Fact and Fiction: Finding Reliable Information in the Age of Fake News

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One of the guiding principles of American journalism dictates that media must "speak truth to power"—the idea is that the Fourth Estate keeps our government accountable and honest. But what happens when the most powerful man in the world disputes a claim of truth? What happens when different kinds of media evolve to advance their own ideas of truth? How do we, as consumers, see through ploys that are intended to secure power and advantage, to find reality? In the high stakes world of politics, the press has always had an adversarial role—but we are in a new age when the integrity of press increasingly faces challenges. This Micro-Seminar offers tools and tips on how journalists identify good sources and verify facts. We'll look at reliable myth-busting and fact-checking sites online, dive into what constitutes adequate sourcing, and answer questions on best practices online.