

#FAKEtrends vs. Facts: Fighting Lies Online

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In the 21st century, more and more people are consuming news from social media platforms, rather than cable news organizations. The timely manner, inexpensive costs, and ability to share and post content associated with news are key reasons for this shift (Shu, Sliva, Wang, Tang, & Liu 2017). However, the reliability of information from the Internet is questionable (Conroy, Rubin, & Chen 2016). The term “fake news” refers to information that is intentionally false, a form of propaganda (McIntyre 2018).

The rhetoric one uses while representing news through mass media technologies is used to identify differences between fake and genuine content (Tacchini, Ballarin, Della Vedova, Moret, & Alfaro 2017). The study focuses on the premise of both fake and genuine content as seen through social media; the platforms I will be researching are Facebook and Twitter. I will examine the rhetoric used on each platform, in comparison to a news story from a credible news source. My results will be outlined in the form of a poster presentation.

Sources:

Conroy, Niall J., et al. “Automatic Deception Detection: Methods for Finding Fake News.” *Proceedings of the Association for Information Science and Technology*, vol. 52, no. 1, 24 Feb. 2016, pp. 1–4., doi:10.1002/pra2.2015.145052010082.

McIntyre, Lee C. *Post-Truth*. The MIT Press, 2018.

Shu, Kai, et al. “Fake News Detection on Social Media.” *ACM SIGKDD Explorations Newsletter*, vol. 19, no. 1, Sept. 2017, pp. 22–36., doi:10.1145/3137597.3137600.

Tacchini, Eugenio, et al. *Some Like It Hoax: Automated Fake News Detection In Social Networks*, no. 1, 25 Apr. 2017, pp. 1–10., <https://arxiv.org/pdf/1704.07506.pdf>.