Digital Forensics:
How to Fact-Check Like a Pro

Peter Adams, SVP of education

April 30, 2020
Who We Are

Our Mission

The News Literacy Project, a nonpartisan national education nonprofit, empowers educators to teach students the skills they need to become smart, active consumers of news and other information and engaged, informed participants in our democracy.

Our Vision

News literacy is embedded in the American education experience.
Get smart about COVID-19 misinformation

CHECK OUT OUR FREE RESOURCES
Real-time teachable moments

Check it out at newslit.org/educators/sift/

"Source hacking: Media Manipulation in Practice"—a new report by Data & Society researchers Joan Donovan and Brian Friedberg—outlines four key techniques used by media manipulators.

The most essential question to ask of viral online content is also frequently one of the most difficult to answer: Where did this come from?

While this question isn’t new—after all, purveyors of misinformation have always "adapted their workflows to the latest medium"—it has been elevated by an information ecosystem optimized for anonymity, alteration, fabrication and sharing.

It’s a perfect storm, the authors of a new report argue, for "source hacking": organized information influence campaigns that exploit "technological and
Managing the 2019-nCoV ‘infodemic’

The 2019-nCoV outbreak and response has been accompanied by a massive ‘infodemic’ - an over-abundance of information – some accurate and some not – that makes it hard for people to find trustworthy sources and reliable guidance when they need it.
Corona virus before it reaches the lungs it remains in the throat for four days and at this time the person begins to cough and have throat pains. If he drinks water a lot and gargling with warm water & salt or vinegar eliminates the virus. Spread this information because you can save someone with this information.

FALSE
COVID - 19
Take 01 Minute and read

Be understanding !!! A Japanese doctor offers excellent advice on preventing COVID-19.

New coronavirus may not show symptoms for several days (14-27 days). How can one know if a person is infected? By the time he has a fever and / or a cough and goes to the lung hospital, the patient may have 50% fibrosis, and then it's too late! Taiwanese experts provide simple self-monitoring that we can do every morning:

Take a deep breath and hold your breath for more than 10 seconds. If you can do this successfully without coughing and without difficulty, without anxiety or chest tightness, it shows that you do not have fibrosis and generally indicate no infection. Check yourself every morning in a fresh air environment.

The Japanese physician treating COVID-19 provides the best advice on preventing this:
Everyone should make sure the mouth and throat are always moist. Drink some water every 15 minutes. Why not? Even if the virus gets into your mouth, drinking water or other fluids will help wash it down the esophagus into the stomach. When the virus is in the stomach - the hydrochloric acid in your stomach will kill the germs. If you do not drink enough water regularly, the virus can enter the airways and into your lungs, which is very dangerous to get.

Spread the message

The News Literacy Project | @NewsLitProject | @PeterD_Adams
COVID-19

Take 01 Minute and read

Be understanding!!! A Japanese doctor offers excellent advice on preventing COVID-19.

New coronavirus may set chew gum every day for several days (14-21 days). You can prevent this.

Everyone should make sure the mouth. They are always moist, and some water every 15 minutes. Why not? Eating or drinking water helps wash it down the esophagus into the stomach. When the virus is in the stomach - the hydrochloric acid in your stomach will kill the germs. If you do not drink enough water regularly, the virus can enter the airways and into your lungs, which is very dangerous to get.

Spread the message

Take a deep breath and hold your breath for more than 10 seconds. If you can do this successfully without coughing and without difficulty, without anxiety or chest tightness, it shows that you do not have this virus and generally indicate no infection. Check yourself every morning in the mirror and remember:

Debra Messing

March 13

Great prevention advice, please share with all your loved ones. ❤️COVID-19

552

139 Comments | 537 Shares

Like 

Comment 

Share 

Most Relevant →

NOT REAL NEWS

An Outbreak of Virus-Related Misinformation

In Colorado there were swabs being taken from residents and those employed in Colorado who had gotten the green light from employers to miss work with no symptom symptoms and doctors approved to get tested. The loss of people in vehicles was insane...

Write a comment...
Day 4: Finally no more fever, but a new symptom showed up: shortness of breath. It was uncomfortable, it felt like I had bricks on my chest. I tried the self diagnose test I read online (hold your breath and count to 10) which I successfully did with no complications.
Trump said that "HUNDREDS of Governors are calling him.". We only have 50. Think about that. Take all the time you need.
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Trump said that "HUNDREDS of Governors are calling him.". We only have 50. Think about that. Take all the time you need.
Please pray for all the mannequins being taken from us.

Please pray for this mannequin being wheeled into a NY hospital.

Those who know, know!

3:20 PM · Apr 6, 2020 · Twitter for Android

330 Retweets 582 Likes
USNS Comfort Prepares to Admit Patients in New York City [Image 7 of 12]

NEW YORK, NY, UNITED STATES
03.31.2020
Photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Sara Eshleman
Commander, U.S. 2nd Fleet Q

NEW YORK (March 31, 2020) - US Navy Sailors practice patient transfer from the pier onto the hospital ship USNS
The leftists and remoaners don't want you to see this. This is the army in London preparing for an anti 5G and Lockdown and pro-Brexit protest from patriots. Rumour has it, it's going to be deleted. You know what to do.
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I have so many questions...

BARACK 6
HUSSEIN 7
OBAMA 7
COVID = 19
OPEN YOUR EYES

DOCTORED
Healthcare workers in Denver blocked a group of anti-quarantine protesters planning to storm the capital to fight the state’s stay-at-home order.
US-HEALTH-VIRUS-POLITICS-PROTEST

Demonstrators gather in front of the Colorado State Capitol building to protest coronavirus stay-at-home orders during a "ReOpen Colorado" rally in Denver, Colorado, on April 19, 2020. Hundreds protested on April 18 in cities across America against government-related lockdowns — with encouragement from President Donald Trump — as resentment grows against the crippling economic cost of confinement. (Photo by Jason Connolly / AFP) (Photo by JASON CONNOLLY/AFP via Getty Images)
Today in Lansing Michigan. What the hell?
Thousands protest Michigan governor’s social distance order

By MIKE HOUSEHOLDER and ED WHITE  April 15, 2020

LANSING, Mich. (AP) — Thousands of flag-waving, honking protesters drove past the Michigan
OUT OF CONTEXT

Today in Lansing Michigan. What the hell?
Part 3, Trump Supporters protest against Socialism, Boise Idaho

4,465 views • Mar 2, 2020
Transmissibility

Persistence

Connectedness
Pandemic

- Thrives on unsuspecting people
- 20 seconds goes a long way
- Social distancing, stop the spread, flatten the curve (your choices affect others)
- Overwhelming medical infrastructure
- No vaccine available

“Infodemic”

- Thrives on unsuspecting people
- 20 seconds goes a long way
- Social distancing, stop the spread, flatten the curve (your choices affect others)
- Overwhelming information infrastructure
- Vaccine available!
Snopes on COVID-19 Fact-Checking

The coronavirus pandemic exposes just how under-resourced we have let the fact-checking industry become.

TEAM SNOPESS
PUBLISHED 20 MARCH 2020

Dear Readers,

The magnitude of misinformation spreading in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic is overwhelming our small team.

We’re seeing record web traffic as people educate themselves on the coronavirus. It’s given us a buoy to cling to after a decade of sinking advertising revenues in an eroding news industry.

At the same time, we’re seeing scores of people, in a rush to find any comfort, certainty, or hope for a cure, make things worse as they share (sometimes dangerous) misinformation.
Skill #1: Lateral reading
Related Skills and Concepts:

• Click restraint

• Standards-based vs. user-generated

• Going “upstream” (using captions/credits, date ranges, advanced search functions to work your way back to the source)

• CTRL-T
Skill #2:
Using web archivers
Pence comes under fire for going maskless at Mayo Clinic

By STEVE KARNOFSKI and KEVIN FREIKING  yesterday
The Mayo Clinic has deleted this tweet:

Mayo Clinic had informed @VP of the masking policy prior to his arrival today.

2:18pm · 28 Apr 2020 · Sprinklr
What would you like to create?

Tweet  Block  Suspension

(more coming soon!)

TWEETGEN IS
the only online fake Tweet generator that:

✓ Is updated with Twitter’s current look
✓ Has options for a verified check mark and a custom like, retweet, and reply count
✓ Can generate images of users blocking you or being suspended
✓ Will have your friends believing your entirely fake screenshots

and will soon be able to...

✓ Let you create your own fake profiles
✓ Allow for images, quote tweets and reply chains

while being free and easy to use. No more spending time in Photoshop; now you can create quality Twitter memes in seconds.

(Please note that this website is still under development. Suggest features or report a problem on our support page. Also, by using this service, you agree to our Terms of Service and Privacy Policy.)
Please don’t make fake stuff!
The Mayo Clinic has deleted this tweet:

Mayo Clinic
@MayoClinic

Mayo Clinic had informed @VP of the masking policy prior to his arrival today.

2:18pm · 28 Apr 2020 · Sprinklr
America's Last Line Of Defense
@ALLODSatire

DailyWorldUpdate.US
New 'RealChoice' Voting Machines for 2020 Financed By Clinton Foundation

Like
Comment
30 Comments

John Dodger: This is great news. I read up about them. They're "smart" devices that automatically determine the best candidate vote for which will be great for republicans who generally vote against their best interests.

Like
Reply 2h

David Richards: Was what happened to their Chapter 4 Bankruptcy? What about the instant that they lost? 😖

Like
Reply 2h
Skill #3: Critical observation
Reporter resource hub

Discover our latest guidance and support for journalists covering coronavirus

The best reads on disinformation from around the world, direct to your inbox

SUBSCRIBE

firstdraft.org
Name the city

type your text here
Submit
Click here if you would like a clue
Observation Checklist

- Architecture and landscape
- Clothing
- Climate/weather
- Any visible text, esp. business names, phone numbers, street names/addresses
- Signs, esp. municipal (street, bus route, etc.) and landmark
- License plates
- Distinctive details
The leftists and remoaners don't want you to see this. This is the army in London preparing for an anti-5G Lockdown and pro-Brexit protest from patriots. Once it has it, it's going to be deleted. You know why...
Skill #4: Reverse image search
I have so many questions...

BARACK 6
HUSSIN 7
OBAMA 8
COVID = 19
OPEN YOUR EYES

11:01 AM · Apr 26, 2020 · Twitter for iPad
1K Retweets 5.2K Likes
Scores gather in Huntington Beach to protest coronavirus stay-at-home orders

By SEAN EMERY | semery@scng.com, NATHANIEL PERCY | npercy@scng.com and EMILY RASMUSSEN | erasmussen@scng.com

Orange County Register
PUBLISHED: April 17, 2020 at 1:15 p.m. | UPDATED: April 18, 2020 at 7:26 a.m.

Sarah Maze, from Covina, joins a crowd of people gathered at the corner of Main Street and Walnut Avenue in Huntington Beach, CA, to protest coronavirus (COVID-19) closures on Friday, April 17, 2020. (Photo by Jeff Gritchen, Orange County Register/SCNG)
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Fake video news debunker by InVID
Offered by: invid.project.eu

Available on Chrome
I have so many questions...

BARACK HUSSEIN 6
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COVID = 19
OPEN YOUR EYES
One-Click Reverse Image Search
Offered by: 182 Inc.
Support Google, Bing, Yandex, TinEye and Baidu search engines. Initiate
🌟🌟🌟🌟 29  Search Tools

TinEye Reverse Image Search
Offered by: https://www.tineye.com
This is the official TinEye Chrome extension. Find out where an image c
🌟🌟🌟🌟🌟 1,813  Search Tools

RevEye Reverse Image Search
Offered by: www.squobble.com
Perform a search by image. Choose between the image search engines
🌟🌟🌟🌟🌟 121  Search Tools
With enough infiltration they establish control - then Sharia Law. Join our patriot army at USFREEDOMARMY.COM. #USFA enlist with us. #freedomarmy #constitution #freedom #volunteer #conservative #liberty
On Mac:
Shift + command + 4

On Windows:
Windows + shift + S
Fake passports for ISIS terrorists are discovered in Greek refugee camp as jihadis use sea of migrants to smuggle fanatics into Western Europe

- ISIS is exploiting the tide of human misery to smuggle jihadis into Europe
- Europe has recovered fake passports destined for jihadis in Greek camps
- Security forces fear ISIS is hiding terrorists among genuine refugees

ISIS has been distributing fake passports in Greek refugee camps to allow its terrorists to travel within Europe on ‘clean’ identity documents.

Europe has found several fake passports in camps as the terrorist group hopes to use the ongoing humanitarian crisis to smuggle jihadis into Europe to launch a new wave of attacks.

The specialist anti-terrorist officers believe there is a network of terrorists from Iraq and Syria, to Greece and Austria.

ISIS is accused of distributing fake passports in Greek refugee camps to terrorists, file photo.
Greece moves thousands of migrants from Idomeni camp - BBC News
May 24, 2016 - Greece has begun evacuating thousands of migrants from the ... Migrant carries his belongings as police clear Idomeni camp, Greece, on 24 May 2016 ... clowns jump up and down and dance at little refugee children who ... Image copyright AP Image caption Migrants at the camp had been ... 7 July 2016.

Idomeni: Greek riot police move in to clear refugee camp | World news ...
https://www.theguardian.com/.../2016/.../idomeni-greek-riot-police-move-in-before-d... ▼
May 24, 2016 - Greek authorities start clearing Idomeni refugee camp ... point through which hundreds of thousands of refugees entered Macedonia in 2015.

Surge in migration to Greece fuels misery in refugee camps | World ...
https://www.theguardian.com/.../surge-in-migration-to-greece-fuels-misery-in-refugee-c...
Sep 29, 2017 - Human rights groups are increasingly likening the situation to 2015, when, at the height of the migrant crisis that engulfed ... From around 50 to 60 in early July they are now at more than 200 every day. ... Moria refugee camp on the eastern Greek island of Lesbos. ... Photograph: Petros Tsaknakis/AP.

The Latest: UN seeks improvements in Greek refugee camps - AP News
https://www.apnews.com/0610997c19c14ad69ab1629a36f558bc ▼
Refugees of the War in Syria

Syrian refugees and other migrants queued for hours to register with overwhelmed Greek authorities on the holiday island of Kos, after crossing from Turkey, 15 August 2015. AP Photo/Alexander Zemlianichenko

Contents
Syria's Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)

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FANACK NEWSLETTER
Hundreds of Migrants Locked Soccer Stadium as Kos Crisis Control

About 5000 people queued for hours on Wednesday to register with overwhelmed Greek authorities inside the stadium and for the second day fire extinguishers were used to control the jostling crowd.

VICE News is closely watching the international migrant crisis. Check out the Greek Migrant Crisis here.

Hundreds of migrants on the Greek holiday island of Kos have been locked for nearly 24 hours in a makeshift soccer stadium, without food, drinking water or sanitation, leading an NGO worker and a local mayor to state that the situation there has finally got out of control.

Kos is one of the frontlines of a humanitarian crisis overwhelming the financially beleaguered country, with more than 100,000 refugees, mostly from Syria and Afghanistan, arriving on the island in July.

About 3500 people queued for hours on Wednesday to register with overwhelmed Greek authorities inside the stadium and for the second day fire extinguishers were used to control the jostling crowd. Overnight the police reportedly used a sonic explosion to maintain order.

"The situation here is very bad and police here they beat a boy, they beat a
Skill #5: Geolocation
FIRST DRAFT
Geolocation Challenge
Click here to launch
This mural continues round the corner. Click on the image to find the location in Google Maps, then enter the last word of the sentence.
Skill #4: Reverse image search

I have so many questions...

DOCTORED
Scores gather in Huntington Beach: orders

Sarah Mason, from Covina, joins a crowd of people gathered at the corner of Main Street and Walnut Avenue in Huntington Beach, CA, to protest coronavirus (COVID-19) closures on Friday, April 17, 2020. (Photo by Jeff Gritchen, Orange County Register/SCNG)
Skill #5: Geolocation

Make the most of your time at home with tips for recipes, workouts, and more
Skill #4: Reverse image search
Skill #1: Lateral reading

Skill #3: Critical observation
Hundreds of Bernie Sanders supporters gathered for the Democratic presidential candidate's rally in Boise, Idaho on Saturday, March 28.

Supporters ended the march at Ann Morrison Park and spent the rest of the event listening to live music and speakers from Sanders' campaign.

Justin Snyder, the organizer of the event, said event attendees are hoping to persuade undecided voters to cast their vote for Sanders.

"The swing voter we are looking for is not necessarily a red to a blue voter, but more a non-voter," Snyder said. "Because the minutes that we get to talk to them make a huge difference in the final result."
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Black Gold Burning: In Search Of South Sudan’s Oil Pollution
BBC Africa Eye: Anatomy of a Killing
Verification Handbook for Disinformation And Media Manipulation

The latest edition of the Verification Handbook arrives at a critical moment. Today's information environment is more chaotic and easier to manipulate than ever before. This book equips journalists with the knowledge to investigate social media accounts, bots, private messaging apps, information operations, deep fakes, as well as other forms of disinformation and media manipulation. The first resource of its kind, it builds on the first edition of the Verification Handbook and the Verification Handbook for Investigative Reporting.

The book is published by the European Journalism Centre and supported by Craig Newmark Philanthropies.
# Basics: Quick start to verifying online media

## Getting Started

Our first module teaches the basics of what we mean by “verification” and how to set up your computer to do it. It will present tools you’ll need to download. 

**Course FAQs Instructor:**
Claire Wardle is a Research Fellow at the Shorenstein Center on Media, Politics and Public Policy at the Harvard Kennedy School and the executive director of First Draft. She holds a PhD in Communications from the University of Pennsylvania and has taught verification in universities and newsrooms around the world.

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‘Source hacking’ explained

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How to know what to trust

1. Check the source. Does the website look legitimate? Does the source include disclaimers that its content is not to be taken seriously? Does the source appear to be reputable?
2. Investigate the source. Can you find information about the author or organization? Are they affiliated with a reputable organization?
3. Evaluate the reporting. Does the website include disclaimers that its content is not to be taken seriously? Does the source appear to be reputable?
4. Check the comments. Are the comments from reputable sources? Do the comments contain disclaimers that the content is not to be taken seriously?
5. Investigate the source. Can you find information about the author or organization? Are they affiliated with a reputable organization?

News literacy “brain trainer” mobile app
Let’s get started!

Your first lesson is waiting for you.
(Hint: It's to the right.)

Start
Drag the primary purpose to match the appropriate example.

Scroll to see all options
MISINFORMATION

click the icons to explore 5 types of misinformation
Thank you.
Let’s talk.