



B20 – Making Sense of Social Networks

Course description

Social networks, however we define them, have grown to unimaginable levels. Facebook has more than two billion active users, YouTube, a billion and half. Our need for connections in the modern world has us sharing stories, pictures, and videos with family and friends around the world. But social networks aren't without their problems. We have serious concerns regarding privacy, fake news, and our ever-shortening attention spans. It can seem that these technologies have made our lives out of control and we don't know how to fix it. This course will show us how we got here and, with luck, how we might make sense of it all.

Schedule

Date	Topics
10/26	Introduction How we got here: A brief history of social networks
11/2	A closer look at today's social networks
11/9	Why they work, why they don't
11/16	Truth and trust – Promises made, broken, repaired, rinse, repeat
11/30	What's ahead?

Resources

- Course materials are available on <http://queenlake.com/wise/wise-fall-2018/making-sense-of-social-networks/>
- [Facebook: Last Week Tonight with John Oliver](#) (Caution: John Oliver swears a lot. A lot.)

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