IRSC librarians also incorporated news literacy instruction into two sessions in Fall 2017. One-shot sessions are intended to be a part of the course curriculum and are often used to introduce students to the course's content. The librarians identified the ACRL Framework for Information Literacy as a way to embed news literacy into the curriculum. They explained that news literacy is an important element of a traditional “one-shot” library instructional session. Librarians presented the concept of news literacy to the instructors and provided an overview of the problem of a lack of news literacy and possible solutions to address the problem. The session was also added as an option to the library’s one-shot request form. To date, almost half (47%, n=87) of the instructors requested news literacy instruction as a part of their session.

The importance of news literacy was introduced to the faculty and the Association of Florida Colleges. We have made these learning objects available to instructional faculty to use and embed in their courses and use as they wish. The presenters included the ACRL Framework for Information Literacy as an element of a traditional “one-shot” session. In the Fall of 2017, the librarians offered a one-credit course Introduction to Electronic Access to Information, and in presentations to faculty and librarians from other institutions. The presenters walk through the problem of fake news, its history, and shows how to evaluate news sources using the tools we created and real examples.

The presenters had also provided a video which can be linked to or embedded in course shells. It shows the importance of evaluating every source for authority, currency, relevance, and bias. It uses a real world example of early false reports to illustrate that all four of these criteria are critical when choosing a source, especially a rapidly developing news story.

Creating a fake news event allowed students to apply some of the techniques they identified in class and practice using credible sources to support their points. Students created their news stories with Canva, a free graphic design program that provides customizable magazine layouts, social media posts, and more.

The lesson plan for these one-shots includes showing the students a fake news source or asking them to discover one on their own. A discussion and/or video about the fake news phenomenon illustrates the larger problem with evaluating news sources. The students then analyze the news source using evaluation techniques to examine the authority, objectivity, rationale, publication or last updated date, accuracy, and relevance to the student’s information need or assignment.

Instructors, as well as students, were encouraged to use the evaluation criteria they learned in their one-shot sessions. Students can use these criteria to find and practice using credible sources to support their points. Librarians will continue to promote news literacy instruction through the year, and more partnerships with faculty will be explored.