

7A—PEDAGOGY IN POLITICAL CONTEXT: FAKE NEWS, POST TRUTH, AND POPULISM #2

Fake News: Evaluating the News When We Can't Even Agree on Reality

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Fake News! In the wake of the latest U.S. presidential election, there has been heightened concern about misinformation and its effect on domestic policy and security. This can be an incredible opportunity for librarians involved with information literacy, as there is finally a very tangible example of what information literacy is about. But what makes news fake? “Fake News” is now breezily tossed around in the media as an epithet. Teaching students about how to evaluate news sources requires a focused definition of terms to describe the various perils we can encounter in consuming news content. This paper will unpack the terminology and help us discuss this issue from a politically neutral perspective.