

Fake news and source criticism

Content, material and lessons

Fake news and source criticism

Fabian ,Ingrid and Gustav have done a project with the ambition to teach students awareness about source criticism and how people are affected by different types of media.

Critical thinking is a central part of the curriculum in Sweden.

The students involved in this project are students from our Technological program and the Nature Science program.

Subjects involved: Swedish, Social science and English.

Why?

Analyse conspiracy theories

Studies show that lack of critical thinking results in conspiracy theorists. We believe that it is of importance that the students see the consequences of not relying on facts.

Source criticism

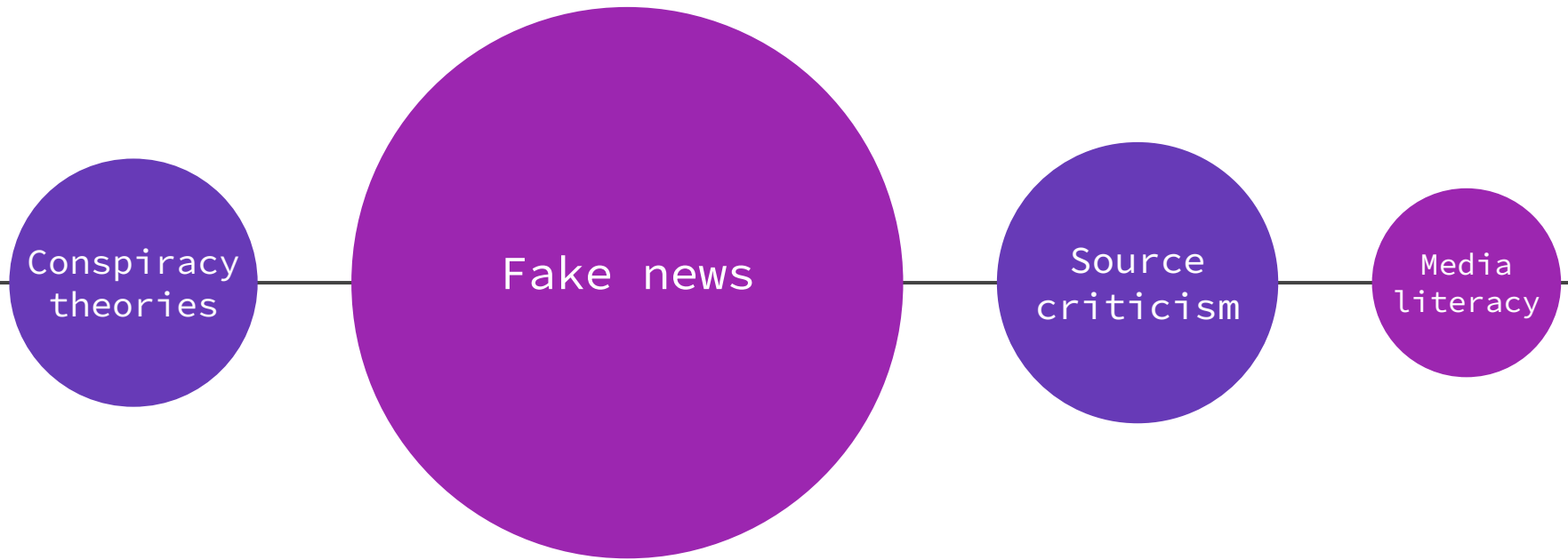
As a college preparatory program it is important to teach our students how to investigate sources of information.

Media literacy

In several parts of the curriculum media literacy is mentioned as something that is mandatory.



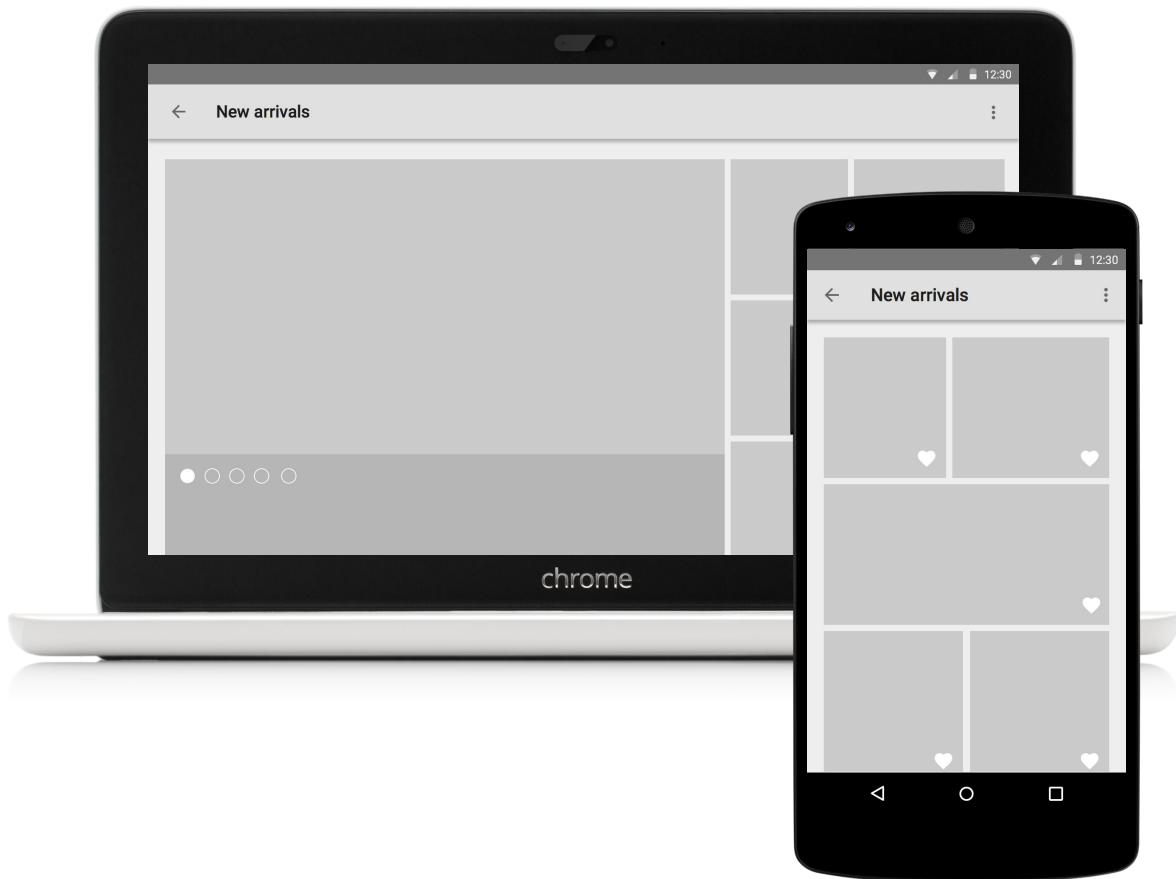
Content



Material, assignments and lessons

Media literacy and source criticism

- ISL-collective: “How false news can spread” (material in English)
- Forum of living history: Different exercises in source criticism (material in Swedish).
- Powerpoint presentation about mass media, filters and selective perception.
- Articles (Swedish) about conspiracy theories and fact resistance.
- Youtube
- Jordan Klepper
- Sweden democrats youtube channel. Biased news



Questions on Jordan Klepper interviewing Trump supporters

What are their opinions based on?

How do they reach these conclusions? Give an example

How does Klepper approach these people? How does he debunk their arguments?

Does this lead to a bigger polarization? or to a common understanding?'

What is the purpose of this clip?

Conspiracy theories group assignment

During a couple of lesson they worked with a conspiracy theory

Flat earth, Global warming, 5G, 9/11, Corona pandemic, Qanon.

First they tried to convince us about “their truth”

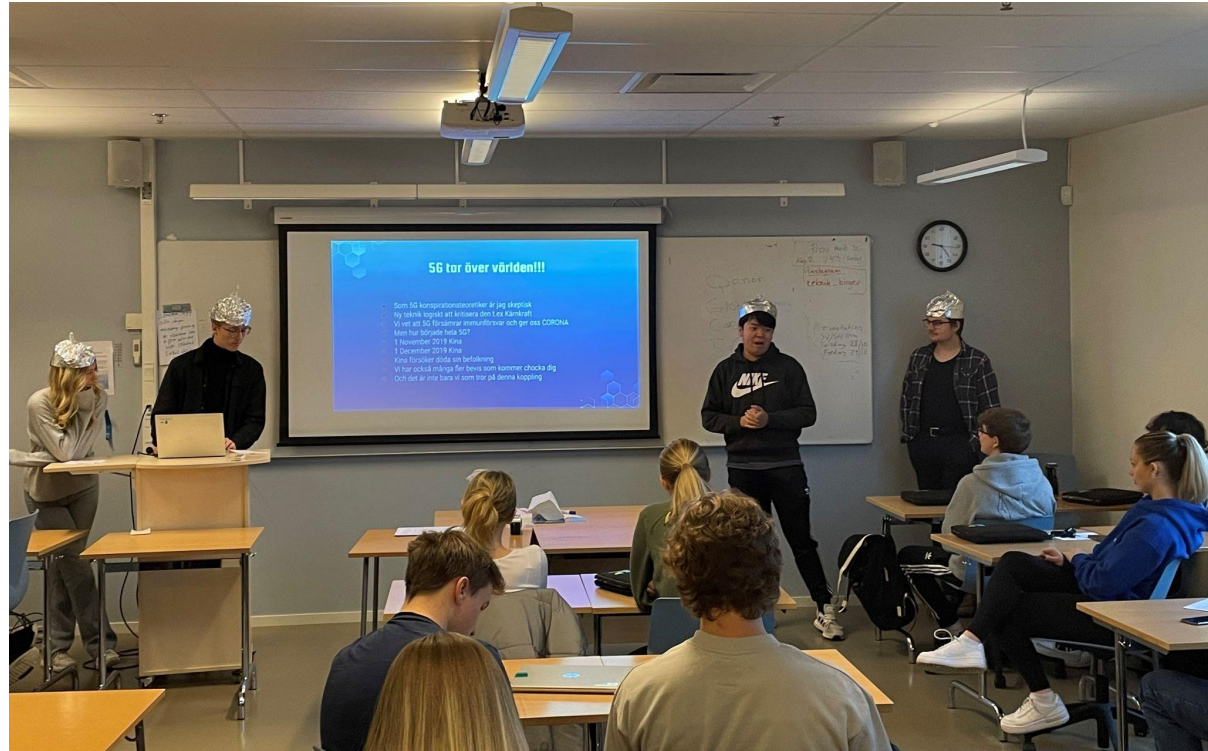
Then they debunked the theory

Presentation

They presented this in their groups using a powerpoint

First they tried to convince us that their theory is correct, as you can see on their hats.

Then they debunked the theory and discussed the many different reasons why people fall for these conspiracies.



Essay

The students wrote an investigative essay where they first had to present how conspiracy theories arise and spread. Then they argued for the dangers of C.T and how to refute them.

As a source they used an article named “Conspiracy theories - from 9/11 to Covid 19” (Science and progress, 2021:7)

