 6 | 5. Somalia: 2 | 8. Bangladesh: 1 |
| 3. Pakistan: 4 | 6. Russia: 2 | |



One of your assignments this week was to browse the CPJ website to get a stronger sense of what information can cost.

What surprised you when you read through their information?

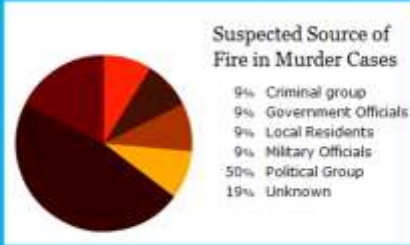
Who brings you those alerts from overseas and at what risk?

For journalists, Syria was by far the deadliest country in 2012 and is again in 2013.

Who is Doing the Killing?

Suspected Perpetrators in Murder Cases from 2012

Portraits of Murdered Journalists



100% were carried out with complete impunity in 2012

Source: The Committee to Protect Journalists

CPJ attempts to distinguish motives from mistakes and to determine who is responsible when journalists are killed for committing journalism. These numbers are from 2012, but the proportions are fairly consistent over the years: Usually, Government forces, political groups and criminals are the main killers of journalists, and likely account for a significant number of the “unknown” assailants.

Impunity is an important word. It’s the way a bully gets away with torturing classmates, knowing she won’t be caught. In some countries, that bully grows up and literally tortures people who try to tell the world what the bully is up to.

Clarissa Ward in Syria

Clarissa Ward Promo_2.mov

NEWS FELLOW: LINK VIDEO TO THIS SLIDE AND SELECT "START AUTOMATICALLY"

This semester's Marie Colvin lecture will be presented by Clarissa Ward, CBS News' correspondent from Syria.

Here's a taste of what we'll talk about at her event.

Pivot Point

What Would You Ask Clarissa Ward?

Every other row
Pivots to the row behind
To discuss in groups of four

We have done this informally in years past, but now provide a slide to prompt short in-class discussions among students.

At appropriate moments, the lecturer will pose a question to the room and then ask students to pivot into groups of 4, discuss the question and prepare to offer answers to the whole room.

This will be clumsy until students learn the drill, but the idea is to break up the lecture with small-group work, if only to give students a chance to shift positions.

In this pivot, groups of four are asked to take a couple of minutes to discuss what they would ask Clarissa Ward about her work.

Lecturer will call on volunteers to rehearse their questions to the room.



Click brings up headline and clips from article

During anti-Government protests in January of 2009, Sri Lankan officials stepped up their assaults on journalists. Lasantha Wickrematunge, editor of The Sunday Leader, had been detained and threatened but was still pushing investigative stories about the government. January 8, 2009 as he drove to work, he was killed by gunmen on motorbikes, the fourth journalist killed in a short period in Sri Lanka. (CLICK BRINGS UP HEADLINE AND PULL QUOTE)

Staff of the Sunday Leader discovered that, expecting to be killed, he had already written his own obituary.

Read excerpt aloud:

“No other profession calls on its practitioners to lay down their lives for their art save the armed forces and, in Sri Lanka, journalism. In the course of the past few years, the independent media have increasingly come under attack. Electronic and print media institutions have been burnt, bombed, sealed and coerced. Countless journalists have been harassed, threatened and killed. It has been my honour to belong to all those categories and now especially the last.

I hope my assassination will be seen not as a defeat of freedom but an inspiration for those who survive to step up their efforts. Indeed, I hope that it will help to galvanize forces that will usher in a new era of human liberty in our beloved motherland. I also hope it will open the eyes of your President to the fact that however many are slaughtered in the name of patriotism, the human spirit will endure and flourish.

People often ask me why I take such risks and tell me it is a matter of time before I am bumped off. Of course I know that: it is inevitable. But if we do not speak out now, there will be no one left to speak for those who cannot, whether they be ethnic minorities, the disadvantaged or the

persecuted.”

“Think Twice”

A Silent Minute to Absorb the Material

ANIMATION: Click once to start the fade-out, fade-in, which takes one minute

At Stony Brook, we’ve become interested in the effects of silence in the classroom.

At summer workshops in 2013, we began breaking up intensive lecture or discussion sessions with a minute of silence. It made participants uncomfortable the first time, but over the course of a few days they became quite enthusiastic about pausing every so often to let ideas sink in or to simply reflect. We find it works well to ask a question and then call for a minute of silence.

This slide is built to fade to black and then come back, all in one minute

ASK STUDENTS IF INFORMATION IS WORTH THE COST

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/educationnews/8841649/Silence-is-golden-how-keeping-quiet-in-the-classroom-can-boost-results.html>

<http://www.ascd.org/publications/educational-leadership/dec09/vol67/num04/Silence-Is-Golden.aspx>

The Power of Information: Three Themes

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is also universal – and changing with
technology.

Text animates automatically

Whether conducted with rocks and sticks in Tahrir Square or with network switches, the battle to control information is universal and the effect of digital technology is unclear. Do mobile web-based devices put more power in the hands of individuals, or give government more power over individuals' lives?

Let's start with some context. Have powerful people always battled for control of information?

From The Beginning
Information Was Power

Drums.wmv

NEWS FELLOW: LINK video TO THIS SLIDE AND SELECT “START AUTOMATICALLY” – (Drums.wmv 30 SECONDS) THIS VIDEO DOES NOT PLAY FULL SCREEN. THERE IS NO VIDEO, JUST AUDIO.

(Lecturer: As drumming winds down...) Drum telegraphy, based on speech rhythms, were one of the earliest forms of remote communication .

The use of talking drums use sometimes rebalanced the power equation, the way cell phones can now.

European expeditions to West Africa were surprised: tribes they encountered already knew when they were coming and what they were up to. They'd lost the element of surprise.

Regardless of the method, of transmission, Saber es Poder. (Knowledge is Power) and the powerful try to clamp a lid on knowledge they don't want to get out.



Lecturer Note: Qin is pronounced “Chin”

From wikipedia:

Beginning in 213 BC, at the instigation of Li Si and to avoid scholars' comparisons of his reign with the past, Qin Shi Huang ordered most existing books burned with the exception of those on astrology, agriculture, medicine, divination, and the history of the State of Qin. This would also serve the purpose of furthering the ongoing reformation of the writing system by removing examples of obsolete scripts. Owning the [Book of Songs](#) or the [Classic of History](#) was to be punished especially severely. According to the later [Records of the Grand Historian](#), the following year Qin Shi Huang had some 460 scholars buried alive for owning the forbidden books.[\[45\]](#)[\[46\]](#) The emperor's oldest son [Fusu](#) criticised him for this act.[\[47\]](#) The emperor's own library still had copies of the forbidden books but most of these were destroyed later when [Xiang Yu](#) burned the palaces of Xianyang in 206 BC.[\[48\]](#)

Even (especially) Emperors Need to Control Information



"Four hostile newspapers are more to be feared than a thousand bayonets."

2000 years later, after the invention of the printing press made newspapers possible, the Emperor Napoleon faced the same powerful enemy: an informed populace.

Napoleon, a military genius who emerged from the French Revolution, won battle after battle against stronger armies, established French influence across Europe and worked to spread the ideals of the Revolution, most notably through the Napoleonic Code of legal procedure...Yet he feared the un-muzzled power of the flimsy, melt-in-the-rain thing known as a newspaper.

Here's what he knew: that you control the public by controlling their access to information.

Yes, he said knowledge is only potential power. But without it, there is no potential for power.

North America's First Newspaper



1690: Publick Occurrences Both Forreign and Domestick

That battle for control of information followed us here from Europe.

The first news sheet in North America debuted in 1690... and produced just one edition.

Publick Occurrences Both Forreign and Domestick, was published in Boston by Benjamin Harris. The English authorities, in "high Resentment" that Harris dared to report that English military forces had allied themselves with "miserable" savages, put him out of business four days later.

Same battle. New battlefield.



The control of information and the use of propaganda - a concept we will discuss at greater length later - can lead to terrible results.

In Germany in the 1930s, where the Nazi Party bought weak newspapers before it came to power and cranked out propaganda. Once in power, they licensed newspapers and dictated content.

For the sake of their license, even non-partisan papers agreed to print Nazi propaganda free and to take no ads from Jews. As insurance, dozens of German advertisers cynically bought space in Nazi organs.

Thus controlled, Germany's newspapers did little to challenge Hitler.

What do autocrats fear? Anyone who can tell

their secrets.



(Lecturers: animation automatically brings up suicide, then prison camp internee, then Gutman)

One thing the powerful fear is scrutiny.

Bosnia's civil war in 1992 was, to Americans, not interesting. Far away, and fought over ideologies we didn't understand, it was a fight we were glad to stay out of.

So while the world turned its back(1992-1995) the Serbs started systematically using mass rape of civilians as a weapon in so-called "Ethnic Cleansing." Estimates ranged from 20,000 to 50,000 victims. Impregnated by Serbian fighters, the women were forced to carry the child of their rapist. In this way, the Serbs intended to wipe out Muslim bloodlines. The U.N. investigation found Serbs took steps to maximize shame and humiliation to not only the victim but also the victim's community. (UN report *(S/25274)*)

Roy Gutman of Newsday was the first reporter into prison camps like Srebrenica. His reporting sparked worldwide outrage that pushed the U.S. and other nations to intervene to end the war and punish those who organized the campaign of rape.



ANIMATION: ON CLICK, TECHNOLOGIES FLY IN, IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER: Press, Radio, TV, Social Media

But just as Guttenberg's invention enabled ordinary people to challenge authority 650 years ago, around the world the Internet and particularly Social Media have begun to challenge this equation, domestically and globally.

The speed at which words, pictures and video can now be delivered and the degree to which individuals can blast information to the world has changed politics in your lifetime.

It's hard to imagine, but at the end of George W. Bush's first term there was: No Facebook. No You Tube. No Twitter

When you think that half of all Americans now get their online news via these social networking sites, that's a breathtaking change. Again, this course asks you to ponder...Who is deciding what you read and watch and hear?

How else have these technologies changed your life as a citizen and the functioning of your government and political system?



On the night of August 11, 2012, drunk high school girl was publicly and repeatedly sexually assaulted by her peers at two parties in Steubenville, Ohio. Several teens documented the acts on their cellphones and posted material on Facebook and Twitter and in text messages.

Hearing frustration from residents and law enforcement officers over the lack of cooperation from witnesses and concern the popularity of the football program could influence the outcome, a crime blogger who grew up in the area, Alexandria Goddard, grabbed screenshots of images and posts on Twitter, Facebook and YouTube before many of them were deleted. Realizing that not everyone knew how to find the posts on Twitter, she said she also [posted some screenshots](#) of what football players at the parties had said about the victim.

Goddard is credited with unearthing material that forced action on the rape case.

The evidence presented in court mainly consisted of hundreds of text messages and cellphone pictures that had been taken by more than a dozen people at the parties and afterwards traded with other students and posted to social media. Two students and high school football players, Ma'lik Richmond and Trent Mays, both 16 at the time of the crime, have been convicted in juvenile court for the rape of a minor.

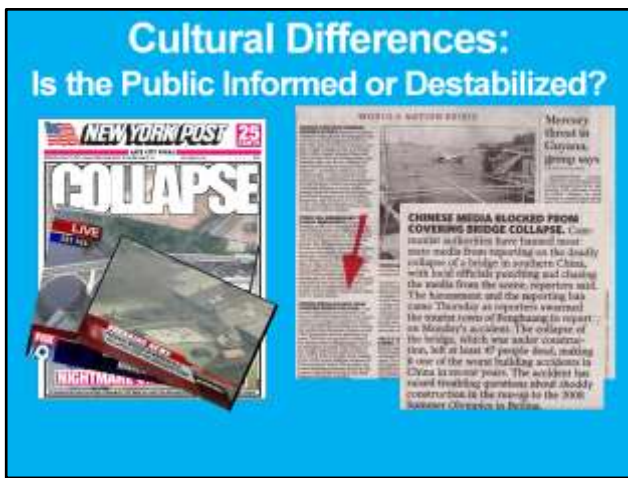
Information Starts a Revolution



Twenty-seven-year-old Mohammed Bouazizi from the town of Sidi Bouzid, Tunisia, had been struggling to feed his family and found his only means of doing so, his fruit cart, confiscated by local authorities. Slapped in the face by an official, in despair and rage, Bouazizi set himself on fire on December 17, 2010, outside the local magistrate's office.

Self-immolations are not unheard of in this part of the world. But a new factor had entered the equation: cell phone technology and social media. Captured on cell phone video, his protest went viral, was seen around the world, and within weeks sparked the start of the Middle East uprisings that became known as the Arab Spring.

Within a month of Bouazizi's death, the President of 23 years was swept from power in Tunisia, inspiring rebellions that toppled governments in Egypt (twice), Libya and Yemen. Major protests and uprisings, all fuelled in part by cell-phone information sharing, broke out in Algeria, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Morocco and Sudan.



ANIMATION: SLIDE OPENS WITH POST COVER. FOUR MORE CLICKS BRING UP: TV SCREEN GRABS CHINA BRIDGE STORY, BRIDGE STORY ZOOMED IN

For a long time, we used China as the example of information control.

Here's an example of the way things were as recently as 2007 in China.

Our cultures view an informed public very differently, as this case shows:

On Aug. 1, 2007 during evening rush hour, the I-35W Mississippi River bridge in Minneapolis collapsed, killing 13 people and injuring 145. On the evening of the collapse, CNN, MSNBC and Fox News went live and stayed live through the overnight, along with local stations. In the days that followed, most of America's top anchors broadcast live from the scene: Shepard Smith and Greta Van Susteren (FOX), Katie Couric (CBS), Charlie Gibson (ABC), Brian Williams and Matt Lauer (NBC), Soledad O'Brien and Anderson Cooper (CNN), Contessa Brewer (MSNBC)

Ten days later in Southern China, Communist authorities banned most state media from reporting on the collapse of a bridge under construction near Fenghuang, which killed at least 47 people. Local officials punched and chased reporters from the scene.

With globalization, those values increasingly clash and with new technologies, Chinese netizens are challenging the traditional Communist Party emphasis on stability and serenity.

In China the Balance of Power Has Shifted:



"We have the right to know the truth!" wrote one microblogger called kangfu xiaodingdang. "That's our basic right!"

The clearest sign of change came two years ago.

July 2011, two high-speed trains collided on a viaduct in the suburbs of Wenzhou, in Zhejiang province. The two trains derailed each other and four cars fell off the viaduct. In all 40 people were killed, 192 were injured. Officials responded by ordering the burial of the derailed cars. Using Wei bo (A Twitter-type microblogging platform) citizens exposed the situation and even state-owned news networks followed suit. The railways ministry apologized for the collision in eastern Zhejiang province and announced an inquiry. Spokesman Wang Yongping added: "[*China's high-speed rail technology is up to date and up to standard, and we still have faith in it.*](#)"

Internet users attacked the government's response to the disaster after authorities muzzled media coverage and urged reporters to focus on rescue efforts. "We have the right to know the truth!" wrote one microblogger called kangfu xiaodingdang. "That's our basic right!"

Napoleon's Worst Fears?



The Revenge of the "Flesh Searchers"

Yang Dacai, the former head of Shaanxi province's Bureau of Work Safety, was reportedly relieved of his duties following a campaign by internet vigilantes who accused him of amassing a luxury wardrobe worth up to £110,000.

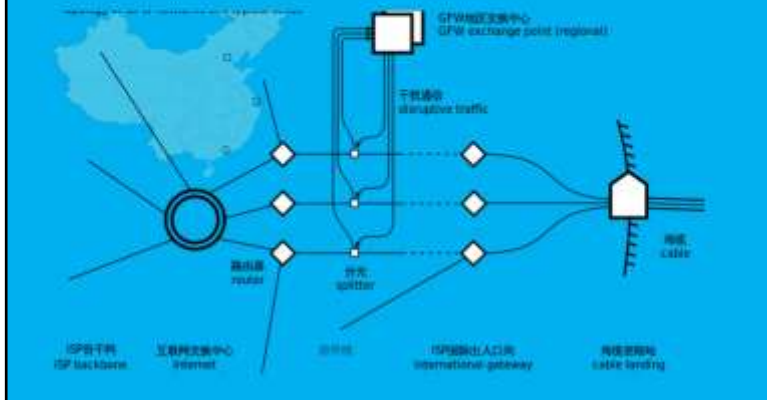
Mr Yang, 55, was thrust into the limelight after a photograph was published showing him grinning at the scene of a road accident in which 36 people died.

Angered by Mr Yang's apparent insensitivity, online vigilantes – known in China as "flesh searchers" – launched an all-out internet assault on the previously unknown civil servant.

China's flesh searchers trawled the internet for more embarrassing poses but instead found photographs of Mr Yang sporting a dazzling selection of wrist watches including an Omega Constellation valued at up to £6,500, and a Constantin, worth over £20,000.

Mr Yang attempted to defend himself, claiming to have bought five luxury watches with his own "legal income".

The Battle Never Ends: The Great Firewall of China



It would be easy to overstate the impact of social media in China (and elsewhere). Governments everywhere – including the US – seek to control the flow of information.

From Freedom House

"July 24, 2013 - China's internet controls, which were already among the most extensive in the world, have grown even more sophisticated and pervasive under the new Communist Party leadership, according to a Freedom House [special report released today](#). [New regulations made it harder for activists to conceal their identity online](#). [Some circumvention tools, which help users access uncensored websites overseas, were significantly disrupted](#). [And private companies stepped up their capacity to delete banned content, sometimes within minutes](#). [The report is based on Freedom House's unique Freedom on the Net methodology](#)."

But just as banning America's first newspaper didn't stop people from sharing information the government wanted to suppress, the Great Firewall of China may prove weaker than the power of people's desire for information.

New Battle Fronts in China



Chinese police have begun to target well-known bloggers by accusing them of spreading false rumors. The authorities also employ tens of thousands of bloggers to spread news that is favorable to the government.

But most Chinese netizens have quickly figured out how to spot these “Zombies” because of their lack of followers and robotic postings.

What is particularly interesting at this stage is that there is an open public debate about the government’s campaign, with many experts saying that a crackdown on rumormongering is fine as long as it is done transparently – i.e., so that the police specify exactly what rumor was spread.

Napoleon and Emperor Qin Have Modern Company



Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan:
Social media are *"the worst menace to society."*

When protesters brought much of Istanbul to a standstill in June (2013) over the planned destruction of a beloved park, Turkish Prime Minister Erdogan lashed out at the only culprit he could think of that could have eroded his once unassailable popularity: Facebook and Twitter.

The Battle Hits Private Companies



ANIMATIONS: FIRST CLICK BRINGS UP THE ISITDOWNRIGHTNOW.COM PAGE THAT TESTS WEBSITE PROBLEMS AND SECOND CLICK BRINGS IN THE HACKER MESSAGE LEFT ON THE NEW YORK TIMES WEBSITE.

Non-governmental actors have also been dragged into the fray. The NY Times website was successfully attacked twice in August (2013). In a way, it's the same battle for control that claimed Danny Pearl

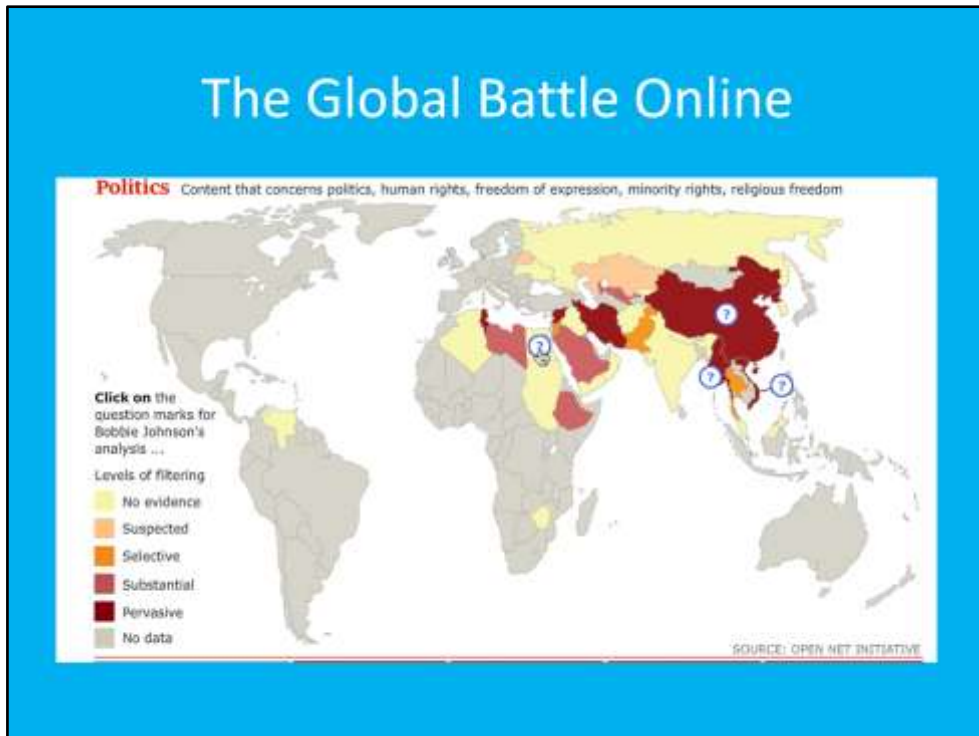
CLICK: The messages from www.isitdownrightnow.com a great site that tells you if it's your problem or the website's problem

CLICK: Screen grab seen by some people when looking for the nytimes while it was hacked.

Matt Johansen, head of threat research center at WhiteHat Security, tweeted that the server belonging to the New York Times was [pointing to a domain registered to the Syrian Electronic Army.](#) [The group also claimed responsibility for hacking Twitter accounts belonging to the AP, NPR, Reuters, BBC and Al Jazeera, as well as links on CNN, the Washington Post and Time.](#)

"I can confirm that the site is down," Eileen Murphy, vice president of corporate communications for The New York Times, told The Huffington Post's Gerry Smith. "It's not down for every user. We are working to resolve the problem. Our initial assessment is it's most likely the result of a malicious external attack."

The Global Battle Online



This map compiled by the Guardian shows which countries censor the Internet for political purposes

The Global Battle Online



But lest we get cocky, the US and much of the EU control based on other social concerns like gambling , pornogra.phy and drug sales



This map, too, challenges our pride in American press freedoms.

From Reporters Without Borders:

“After the “Arab springs” and other protest movements that prompted many rises and falls in last year’s index, the 2013 Reporters Without Borders World Press Freedom Index marks a return to a more usual configuration.

*The ranking of most countries is no longer attributable to dramatic political developments. This year’s index is a better reflection of the attitudes and intentions of governments towards media freedom in the medium or long term. The same three European countries that headed the index last year hold the top three positions again this year. For the third year running, **Finland** has distinguished itself as the country that most respects media freedom. It is followed by the **Netherlands** and **Norway**.*

*Although many criteria are considered, ranging from legislation to violence against journalists, democratic countries occupy the top of the index while dictatorial countries occupy the last three positions. Again it is the same three as last year – **Turkmenistan, North Korea and Eritrea**”*

The U.S. ranks 32 on that list and may drop, with the news that the Justice department monitored the work and personal phone numbers of individual reporters the Associated Press, the major daily news agency for U.S. news outlets. Records show that leak-seeking investigators monitored Associated Press office numbers in New York, Washington and Hartford, Conn., and for the main number for the AP in the House of Representatives press gallery, according to attorneys for the AP.

North Korea’s constitution provides for freedom of the press and free speech, but the government restricts information to praise of the country and its government and leader. The government-run [Korean Central News Agency](#), provides the only source of information for all media outlets in North Korea.

Bad news is carefully controlled: the death of Kim Jong-il was not divulged until two days after it occurred. Kim Jong-un, who replaced his father as leader, is making information technologies more freely available in the country. State-run media outlets are setting up websites, while mobile phone ownership in the country has escalated rapidly. By early

2012 there were more than a million mobile phone owners in North Korea.

The Battle in America



I used to think that they're just out a period because, quite frankly, I thought my reporting might get me killed. It was January 2000, and for the past month, the newspaper I worked for, the Times-Tribune in Corbin, Kentucky, had been running an investigation on serious evidence and money raising from a lack of prosecution by the Whitley County Sheriff's Department.

And lest we forget, the battle for information rages in the US as well. Giant corporations like Google want access to your information to make a profit. Companies with something to hide seek to manipulate search results on Google. And the US Government's National Security Agency has recently been shown to be violating the civil rights of American citizens by collecting our phone calls, emails and websearches for future reference.

But people everywhere continue to pursue information and spread it regardless of the risks.

In Corbin, Kentucky, two 20-something journalists at the Times-Tribune newspaper followed up on tips that the Sheriff was selling guns out of the evidence locker. Before they were done, he was indicted on 21 counts of abuse of public trust and evidence tampering.

The Battle in America

Reporters Arm Selves 1:57

For the whole report, go to 60 Minutes' website
<http://www.cbsnews.com/video/watch/?id=7407678n>

NEWS FELLOW: LINK VIDEO TO THIS SLIDE AND SELECT
"START AUTOMATICALLY"

From the 60 Minutes interview with editor Samantha Swindler and reporter Adam Sulfridge:

"You know, you're 20 years old, and you're taking a shower one day and getting ready for class and you get a call from a federal agent because there's a credible threat against your life." He bought a gun.

"You do have a credible threat against your life. And it seemed like a pretty reasonable thing to do. Samantha also purchased a gun at the same time."

The Power of Information: Today's Themes

There is a universal need
to receive and share information.

People kill
– and risk death –
over information.

The battle to control information
is also universal - and changing with
technology.

Let's circle back to where we started this lecture, thinking about the individual risks people take to get the word out.



NEWS FELLOW: LINK VIDEO TO THIS SLIDE AND SELECT "START AUTOMATICALLY"

Here's Clarissa Ward, discussing an interview in which she confronts a Syrian rebel military commander, challenging

(Reminders regarding tickets, etc)

ASK: Under what circumstances would YOU take risks like that?

At the end of this lecture, students will be able to:

- 1. Use new vocabulary to describe the human need for information and categorize it into three broad types.**
- 2. Compare modern examples of the power of information to historic examples.**
- 3. Use specific events and examples to illustrate the power of information and to demonstrate a global understanding of press freedom**

These skills relate to course outcomes 4, 5 & 6

This slide intended for instructors as a focusing tool, but can be shared with students to prime them. Each lecture will include a slide like this with specific lecture outcomes that refer to course outcomes.

Here is what the syllabus declares students will be able to do if they successfully complete the course:

1. Analyze key elements of news reports - weighing evidence, evaluating sources, noting context and transparency - to judge reliability.
2. Distinguish between journalism, opinion journalism and unsupported bloviation.
3. Identify and distinguish between news media bias and audience bias.
4. Blend personal scholarship and course materials to write forcefully about journalism standards and practices, fairness and bias, First Amendment issues and their individual Fourth Estate rights and responsibilities.
5. Use examples from each day's news to demonstrate critical thinking about civic engagement.
6. Place the impact of social media and digital technologies in their historical context.



In each lecture, we pause to review announcements and to help you make your way through the course. That's what this slide signals: Housekeeping Time

Speaker #1
Clarissa Ward
CBS News Foreign Correspondent



Thursday, Sept. 12
Doors open 7:45 p.m.
Tickets (free) at SAC box office

Speaker #2
Carl Bernstein
Yes, THAT Carl Bernstein.



Tuesday, Oct 15
Doors open 7:45 p.m.
Tickets (free) at SAC box office



(You earn extra credit for attending these evening sessions)

ANIMATION: WATERGATE-ERA CARL FADES TO CURRENT CARL

Here are some key dates for the
semester, also found in your syllabus



Reminders about credit for this course.



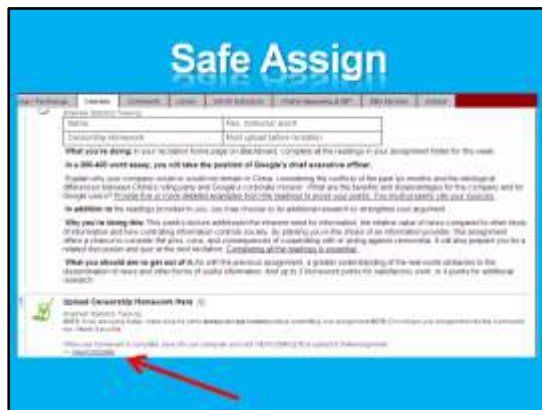
When you can't figure out how to make Blackboard (or any other software) do your bidding: Go to Lynda.com for excellent video tutorials.

Spring
2013
Winner
Vasily
Slobodov

STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

Past winner
Stephanie Baker

Every student who gets an A (not A-, A) on their essay is automatically entered in a competition judged by an independent panel of experts. The author of the winning essay wins a semester's free in-state tuition, courtesy of New York Citizens Bank. (Photos highlight recent winners.)



TWO CLICKS

SAFE ASSIGN: You'll submit papers through Safe Assign, which will help you get better at citing your sources (using the MLA rules, just like you did on the SAT).

It also checks your work against all the News Literacy assignments submitted both this semester and for the last four semesters and alerts your instructor if you are copying anyone else's work. In the syllabus, you'll notice, that's an F for the semester.

(Click for next image of Safe Assign's main page) Hit this little green icon and safe assign opens.

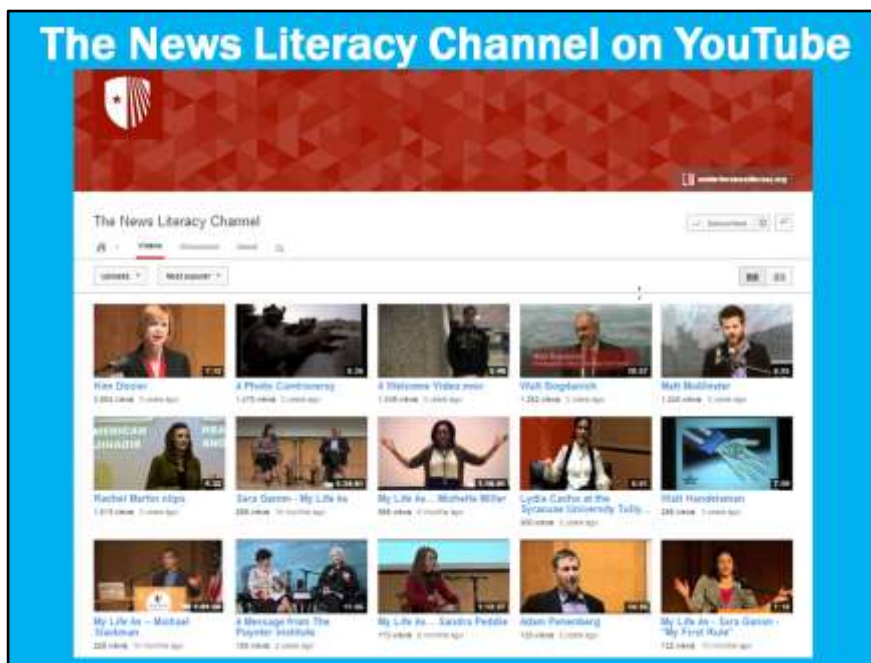
See the red box? That's where you upload your paper.

Safe Assign records the time you submit, which is important because late submissions cost you points.

Email is not an alternative.



hus endeth the Lesson...



Each week, we'll steer students to short excerpts from video of the guest speakers who appear at our "My Life As" lecture series.



A quick review of attendance policies and etiquette (no texting, enter quietly, etc)

(Laptop policy is at the Lecturer's discretion, which is why it is not on the slide)

News Matters in News Literacy

Manning Sentenced to 35 Years for a Pivotal Leak of U.S. Files



Photo: The Associated Press/Photo Agency
Pfc. Bradley Manning was sentenced Wednesday to 35 years and dishonorably discharged for leaking secret government documents.

We use this slide as a reminder to use the day's news in every class day, if possible.