

Media Literacy Module
Open Society University Network
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Purpose: This module will introduce students to the skills required to thoughtfully and critically consume digital media in various formats. These skills are fundamental for students to succeed in rigorous higher education, understand policy debates, and become engaged citizens in a media-rich and increasingly technology-centric world.

Learning Objectives: The Media Literacy Module will build practical skills for students to:

- Understand how news spreads on social media.
- Critically listen, view, and evaluate digital content.
- Assess the credibility and reliability of media sources.

Format: This module is an hour- and 20-minute-long class designed to fit into network—online and collaborative—courses. It is aimed at introductory- and intermediate-level students. It provides some context on how news spreads on social media, then drills down on how to evaluate digital media critically and assess the reliability of online content.

Contents: The slide presentation can be found [here](#). If you would like to make changes to the presentation (including to cut some of the examples), please make a copy in Google Drive and edit the copied version. For each example, present the piece of content, ask students to evaluate it, either individually in a focused free write or in breakout groups, and then discuss the content’s credibility. The fake news quiz is best administered as a Zoom or [Mentimeter](#) poll. You are encouraged to replace the provided examples with your own examples that are more relevant to your context. In addition, you may run the following exercise: give students 3 or 4 minutes to find a news article or informational video on their social media and share it with the class to evaluate it together.

Assignments

- [Bad News game](#)
- [What Is Mental Immunity?](#)
- [Test Your Mental Immunity](#)
- [How to Build Mental Immunity](#)

Fact Checking Resources

- [Duke Reporter’s Lab: Fact Checking](#) (Sanford School of Public Policy at Duke University)
- [Science Feedback](#) (non-profit association Science Feedback)
- [FactCheck.org](#) (Annenberg Public Policy Center of the University of Pennsylvania)
- [Fact Checker](#) (Washington Post)

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