



https://www.chron.com/national/article/factitious-fake-news-game-app-american-university-11277474.php

Fake news? Game seeks to train readers to separate fact and fiction in the media

"Factitious" looks at factual and fictitious reports, offers suggestions about how to distinguish

By **Andrew Kragie** Updated 11:16 am CDT, Monday, July 10, 2017



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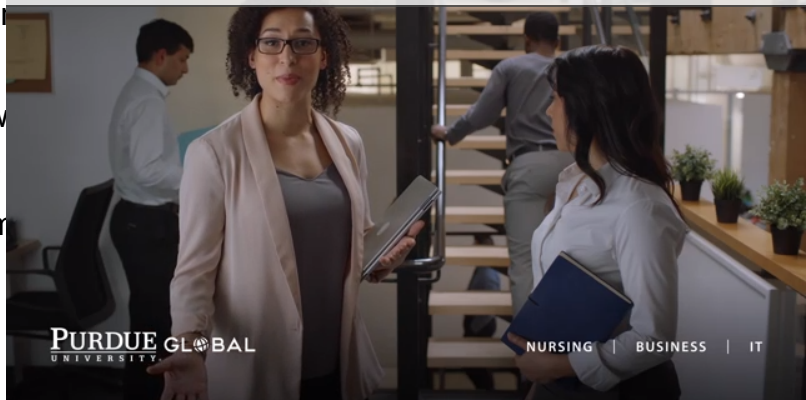
See some of the biggest fake news stories that left readers confused and hoodwinked.

A journalist and an **American U** way to test and teach news liter

"Factitious" presents players w from reliable news sources like satirical sites like **The Onion**, m the Alabama Observer.

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Ad : (0:09) ?



If it seems like real news, swipe right (or click on the green check mark on the right). Swipe left for fake news.

"Factitious is a playful way of exploring the fake news conundrum," **Lindsay Grace**, director of American University's **Game Lab**, said in a **news release**. "This game is a good way to remind players about what they know and don't know about news."



Factitious is a quick game that can be played on any platform. The idea came from a veteran journalist,

Maggie Farley, who was spending time as an American University fellow. AU game professor Bob Hone designed it. According to the AU news release:

Farley pitched the concept more than a year ago, before the 2016 presidential campaign brought the challenges of fake news to the spotlight. For purposes of the game, "fake news" is defined as stories fabricated for fun, influence or profit, as well as satire, opinion and spin.

"Fake news is impossible to stop, so we wanted to playfully teach people how to recognize it," said Farley. "But the game is fun to play in itself."

Try it on any device at <http://factitious.augamestudio.com>. Even professional journalists might get mixed up.

Did you?

H E A R S T