

Fake News

With the massive proliferation of news and information via social media and other channels, claims and discussion about fake news has grown exponentially. As a University student, it is therefore crucial to arm yourself against such misinformation.

For you to be able to produce academically sound assignments, projects and dissertations, you need to be able identify and evaluate information quickly and with authority.

Here are ten tips on how you can be a fake news ninja - arming yourself with tools in the fight against online disinformation:

- 1. Be aware:** simply knowing that not all information is created equal is the first step.
- 2. Check the source:** where did the information come from? This can be tricky, especially on social media.
- 3. Read more:** don't just rely on the piece of information that's in front of you. Go and find another reliable source and see if the facts are the same.
- 4. Check the author:** do a bit of searching to check their credentials.
- 5. Check the references:** does the item have references? What sources have they used? Are they credible?
- 6. Check the date:** watch out for re-posts of old news items.
- 7. Check your biases:** you own beliefs and prejudices can have an effect on how you accept information.
- 8. Is it a joke?**
- 9. Ask a Librarian!** Librarians are the original fake news ninjas. Ask us about any reference that you aren't too sure about, and we can help you make an informed decision on the information you use for your studies.
- 10. Knowledge is power:** read more about fake news and how you can win the fight. Everything you need to know is in our [Fake News Guide](#).