Lesson Plan
Unverified, Unsourced, and Sometimes Untrue:
Evaluating Information Sources

Learning Outcomes
• Students will practice techniques for evaluating information resources.
• Students will practice navigating the Library web page.

Pre-class Preparation
• Navigate instructor’s workstation the Library web page: http://berry.edu/library
• Divide class into 5 groups (each group will get a worksheet)

Materials Needed
• Copy of worksheet for each group
• Computer per pair (smartphones will be too small for group collaboration)
• Extra pens or pencils?

Session Outline

1. **Introduction**
   • (If you do not already know) Ask how many students have already been asked to find resources for a paper or project. (Common assignments are in BIO111 & PSY101.)
   • What they’re going to do today is intended to give them an opportunity to review some basic techniques for evaluating resources.
   • For more help, depending on your particular situation …
     ○ A librarian will be meeting with the class later
     ○ They can set up an individual appointment with a librarian using the link on your course page (more about that later)
     ○ Librarians are available on call throughout the week, including until 9pm Sunday-Thursday

2. **Activity**
   • Distribute the worksheets. (Each worksheet is pre-formatted for class discussion, with a group number and specific citation from the quiz.)
   • Have the students help you navigate the instructor’s workstation to the session Research Guide, Unverified, Unsourced, and Sometimes Untrue. (Be sure to use the term "Research Guide" since that is the heading on the Library web page.)
   • Have student groups locate the session Research Guide on their devices (they will be able to do it without you telling them how).
   • Briefly introduce the five elements of the easy-to-remember CRAAP Test: Currency, Relevance, Authority, Accuracy, Purpose.
   • Have each group use their group device to complete the entire quiz online. (It should take approximately 15 minutes.)
   • Have each group report out on their assigned question using the worksheet.

3. **Conclusion**
   • The session Research Guide also includes additional resources on news sources, with an infographic on how to spot fake news, fact-checking sites, browser plug-ins, and site evaluation tools – show that page if you have time.
   • There are many other Research Guides that will help them with their general research needs, as well as subject- and course-specific guides.
   • And of course, librarians.