

PRESSING MATTERS: HOW CAMPUS JOURNALISM SHARPENS INFORMATION LITERACY

by:

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Developing learners' information literacy has become essential in the current digital world, where false and misleading information is common. Campus journalism is a useful teaching tool that tackles this issue by enabling students to identify trustworthy sources, evaluate them critically, and produce content that is dependable. Students' information literacy can be greatly improved by integrating campus journalism into the classroom, equipping them to appropriately navigate and contribute to the information-driven world.

Campus journalism's emphasis on fact-checking and source validation is one of the main arguments in favor of its inclusion at educational institutions. Even on college campuses, journalists are taught to confirm the veracity of content before publishing. Students get the ability to distinguish between reliable and incorrect sources through this practice, which is crucial in a time where social media is

dominating and misinformation travels quickly.

Campus journalism also equips students with the ability to critically analyze content. Writing articles, especially those that require research and interviews, encourages young journalists to delve deeper into topics, question their assumptions, and present well-rounded perspectives. These skills are directly transferable to academic work and other areas of life, fostering a generation of critical thinkers

who value accuracy and depth over superficiality.

Moreover, campus journalism promotes ethical reporting and responsible sharing of information. By adhering to journalistic standards such as fairness, impartiality, and transparency, students develop a strong sense of accountability in their writing. This instills the habit of ethical communication, teaching them to respect intellectual property and avoid spreading unverified claims. According to Cruz (2023), Campus journalism nurtures a culture of integrity and responsibility among students, making them more conscientious contributors to the information ecosystem.

Through campus journalism, students also gain hands-on experience in media literacy, another vital component of information literacy. Learning to work with different media formats-text, visuals, and digital platforms allows them to understand how information can be manipulated or misrepresented. This awareness helps them become discerning consumers and creators of media content, a skill that is increasingly necessary in modern society.

Additionally, the collaborative nature of campus journalism fosters teamwork and diverse perspectives. Working with peers to produce a publication exposes students to varied viewpoints, encouraging them to evaluate information from multiple angles. This collaborative process not only enhances the quality of the output but also strengthens their ability to assess biases and make informed decisions. Incorporating campus journalism into schools also prepares students for the challenges of the 21st century. The world today demands individuals who can sift through vast amounts of information, identify what is credible, and use it effectively. Campus journalism provides a structured and engaging way to develop these competencies, making students more informed citizens and better decision-makers.

Campus journalism serves as a powerful platform to nurture information literacy among students. By teaching them to verify, analyze, and communicate information responsibly, it equips them with the tools needed to thrive in an increasingly complex media landscape. Schools that incorporate campus

journalism into their curriculum not only enrich students' educational experiences but also empower them to become informed, ethical, and critical members of society.

References: