

Nandita Kohli

14 December, 2018

Professor Bennett

Creative Coding

Concept Paragraph

My piece, titled *Media Coverage Comparisons* is a data visualization depicting media coverage from three different sources: CNN, MSNBC, and Fox News. By clicking through the various news sources, the viewer can compare the coverage from the different news sources.

In order to accomplish this, data is taken from the USA News API. Data is extracted from three particular news sources: CNN, MSNBC, and Fox News. The top 10 most popular articles based on views are then extracted from each source. Next, the description strings from each of the 10 articles is extracted. Using the Rita library the words from these strings are placed in an array ordered based on 'count' -- the number of times each word is used within the 10 descriptions. This data is used to create a visual representation of the most popular topics covered by each differing source.

There are multiple factors to this visualization. For one, it runs loops that make words with a higher count bigger than words with a smaller count. It uses a sine wave to make words with a smaller count wave slower than words with a bigger count. The sources also each have a different font and different color bubbles bouncing around in the background to help differentiate sources and add to a more pleasing aesthetic.

This is an interactive and responsive display because with each button click, the screen will display data from a different source. When the user clicks each source button, data from that source pops up. With this piece, the user can interpret the data from media coverage in a more visual way. There is a lot to be taken from this piece. Comparisons can be made among the different sources. The variety, or lack thereof, in media topics from source to source can be seen more simply.