Multimodal Learning in a Post-Truth World

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What is Post-Truth?
Post-Truth is a form of rhetoric where ethics and truth are sacrificed in favor of conveying information and persuading an audience by any means necessary.

Why Use Multimodal Texts?
According to the research of Michel, Anthony, et al. (2015):
- Photos and film are easily misinterpreted and biased.
- Multimodal texts:
  - Combine a variety of components to enhance student understanding.
  - Feature deliberative rhetoric: information conveyed explicitly through civil, reasoned, and cooperative discussion.
  - Promote open and changing opinions and opposing and critical views.
  - Encourages students to defy cultural constrictions and authority by expressing their experiences.

Bias (Ireland 2018)
Not just the facts, but how they are presented. In order to understand other people’s biases, you must first understand your own. Take the IAT to find yours.

Implicit Association Test (IAT)
https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/takeatest.html

Triangulation (Ireland 2018)
Verify a story by using two other reliable sources that also report the same story.

What is Fake News? (Friesem 2019)
The 7 Types of misinformation
1. Fabricated Content—designed to deceive
2. Imposter Content—when sources are impersonated
3. Misleading Content—misleading information used to frame an issue or individual
4. Satire—no intention to harm but has the potential to fool
5. Parody—no intention to harm but has the potential to fool
6. False Context—headlines, visuals, and captions don’t support content
7. Manipulated Content—genuine content is shared with false contextual information

How Do We Combat Post-Truth Rhetoric?
It is important to teach students to be effective critics of the information they consume. By using Multimodal texts, today’s instructors can teach students to be aware of what they see, hear, and read around them. Chris Bacon (2018) suggests that people practice three things:
- “Critical Reading” - question the author’s authority.
- “Critical Consumerism” - evaluate the validity and accuracy.
- “Critical Empathy” - use sources from a variety of perspectives.

What is Multimodal Learning?
Multimodal Learning Blends Your Learning Styles

AllSides.Com
https://www.allsides.com/unbiased-balanced-news

Works Cited

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