

Course Title: Fact or Fiction? News and Media Literacy	
Number of Content Modules: 5	Grade Levels: 6-12
Questions: 1-855-498-4400 PD@TeachnKidsLearn.com	TKL Catalog: https://teachingknowledgeloop.com/external-catalog

Course Description

This course on teaching news and media literacy will provide educators with the knowledge and skills necessary to evaluate the bias, reliability, and credibility of news sources and teach students how to do the same.

The course will cover key strategies for critiquing sources. Educators will learn how cultural values, beliefs, and experiences can shape media interests. They explore techniques for developing critical thinking skills in students as they consume and analyze news and media.

In addition, the course will examine the different techniques and tactics used in propaganda and how to teach students to recognize and evaluate propaganda in the media.

Throughout the course, educators reflect on their teaching practices and develop a plan for incorporating media literacy in their classrooms. The goal of the course is to empower educators to become confident and competent teachers who can prepare students to critically consume news and media.

Course Objectives

CO.1 Deconstruct media sources to determine the present or absent perspectives, the interests that are served or not served, and the portrayal of members of dominant and historically underserved or marginalized groups. (Danielson #1b, 2b, 3c, 4e)

CO.2 Evaluate how media portrayals of members of dominant or non-dominant groups contribute to inequity, marginalization, and disenfranchisement. (Danielson #1b, 2b, 3c, 4e)

CO.3 Hypothesize how cultivating media literacy skills in students promotes curiosity, inquiry, and critical thinking skills and reduces student susceptibility to manipulation and persuasion through media exposure, particularly for students at the margins. (Danielson #1b, 1d, 2b, 3c, 4e)

CO.4 Analyze data through a lens of equity and inclusion, questioning the reliability and validity of the data and data sources and how biases, assumptions, and preconceived notions shade the interpretation of data. (Danielson #1b, 1d, 2b, 3c, & 4e)

CO.5 Actively participate in a brave learning community by surfacing and challenging underlying personal and institutional beliefs, norms, practices, assumptions, and beliefs that contribute to inequity and plan to replicate elements of a brave community in the classroom. (Danielson #1b, 2b, 3c, & 4e)

CO.6 Explain why effective research skills are vital to student success in school, career, and to preserve our democracy. (Danielson #1b, 2a, 2b, 3c, 4e)

CO.7 Apply instructional techniques to improve research and media literacy skills to identify misinformation, disinformation, and propaganda techniques in all online and offline media forms. (Danielson #1b, 2a, 2b, 3c, 4e)

CO.8 Analyze implicit biases and reflect on personal biases, stereotypes, and classroom practices that may have inhibited the success of students at the margins and consider the impact biases have on students emotionally, physically, and academically. (Danielson #1b, 2a, 2b, 3a, 3c, 4e)

CO.9 Create equitable, supportive classroom environments that consider the influence of race, gender, ethnicity, and cultural background on teaching and learning. (Danielson #1b, 2b, 3c, 4e)

CO.10 Design and implement media literacy activities that help students critically analyze media and advertisements for harmful products and messages that target youth and minority communities and promote student activism to confront and challenge such targeting inequities and impacts on underserved populations. (Danielson #1b, 2b, 3a, 3c, 4e)

CO.11 Reflect in brave learning spaces to a) examine perspectives and experiences of marginalized groups, b) surface and interrogate personal and institutional assumptions, beliefs, and practices that contribute to inequity, and c) reflect on the complex ways identity and culture shape teaching and learning. (Danielson 1b, 2a, 2b, 4a, 4e)

Course Outline

Course Introduction Module

Course available completely online
(24/7 and Self-Paced)

Assignments due by the end of the term.

Module Topics

In this module, you will learn about the course set-up, expectations for learning and collaborating, meet your colleagues, and reflect on your prior knowledge about teaching with artificial intelligence.

- Course Navigation & Methodology
- Course Description
- A Transformative Approach to Education
- Expectations and Community Agreements for Engaging in Brave Dialogue
- Community Building Circle: Course Story
- Course Objectives

Module 1: How Culture Influences Media Interests

Module Topics

This module will help you reflect on the perspectives of media sources and consider whose perspectives and interests they serve. You will also consider the impact of culture on teaching and learning and how various underserved and marginalized groups are portrayed in the media.

Section 1: Media Perspectives, Interests, and Portrayals

- Learn About It! What to Expect in this Course (15 min.)
- Reflect on It! Trust and the Media: Beliefs and Assumptions Shape Practice (15 min.)
- Reflect on It! Media Perspectives, Interests, and Group Portrayals (30 min.)
- Learn About It! Designing Equitable and Inclusive Learning Environments (5 min.)
- Practice It! Current Events: Conveying a Message (60 min)
- Reflect on It! Critical Consciousness and Culturally Responsive Instruction (60 min)
- Practice It! Race and Learning Equity (5 min.)
- Learn About it! Social Influences on Learning (45 min)
- Practice It! Targeting Youth and Minority Groups by Big Tobacco (2 hrs.)
- Practice It! Use of Models in Advertising in the Tobacco Industry (1 hr.)
- Master It! Transfer to the Classroom: Use of Models in Advertising (2 hrs.)

Section 2: Deciphering Truth from Propaganda in the Media

- Learn About It! What is Fake News? (15 min.)
- Practice It! Fact-Check Contemporary News Stories (3 hrs.)
- Master It! Transfer Your Learning: Fact-Checking Fake News Lesson Plan (3 hrs.)
- Reflect on It! Sharing Fact-Checking Lessons (30 min)

- Learn About It! Susceptibility to Misinformation and Disinformation (30 min.)
- Learn About It! Finding Reliable Info and Credible Information (15 min.)

Module 2: Bias, Reliability, and Credibility

Module Topics

In this module, you will learn about various bias forms that impact your decision-making. You will analyze examples of misinformation and disinformation and learn key indicators for debunking false information in the media.

Section 1: Identifying Bias in the Media

- Learn About It! Being Open to Different Views and Perspectives (10 min.)
- Learn About It! Implicit Bias (20 min.)
- Reflect on It! Implicit Associations (10 min)
- Learn About It! Identifying Bias in Media (10 min.)
- Learn About It! Common Types of Bias (20 min.)
- Reflect on It! Susceptibility to Misinformation and Disinformation (30 min.)
- Learn About It! Common Types of Misinformation (15 min.)
- Learn About It! Seven Types of Misinformation and Disinformation (10 min.)
- Reflect on It! How Misperceptions/Misinformation Influence Student-Teacher Interactions (15 min.)
- Practice It! Identifying Biased or Inaccurate Information (20 min.)
- Practice It! Knowledge Check (15 min.)

Section 2: Targeting and Personalization of Information

- Learn About It! How Algorithms and Search Personalization Influence Information (20 min.)
- Reflect on It! Google and Stereotypes (30 min.)
- Learn About It! My Google Personal Identity (30 min.)
- Reflect on It! Online Privacy and Student Agency (15 Min.)
- Learn About It! What Happens Online in an Internet Minute (5 min.)
- Reflect on It! Tips for Improved Searches (20 min.)
- Learn About It! What is Lateral Reading? (30 min.)
- Practice It! Applying Lateral Reading Skills (15 min)
- Reflect on It! I Used to Think...Now I Think (20 min.)
- Master It! Transferring Lateral Reading to the Classroom (1 hrs.)

Module 3: Social Identification and the Critical Thinking

Module Topics

This module will teach how our social identity influences our ingroup and outgroup memberships on stereotyping, prejudice, and hostility. You will learn how to lead courageous conversations with students on complex topics and create a lesson plan to help students reflect on how particular minority groups are targeted for unhealthy products.

Section 1: Social Identify and Media Influence

- Learn About It! What is Social Identity Theory? (30min.)
- Reflect on It! Building a Belonging Classroom (15 min.)
- Reflect on It! Ingroups and Outgroups (30 min.)
- Learn About It! Groups and the Spread of Misinformation (30 min.)
- Practice It! Debunking Conspiracy Theories (1 hr.)
- Learn About It! Building Perspective Through Courageous Conversations (30 min.)

Section 2: Creating Critical Thinkers in the Classroom

- Learn About It! Building Literacy Skills Through Powerful Literacy Learning (30 min.)
- Learn About It! Subtle Advertising in the Media (15 min.)
- Reflect on It! Misleading Students with Advertisements (1 hr.)
- Practice It! Targeting Youth and Minority Communities by the Food Industry (1 hr.)
- Practice It! Use of Models in Advertising in the Food Industry (1 hr.)
- Master It! Transfer Your Learning: Use of Models in Advertising (Pt. 2) (2 hrs.)

Module 4: The Impact of Propaganda on Social Identity

Module Topics

In this module, you will explore the ways propaganda influences our personal and social identities. You will learn about altered images and explore how advertisers influence body image through advertising.

Section 1: How Propaganda Influences Personal and Social Identity

- Learn About It! Ads as Propaganda (15 min)
- Practice It! Propaganda is All Around Us (15 min)
- Reflect on It! How Catchy Slogans Influence Us (15 Min.)
- Learn About It! Trust and the Internet (MO. 1 & 2) (30 min.)
- Practice It! Detecting Altered Images (MO.2 & 3) (30 min.)
- Learn About it! Deep Fakes are the Latest Internet Threat (15 min.)
- Reflect on It! How Deepfakes Can Impact Trust and Democracy (15 min.)

Section 2: Teaching Media Through Inquiry and Critical Literacy

- Learn About It! Engaging Students in Critical Thinking (30 min.)
- Reflect on It! Creating a Culture of Service and Teamwork (15 min.)
- Learn About It! Creating Responsive Classrooms and Cultures of Inquiry (30 min.)
- Learn About It! Body Image & Media Influence on Youth/Marginalized Communities (15 min.)
- Learn About It! Social Media's Impact on Body Image Perceptions (1 hr.)
- Practice It! Media Messages About Bias, Stereotypes, and Attractiveness (1 hr.)
- Reflect on It! Turning Beauty Inside Out (30 min.)
- Master It! Transfer Your Learning: Standards of Beauty and Body Image (2 hr.)

Module 5: Inquiry, Critical Thinking, and Student Advocacy

Module Topics

This module will examine our First Amendment Rights, how case law has impacted education, and resources for supporting inquiry-based learning.

Section 1: The First Amendment and Media Literacy

- Learn About It! Freedom of the Press: A Constitutional Right (15 min.)
- Learn About It! Empowering Students with Real-World Issues (15 min.)
- Learn About It! Copyright (15 min.)
- Practice It! Court Rulings and School (1 hr.)

Section 2: Developing Media Literacy Through Inquiry-Based Approaches

- Learn About It! The Importance of Fact-Checking Research (30 min.)
- Practice It! Connecting Current Events to Social Identities (30 min.)
- Learn About It! Talking About Tough Issues O. 2, 4 (15 min.)
- Reflect On It! Considering Multiple Perspectives (15 min.)
- Reflect On It! Identifying Topics Students Care About (1 hr.)
- Learn About It! Keeping Students Safe Online (15 min.)
- Learn About It! Helping Parents with Online Media (15 min.)
- Reflect On It! Helping Students Become Media Literate (15 min.)
- Reflect On It! Trust and the Media – Beliefs Shape Practice (15 min)
- Master It! Transfer Your Learning: Inquiry Project (1 hr.)

Course Wrap-Up Module

Module Topics

In the Course Wrap-Up Module, you will reflect on your self-efficacy for mastering the course objectives.

Section 1: Summative Course Reflection

- Master It! Summative Course Reflection [30min]
- Reflect on It! Course Evaluation and Feedback [30min]
- Learn about It! Course Reference List