

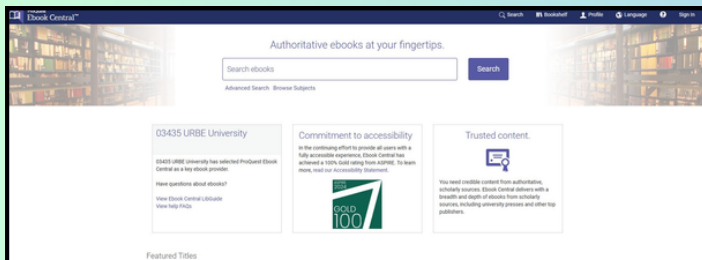
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Events & Workshops



Library Instruction to New Students and Instructors Summer B-2025

When : July 13 to July 16, 2026

Time: 2:00 to 3:00 PM

Where: Zoom Platform

How to use the Proquest Ebook and Central Databases

When: July 22, 2026

Time: 2:00 to 3:00 PM

Where: Zoom Platform



URBE Librarian. Karely Carrion.
email: karely.carrion@urbeuniversity.edu

Guest Writer



Juan J. González Manrique. PHD in Journalism and
URBE University Communication Program Professor.

Fact or Fiction?

In the wake of the recent double earthquake that struck Venezuela with deadly consequences, we have not been spared the spread of fake news surrounding this catastrophe.

It seems we have grown dangerously accustomed to "fake news," almost accepting its constant production as natural, without fully grasping the damage it causes. UNESCO has reiterated that disinformation—alongside hate speech and digital manipulation—poses a direct threat to democracy and the exercise of fundamental rights. It reminds us that, among other things, democracy cannot be sustained without verified information. The issue is, therefore, a serious one.

The Polish-British sociologist and philosopher Zygmunt Bauman observed that many people use social media not to connect or broaden their horizons, but rather to retreat into what he called "comfort zones," where the only things they hear and see are the echoes of their own voices and reflections of their own faces. He famously stated that "certainties have been abolished." A chilling thought.

As Rosana Araujo, a student at URBE University, points out: "The speed at which messages are shared is directly proportional to the circulation of disinformation or information lacking context." What can we do in the face of such an avalanche of disinformation, while harboring doubts about whether we are being deliberately misled?

A critical mindset allows us to distinguish truth from falsehood—a concept echoed by the Spanish writer Antonio Muñoz Molina. It enables us to discern "the just from the unjust, the feasible from the absurd; in short, truth from lies." To cultivate this critical spirit, we should avoid being swayed by the very first piece of information we receive about any event. Harboring doubts about veracity is not necessarily a bad thing in today's world, even when everything seems to point to the truth of the story being told. Let us be cautious and practice the simple act of cross-checking information—a standard procedure for any self-respecting journalist. We may not realize it, but a great deal is at stake.

What we do know is that generative AI—with its agents—enables the simultaneous use of multiple browsers, the connection of numerous chat sessions, and the management of files on our computers, as noted by Dr. Leslie Salgado of the University of Calgary. And it is but a short step from there to fake news. We must not lose sight of this new battlefield in the fight against disinformation—one that has already become part of our lives.



RESEARCH TIP OF THE MONTH

Use Boolean Operators

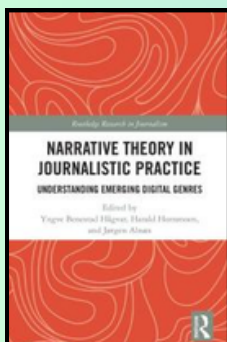
Improve your searches using:

- AND
- OR
- NOT
- Quotation marks (" ")

Example:

"Artificial Intelligence" AND education

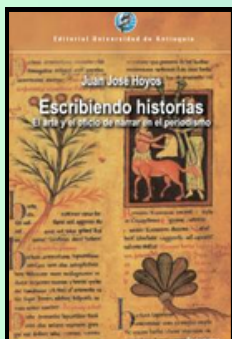
Journalism New Ebooks



Hågvær, Y. B., Hornmoen, H., (2025). *Narrative theory in journalistic practice : Understanding emerging digital genres*. Taylor & Francis Group.



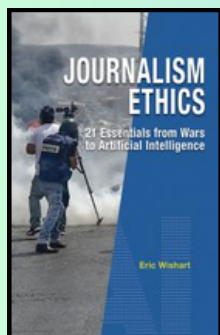
Steiner, L. (Ed.). (2025). *Junctures in women's leadership : Media and journalism*. Rutgers University Press.



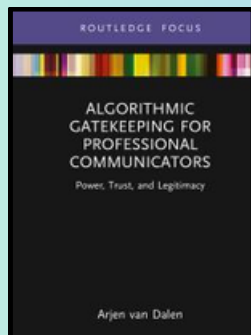
Hoyos, J. J. (2024). *Escribiendo historias : El arte y el oficio de narrar en el periodismo*. Editorial Universidad de Antioquia.



Meier, K., García (2024). *Innovations in journalism : Comparative research in five european countries*. Taylor & Francis Group.



Wishart, E. (2024). *Journalism Ethics: 21 Essentials from wars to artificial intelligence*. Hong Kong University Press.



Van, D. A. (2023). *Algorithmic gatekeeping for professional communicators : Power, trust, and legitimacy*. Taylor & Francis Group.

How to Spot Fake News

How to Spot Fake News, from the IFLA How to Spot Fake News Infographic (see infographic below).

- Consider the source. Click away from the story to investigate the site, its mission and its contact info.
- Check the author. Do a quick search on the author. Are they credible? Are they real?
- Check the date. Reposting old news stories doesn't mean they're relevant to current events.
- Check your biases. Consider if your own beliefs could affect your judgement.
- Read beyond. Headlines can be outrageous in an effort to get clicks. What's the whole story?
- Supporting sources. Click on those links. Determine if the info given actually supports the story.
- Is it a joke? If it is too outlandish, it might be satire. Research the site and author to be sure.
- Ask the experts. Ask a librarian, or consult a fact-checking site.

HOW TO SPOT FAKE NEWS



CONSIDER THE SOURCE

Click away from the story to investigate the site, its mission and its contact info.



READ BEYOND

Headlines can be outrageous in an effort to get clicks. What's the whole story?



CHECK THE AUTHOR

Do a quick search on the author. Are they credible? Are they real?



SUPPORTING SOURCES?

Click on those links. Determine if the info given actually supports the story.



CHECK THE DATE

Reposting old news stories doesn't mean they're relevant to current events.



IS IT A JOKE?

If it is too outlandish, it might be satire. Research the site and author to be sure.



CHECK YOUR BIASES

Consider if your own beliefs could affect your judgement.



ASK THE EXPERTS

Ask a librarian, or consult a fact-checking site.



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- Newsletter
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- Online research assistance
- Help locating academic articles and eBooks
- Database navigation support
- Guidance on citations and academic integrity

Our library team is here to support you reach out whenever you need help.

Send an email to:

Librarian. Karely Carrion

karely.carrion@urbeuniversity.edu

New Article

33 Websites to Get Free College Textbooks

Smith, Olivia. July 27, 2025



OpenStax – A nonprofit initiative by Rice University offering peer-reviewed, openly licensed textbooks for high school and college courses. Subjects range from Algebra and Biology to World History, with free instructor resources and interactive digital tools available for students and educators (openstax.org)

If you want to read the complete article go to:

<https://bookscouter.com/blog/free-college-textbooks/>

HOLIDAY

★ ★ ★ **HAPPY** ★ ★ ★
INDEPENDENCE DAY
4TH OF JULY



Independence Day in the United States, also known as the Fourth of July, is a federal holiday commemorating the adoption of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776.

This day signifies the birth of the United States as an independent nation, severing political ties with Great Britain. Celebrations often include fireworks, parades, and family gatherings.

Traditions:

Common ways to celebrate include:

- **Fireworks:** A prominent part of the festivities, with large-scale displays in many cities.
- **Parades:** Often feature marching bands, floats, and community groups.
- **Family Gatherings and Picnics:** A chance for people to come together and enjoy the day.
- **Community Events:** Many towns and cities organize their own unique celebrations.