

## Agenda

MONDAY, Sept. 5 (Kathmandu)   THURSDAY, Sept. 8 (Hetauda)	
12:30-1 pm	<b>WELCOME/introductions</b>
1-2:15 pm	<b>Class 1: Let's identify 7 types of mis- and disinformation, and why journalism matters</b> The world is suffering not just a pandemic, but also an infodemic. Social media and messaging apps are awash with mis- and disinformation that can hinder democracy and foster division, conflict and real harm. How did we get in this mess, and why does journalism matter in addressing it? Identify why false information spreads, and define the difference between misinformation and disinformation. We'll also get hands-on practice in identifying the seven types of mis- and disinformation.
2:15-2:30 pm	<b>BREAK</b>
2:30-4 pm	<b>Class 2: Let's search and monitor</b> How do you keep up with which false information is trending on the internet? Practice searching actively and monitoring passively on Google, Facebook, YouTube, TikTok and Twitter. Craft more effective searches with Boolean operators, and monitor more efficiently with free services such as Google Alerts, Feedly and TweetDeck.
4-4:15 pm	<b>BREAK</b>
4:15-5:30 pm	<b>Class 3: Let's verify, part 1</b> Once you've identified potentially false information, how do you debunk it through a verification process? Learn the first steps in verification and then identify and practice applying the five pillars of verification: provenance, source, date, location and motivation. Practice reading laterally, archiving pages on the Internet Archive's Wayback Machine, and reverse-image searching photos.

TUESDAY, Sept. 6 (Kathmandu)   FRIDAY, Sept. 9 (Hetauda)	
9-11 am	<b>Class 4: Let's verify, part 2</b> Continue building your verification skills: reverse-image search videos, verify social media accounts using digital footprints, locate the upload time for content on different social media platforms, find photos' date and time using EXIF data, practice geolocation using Google Maps Street View, and identify imposter websites. Finish with group exercises applying all the verification skills you've learned.
11-11:15 am	<b>BREAK</b>
11:15 am-12:30 pm	<b>Class 5: Let's report responsibly</b> When should you debunk false information? There is a tipping point when it comes to reporting on mis- and disinformation. Reporting too early gives unnecessary oxygen to misleading content that might otherwise fade away. Reporting too late means the falsehood takes hold and then nothing can stop its spread. We'll look for the tipping point in a case study about disinformation involving polio vaccines in Pakistan. We'll also practice writing a headline as a "truth sandwich" to limit the amplification of false info. Wrap up with a discussion of what to do first upon your return to work.



**Your instructor:** [Linda Austin](#) is a rare hybrid of award-winning top editor and inspirational journalism educator who is schooled in instructional design and experienced in developing e-learning, training and curricula for learners globally. She is training journalists in Nepal as a Fulbright Specialist.

She has also taught as a Fulbright Specialist in Romania and a Fulbright Scholar in Burma.

She was a visiting professor in the Global Business Journalism Program at Tsinghua University in Beijing and executive director of the Reynolds National Center for Business Journalism at Arizona State University. At the Reynolds Center and as project co-director for the News Leaders Association's NewsTrain currently, she has produced 177 highly rated training events – online and in-person – that have reached 12,000+ journalists. Before becoming an international journalism educator, she led three local U.S. newsrooms for a decade, resulting in seven national and 41 state awards. [laustin.newstrain@gmail.com](mailto:laustin.newstrain@gmail.com)

**About the Fulbright Program in Nepal:** Since 1961, the binational [Fulbright Commission in Nepal](#) has facilitated educational exchanges of scholars and students between Nepal and the United States. Under the Fulbright Specialist Program, host institutions in Nepal, such as the [Freedom Forum](#), request projects, such as this training. These projects are then paired with a U.S. academic or professional, who shares his or her expertise.