**Fake News & Alternative Facts (Rough)**

We began the unit by reading Jacob Soll’s article “The Long and Brutal History of Fake News” and Ruth Reader’s “How We Got to Post-Truth”. Using one or both of these articles as an “anchor” for the overall topic, please “map” out and synthesize three of the articles listed below

For each of you chosen texts, please select an example or examples that reinforces the argument of one of the anchor texts. Please discuss some of the main points of connection, disagreement, and contrast between your chosen texts. Please conclude by discussing some of the relative strengths and weaknesses of these positions.

Finally, please explain some of the most interesting aspects of Fake news in your opinion using examples from anything we have covered this semester. This may include, but is not limited to, the overlap of demagoguery and fake news, the ability of satire to clarify or muddy the issue, the effect it may or may not have had on the most recent election, etc.

**Article Choices**

“The Purpose and Method of Satire” by Robert Harris

<http://www.virtualsalt.com/satire.htm>

“False News, Absurd Reality Present Challenges for Satirists” By David Bauder

<http://bigstory.ap.org/article/false-news-absurd-reality-present-challenges-satirists>

“World War Meme: How a group of anonymous keyboard commandos conquered the internet for Donald Trump—and plans to deliver Europe to the far right” By Ben Schreckinger

<http://www.politico.com/magazine/story/2017/03/memes-4chan-trump-supporters-trolls-internet-214856>

“The very real consequences of fake news stories and why your brain can’t ignore them" By Nsikan Akpan

<http://www.pbs.org/newshour/updates/real-consequences-fake-news-stories-brain-cant-ignore/>

“The Real Story About Fake News Is Partisanship”

**Format**

MLA Format (12 pt font, Times New Roman, 1 inch margins, STAPLED, page numbers, etc.)

Works Cited

6-9 pages