UNIT 0 - INTRODUCTION

Psychology and its relation to navigating the modern digital information environment

Overview of the unit

Our goal in this unit is twofold. First to introduce the discipline of psychology and to preview the structure of this class - IB Psychology SL. Our second goal is to acquire some basic information literacy skills from conducting research on the internet. Because this class is about psychology, we will be connecting psychological concepts, like motivated reasoning, to our investigation of digital research best practices.

Assessments

There will be several annotations of the readings in this unit which can be used on the three quiz given at the end of sections 2. The unit exam will be a practical exercise in applying the concepts and information literacy skills developed in sections 2-3

Extra help

I will hold an after school review for the exam several days prior to the test itself. Additionally I will post videos on the website for your use

Section 1 - What is Psychology?

Readings:

Introduction to psychology article

Popov, 1:2-5 (stop at "Research Methodology")

Objectives:

To understand the historical development of the discipline of psychology

To understand what the cognitive, biological and socio-cultural approaches to psychology are, and how they form the three lenses of study in IB Psychology

To understand the scientific method and how that method is applied in psychology

Key terms and concepts:

Psychology, empiricism, cognitive approach, socio-cultural approach, biological approach, scientific method/empiricismf Falsifiability/Karl Popper, behavior, mental processes theory, hypothesis, peer reviewed studie

Section 2 - Psychology in the real world: Why we fall for mis and disinformation

Readings/Sources:

"This Article Won't Change Mind." 2017. Julie Beck. *The Atlantic.*

Objectives:

To see the value of psychology as a tool to understand problems in the modern world

Key terms and concepts:

Cognitive dissonance	Motivated Reasoning	Selective exposure
Political polarization	Tribalism/Identity	Selective exposure
Generalized v. particularized trust		Group reasoning v. silos

STOP   INVESTIGATE THE SOURCE   FIND BETTER COVERAGE   TRACE CLAIMS, QUOTES AND MEDIA TO THE ORIGINAL CONTEXT

Caulfield. 2019. "Check Please! Starter Course." Accessed on 7.31.21 at https://www.notion.so/Introducing-SIFT-04db7879dd7a4efaa76bfb2397d11ffd

Section 3 - A very brief introduction to information literacy in the digital age

Readings:

STUDY - "Lateral Reading: Reading Less and Learning More When Evaluating Digital Information." 2017. Wineburg and McGrew. Stanford History Education Group

Videos from Control-F, Mike Caulfield and the Southern Poverty Law Center

Objectives:

To develop a basic competency in using the Web to assess the value of online sources

Key terms and concepts:

Knowledge	Belief	Perpective
Bias	Attention economy	Epistemic Nihilism
SIFT method	Consensus views/expertise	Recontextualization
Algorithms and radicalization	Lateral reading	Fact checking sites
Emotional reflection	Astroturfing	

The Miseducation of Dylan Roof. SPLC. Accessed on 7.31.21 at https://www.splcenter.org/files/miseducation-dylann-roof