DIGITAL SOURCES AND ICT

• Using information and communication technologies (ICTs) to perform tasks associated with journalism
  • Collect
  • Process
  • Organize
  • Analyze
  • Package

STATES OF DIGITAL INFORMATION

• Online
• Computer databases
• CD-Rom

JOURNALISM TECHNIQUES

• Computer-assisted reporting (CAR)
• Data journalism (Data-driven journalism)

BRANT HOUSTON

“…provides context and depth to daily stories….

includes techniques at producing tips that launch more complex stories from a broader perspective and with better, in-depth understanding of the issues”
DATA JOURNALISM
- Traditional ‘nose for news’ and ability to tell a compelling story, with the sheer scale and range of digital info
- Use programming to automate the process of gathering and combining info from various sources
- Use software to find connections between voluminous documents
- Tell a complex story through engaging infographics

THE PROCESS
- Start with an idea
- Get the data
- Clean up and organize the data
- Challenge the data
- Interview people who live the story
- Do calculations
- Visualize the data
- Tell the story

TOOLS
- BASIC
  - Internet sourcing
  - Spreadsheets
  - Database managers
  - Data visualization
- ADVANCED
  - Statistical analysis
  - Advanced mapping
  - Social networking software (not social media)
  - App development

THE INTERNET
- The Internet is a tool, as well as a news source
- Helps journalists...
  - Do background research
  - Get in touch with sources
  - Verify information
  - Frame questions
  - Access information
  - Distribute stories
What's the most popular SEARCH ENGINE?

On a scale of 1 to 10, with 10 being a perfect score, how skilled are you at Googling?

Going beyond Google: ALTERNATIVE SEARCH ENGINES

DEAD WEB
VERIFYING WHAT YOU GET ONLINE

- Provenance: Is it original? The first version?
- Source: Who is the author or originator of the content?
- Date: When—date and approximate time—the event actually happened vs the information supplied online
- Location: Clues include geolocation information, landmarks, distinctive landscape, weather conditions, license plates on vehicles, clothing

CROWDSOURCING

FREEDOM ON THE NET

2013

Myanmar

Not Free

20

16

26

62

2014

Myanmar

Partly Free

19

17

20

60

OPEN GOVERNMENT

What is the Open Government Partnership?

OPG Explorer - Easy Access to a Wealth of OGP Data

BACK TO YOUR STORY IDEA AND INVESTIGATIVE HYPOTHESIS

List the info you need that you believe is in digital form

Where can you find it?

- Websites
- Office databases
- Government entities, businesses, NGOs, international agencies
- Social Media

Secondary sources
- Primary sources

Number them from the most to the least important

Order your list