3/23

In class writing: do you think there is such thing as true news? Or is it always altered by perspective and source? If yes, what’s the closest thing we can get to truth?

Quiz on Soll.

Discuss Soll’s piece and what we think about Fake News. Break down piece. (If very few kids there because of break, use more video, do full discussion when everyone returns)

Introduce one of two other readings, perhaps read in class and break into groups.

Pass out prompt and discuss.

Assign other reading and outline for break.

4/4

In class writing 10 min

Video on fake news vs. Video OF fake news

What does it mean to write a synthesis paper? What is the significance? What’s crucial in terms of construction?

Pass out real news story and fake news story, see if they can discern.

Discuss ways in which to break down body paragraphs of essay. Board work.

Go around room to share potential thesis statements.

4/6

2 page draft due, includes intro and 1 body paragraph.

In class writing: what are your concerns with this essay? What are you confident with in regards to this essay?

Work in class on draft (?) class discussion.

Mapping – trees and bubble works on boards to flesh out connections.

4/10

In class writing 10 min

4 pages due

Peer review, at least two papers each, all class.

4/12

Final draft due.

Introduce Unit 4.

**Unit 4 ideas**:

In class writing assignments – sell me something fake (they did an assignment for me before where they simply had to “sell me something”)

What does the notion or aspect of sales and marketing have to do with fake news? Why/how does fake news have to be appealing/ entertaining.

Gather sources – print out issues/ instances of fake news, articles, comment threads, trolls, and bring them to class to share and discuss.

**WEBSITE PROJECT:**

Collective class work in which we build a (private) “website” or blog where they are all “journalists” for a news source that only spreads fake news. It will be sectioned into current events, foreign affairs, satire, entertainment, etc. This will be a large part of this unit and part of their final assignment grade.

**Final assignment:**

Write your own fake news (or take a short piece you used to construct the website and expand on it and develop it well) with the tools you now possess to rhetorically persuade your intended audience to believe the story you have crafted. Write a short accompanying piece to explain how and why this piece is fake news and its relevancy. Evaluate how convincing your piece is as a standalone work. Evaluate how convincing your piece is in comparison to current other fake news pieces.