

## JOURNALISM IN CLASSROOMS: CHALLENGING WHAT YOU SEE AND POST ONLINE

*by:*

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In an era where obtaining information is one click away. And the emergence of cyberspace where disinformation, malinformation, and misinformation are hard to determine and difficult to avoid, equipping our learners to be more cautious and responsible in both absorbing and disseminating information, now becomes a major responsibility of teachers.

Providing concepts and skills related to responsible journalism can help the students to understand the value of fact checking, ethical reporting without manipulation, and unbiased perspective. This also develop other factors, like it boosts their confidence, develop good time management, and enhance both critical thinking and academic skills.

Teaching the students the major principles of journalism will primarily help them avoid making themselves victims of fake news that spread all over the internet. Since as journalist, it is part of their duty to study, research, and validate any information they gather. They also have legal responsibilities as they serve the public, they are expected to obey the law concerning confidentiality, privacy, and legality of obtaining facts.

Indeed, journalism can be beneficial not only to student journalists, but to all students. Therefore, it is ideal to infuse it in classroom activities regardless of the subject matter. The teacher can simply ask the students to research articles, watch interviews/documentaries related to the discussion. And then, let them report the facts they gathered in the class. With these simple activities, the students will be able to

challenge whatever they read/watched online by checking, validating, and evaluating the facts and the reliability of its sources.

Journalism allows learners to boost knowledge and skills that will benefit them in the future. It helps them to defend their rights, dig for truth and express what their hearts desire. But above all, it helps them defend themselves in whatever harm social media and the internet world might brought.

*References:*