JOUR307 Data Journalism

A splash of nerd + reporter = data journalist

Introductions

Syllabus

What is data journalism?

- Using data to tell stories.

- Using data to ask better questions.

- Using data to find better stories.

- Using data to capture people's attention.

- Using data to create understanding.

Examples

- Failure Factories
- Speeding Cops
- Flooding of Coast, Caused by Global Warming, Has Already Begun
- Ashley Madison hack raises questions about UNL faculty, student relations

"Thinking analytically is a skill like carpentry or driving a car. It can be taught, it can be learned, and it can improve with practice. But like many other skills, such as riding a bike, it is not learned by sitting in a classroom and being told how to do it. Analysts learn by doing." -- Richards J. Heuer, Jr., Psychology of Intelligence Analysis

Assignments

- Read: Chapter 1 of the Data Journalism Handbook

- Read: Read Meyer Chapter 1 (on Canvas under Course Documents) and realize it was (re)written in 2002.

- Read: Herzog Chapter 1.

- Read: The Myth of the Machine by Michael Berens in Nerds and Words on Canvas. If you have time, read a few others (like Steve Doig) and realize that document was written in 1999.