I Want my NYT!
News Databases and Apps

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digitalPLUS

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No thanks
“Online newspaper subscriptions such as Wall Street Journal would be nice.” (Chicago graduate student survey, 2010)

“[Please provide] more up to date versions of newspaper dailies such as Wall Street Journal etc.” (Chicago undergraduate survey, 2011)
“A lot of the microfilm stuff is really awesome, but difficult to search through. I know this would be a very difficult and time-consuming process, but perhaps it could be digitized?”

*(Chicago undergraduate survey, 2011)*
Digital News Surpasses Newspapers, Radio

Where did you get news yesterday?

55% Watched news on TV
39% Got news online/digitally
33% Listened to the radio
29% Read a newspaper

PEW RESEARCH CENTER 2012 News Consumption Survey.
News Literacy is “the ability to access, analyze, evaluate, and communicate messages in a wide variety of forms.”
– Aufderheide, 2004
News Workshop Objectives

Students will:

- Locate articles from news databases
- Understand current vs. historical databases
- Learn about 2 news apps for mobile devices on different platforms
- Understand different news mediums
- Understand a “news aggregator” and RSS feeds
News on a Topic: Newspaper Databases

- Search across lots of newspapers
- Current & recent historical
- Full text, but no page images
Topics Covered: Newspaper Databases

**Google News**
- No actual content (except archive)
- Pictures/media

**Factiva**
- Good international coverage
- Quick timeouts

**LexisNexis**
- Good legal integration
- Easier interface

**Others**
- ProQuest Newsstand
- Access World News/Newsbank
Topics Covered: Historical News

- Only a few papers digitized...
  - ...but growing daily!
- Not just major papers
- Page images
- No indexes
- Microfilm
Topics Covered: News Apps

Flipboard

Pulse
Version 1: Drop-in Session

- Instruction on news databases and apps
- “Mix and mingle” format
- Extra iPads for hands-on use
Version 2: Workshop Format

- Instruction on news databases and apps
- Structured presentation
- No hands-on component
Workshop Feedback

- Many surprised by news resources available
  - Often unaware of news databases beyond LexisNexis
  - International newspapers a big hit
- Most didn’t know about news apps
- Career/job searching a motivation for news
Career Services: A New Avenue?

- Partnership with University’s Career Advancement office
- Targeted workshop for “Chicago Careers in Journalism” program
Lessons Learned

- Participants found news instruction valuable
- Students appreciate formal instruction
  - Unenthused about a “technology petting zoo”
- Marketing/scheduling remains a problem
- News literacy is an ongoing concern
- Librarians better understand how to help students navigate new tools and technology
Discussion

- Have you integrated news literacy into your instruction programs?

- How do we promote the Library as a source for news?

- What role have news apps played in your instruction programs? Do your students ask about reading news on an iPad or other tablet/mobile device?
Thank you!

Questions or Comments?

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