Module Leader
Dr Philip Leeke

Biography
Philip has worked all over the world as a lecturer/instructor, including at Zayed University Abu Dhabi, University of Stirling, Newcastle, Birmingham and Manchester. His main interests include narratology, critical thinking, EAP and writer Philip Roth.

Credits
15 Credits (7.5 ECTS)

Module Description
This module aims to give students an increased awareness of how fake news and fake science is spread on social media, as well as a grounding in critical new digital techniques for source evaluation and verification.

It provides a methodology through which students can distinguish reliable and unreliable sources of information. It also aims to provide them with a critical thinking toolkit which they can use during their studies and in later life.

As critical thinking is a much valued skill, this can be combined with new digital techniques to greatly improve future employability prospects. The module also asks deeper questions about how people form beliefs and why they believe what they do.
Module Aims

To provide students with an introduction to information disorder (fake news, fake science) and how it is spread through social media.

To introduce new digital technologies that can be used for source verification and which enable critical thinking.

To develop confidence in understanding and communicating complex ideas in written and/or spoken language.

To develop skills in research and collaborative learning.

Reading List


Assessment

Written essay/reflection or other written piece comprising 1000–1500 words (50%)
15-minute group presentation or 5–10-minute individual presentation/Q&A session. This may occur live, via audio or video (50%)

Learning Outcomes

Demonstrate an understanding of information disorder (fake news, fake science) and how it is spread through social media.

Students will learn how to access new digital technologies that can be used for source verification and enable critical thinking.

Complete a relevant piece of research and formally present findings in an academically suitable style, including relevant source material and referencing system.