

Your Digital Passport to the World of Tech

Internet Safety & Security Tips



Session V:

**Fake or Misleading Information
on the Internet**





Breakdown of Sessions

- **Session 1: Email & Password Tips**
- **Session 2: Wi-Fi Networks & Your Personal Info**
- **Session 3: Backing Up Your Information**
- **Session 4: Malware & Computer Viruses**
- **Session 5: Fake or Misleading Information on the Internet**



Download Class Materials

Go to <https://sfcommunityliving.org/learn-skills/computer-training/>, look through our Tech Help Desk class schedules for all online classes hosted by Community Living Campaign.

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Today's Goals

- **Red Flags for Bad News Sources**
 - Yellow Journalism
 - Spam, Ads & Algorithms
 - Scams/Fake News
- **Known Fake News Sources**
- **Finding Trustworthy News Sources**
- **Check the Facts**
- **Recognizing Bias**
- **Future of News**
 - Social Media
 - Podcasts
 - Apps & E-mail
- **More Ways to Use Your Voice**





Yellow Journalism

- **Biased stories giving you only one side** of an issue, proposal, occurrence, event, etc.
- **Exaggerations & Generalizations.**
- Colorful and powerful **adjectives forcing an**
- **emotional reaction.**
- **Few to no quotes or interviews with experts** on the matter at hand.
- **Statistics or polls used are vague** and don't detail how the information was gathered.





Spam, Ads & Algorithms

- **E-mailed articles from unknown sources** claiming to be Breaking News or a story “nobody is talking about.”
- **Stories that serve more as a commercial or ad rather than actual news.**
- Websites like Youtube and Buzzfeed provide “suggested” articles or videos based on your viewing history. **These algorithms often lead down a rabbit-hole that produces deeper and deeper radicalized or sensationalized information.**





Scams/Fake News

- **A made-up story with an intention to deceive, often for a secondary gain or profit through “clickbait.”**
- **Sensationalized headline with little to no support for the claim in the actual article.**
- **Images showing quotes never said by the cited individuals.**
- **Conspiracy theories** with articles or documentaries to make them appear more legitimate, **but offer no references, source material or official credentials.**
- **Websites that appear to be known reputable news outlets (CNN, ABC, NBC, FOX), but have a slightly altered website address.**
- **Requests for donations** from what appear to be known representatives, candidates, organizations, causes, etc., **but also have slightly altered website addresses.**





Known Fake News Sources

- InfoWars
- 70 News
- ABCnews.com.co
- American News
- Before It's News
- Bients.com
- Bizstandardnews.com
- Bloomberg.ma
- The Boston Tribune
- Breaking-CNN.com
- BV A News
- Celebrity
- Christian Times Newspaper
- CNN-Trending.com
- Conservative 101
- Conservative Daily Post
- Conservative Frontline
- CountyNewsroom.info
- Daily Buzz Live
- Daily USA Update
- DC Gazette
- Denver Guardian
- Disinformedia
- Disclose TV
- DrudgeReport.com.co
- Empire Herald
- Empire News
- Empire Sports
- Ending the Fed
- Fox-News24.com
- The Gateway Pundit
- Global Associated News
- Globalresearch.ca
- Gossip Mill Mzansi
- Guerilla News
- NewsWatch33
- The New York Evening
- Now 8 News
- The Predicted
- Prntly
- RealTrueNews.com
- React 365
- Red Flag News
- The Reporterz
- Snoopack
- Spin Zone
- St George Gazette
- SubjectPolitics.com
- Stupid
- Super Station 95
- TrueTrumpers.com
- Uconservative
- UndergroundNewsReport.com
- United Media Publishing
- USA Daily Info
- USAToday.com.co
- US Postman
- WashingtonPost.com.co
- World Truth TV
- World News Daily Report
- YourNewsWire
- Gummy Post
- Houston Chronicle TV
- Huzlers
- KMT 11 News
- The Last Line of Defense
- Liberty Society
- Liberty Writers News
- Link Beef
- Naha Daily
- National Insider Politics
- National Report
- Natural News
- NBCNews.com.co
- News Breaks Here
- NewsBuzzDaily
- News Examiner
- News Hound
- The News Nerd
- NewsPunch





Finding Trustworthy News

- **Research, research, research!**
- **Check the details about the outlet who is posting the information** (who owns them, do they have a website, do they have contact information, do they have cited sources, do they have reviews?).
- **Check if cited sources are real, or trustworthy authorities** on the subject at hand.
- **Check if any other news outlets are discussing the story.**
- **Use trusted fact checking websites to verify information.**
- **Don't rely on Wiki-sites** (like Wikipedia) **as trusted resources.**
- **Recognize when reading an opinion piece or satire.**





Check the Facts

- **FactCheck.org**
- **Snopes.com**
- **PolitiFact.com**
- **Washingtonpost.com/news/fact-checker/**
- **MediaMatters.org**
- **NewsBusters.org**
- **OpenSecrets.org**
- **ProPublica.org**
- **SunlightFoundation.com**





Recognizing Bias

- **Bias is an inclination or prejudice in favor of or against one thing, person, or group compared with another.**
- **Usually considered unfair, but biases can be completely based on facts.**
- **If we only use sources with our same bias, we only receive one side of all news;** creating a bubble where no other information can penetrate.
- **Using only biased sources furthers the polarization of the public.**
- Reaching across the aisle is less about debating, and more about **listening to the other side.**
- The goal of listening to the other side is not to convert either party to a new way of thinking, but to **understand where each are coming from in order to find middle ground or a solution.**





Know Your Resources

- **Follow the official accounts for news sources you already like and trust.**
- **Make sure the account is real**, look for a blue checkmark when it comes to official business accounts on social media.
- **Be aware of multiple accounts for one news outlet** (ex. BBCNews, BBCEarth, BBCAmerica).
- **Block or Report any sources appearing on your feed that you cannot verify.**



News in Podcasts

- **Podcasts are digital audio files made available on the Internet** for downloading to a computer or mobile device.
- **Think of them as digital radio talk shows.**
- **Podcasts can be found on all audio streaming platforms** (iTunes, Spotify, Pandora, etc.).
- **Now-a-days, the majority of major news outlets produce their own original podcasts**, post their television broadcasts in podcast form to listen to on-the-go, or both!
- As with social media, **many news outlets have multiple official podcasts** focusing on sub-categories within the news (ex. PodSaveAmerica, PodSaveTheWorld, PodSaveThePeople).
- **Subscribe to your favorites** and receive notifications when a new recording is posted.
- Anyone can start a podcast about anything. Although this allows entertaining variety, **beware amateur podcasts appearing professional** when it comes to where you get your news.





News in Apps & Email

- **Most smart devices come with news applications** pre-downloaded into them.
- Within the apps, **select categories and outlets you like, blocking others you don't.**
- **Adjust notification settings** to your needs.
- Some news subscriptions also offer **emails that curate easy-to-consume news briefings sent directly to your inbox** (ex. theSkimm, The Correspondent, Need2Know, NextDraft).
- **Apps like “Causes – Impact Your World” keep citizens up to date** with their Representatives, Bills in Congress, Supreme Court cases and pressing issues that affect their interests.



Use Your Voice

- **Vote!** (Both nationally & locally)
- **Online petitions** (Petitions.WhiteHouse.gov, Change.org, etc)
- **Support local nonprofits & causes**
- **Call & Write to your Representatives**
- **Attend town halls & local city or town meetings**
- **Support Protests, Rallies, and other Political Events**
- **Write to news outlets when you disagree or disapprove of something they've posted**
(Letters to the Editor are sometimes published).





Learn More!

Visit sftechcouncil.org/passport

Want suggestions?

- <https://www.podranker.com/podcasts-for-daily-news/>
- <https://www.lifewire.com/best-news-podcasts-4171518>
- <https://www.newswhip.com/2017/06/top-media-publishers-on-instagram/>
- Search the vast libraries of podcasts & accounts to find ones you love.

Support Local News Sources...

- San Francisco Chronicle, San Francisco Examiner, East Bay Times, Sacramento Bee, The Oakland Post, San Francisco Bay View, and other neighborhood newspapers and magazines
- Magazines and News available through the San Francisco Public Library





Online Tech Classes

Apple Help Desk: Mondays 10:00am – 12:00pm

Internet Safety Help Desk: Tuesdays 10:00am – 12:00pm

Zoom Help Desk: Tuesdays 2:00pm – 3:30pm

Virtual Help Desk: Wednesdays 10:00am – 12:00pm

Android Help Desk: Wednesdays 3:30pm – 5:30pm

Apple Help Desk: Thursdays 3:30pm – 5:30pm

Virtual Help Desk: Fridays 11:00am – 1:00pm

- **All use the same Meeting ID: 873 8317 4373**
- **To join over the phone toll-free:** Call 1-669-900-6833 and enter Meeting ID: 873 8317 4373 ##
- The “Virtual Help Desks” on Wednesdays & Fridays are both for general tech questions & help. The other days focus on a specific topic or type of device.



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