Prof. Cardenas | sac1@williams.edu

# How to Make Fake News

By Daniel Baneman and Stephanie Cardenas



## The Basics

- 1. Download a free trial of the program Sublime Text.
- 2. Pick a news website to manipulate. I've found the <u>New York Times</u> and <u>The</u> <u>Advocate</u> websites both have good easily manipulatable source code.
- 3. Right click on the website and select "View Page Source"
- 4. Copy and paste the entire source code into a "New file" on Sublime Text.
- 5. Find the pieces of text you want to change, such as the title or the body of the article.
  - a. Typically a piece of text will be repeated in multiple locations, I search using command+shift+F and replace all instances.
  - b. Note for adding line breaks (to create space between paragraphs) you'll need to add .
- 6. Take screenshots of your news article and upload as a graphic to Qualtrics!

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#### The New York Times

## Social Psychology Professor Emily Balcetis Agrees to Settle Over Rexgate

Under the terms of the agreement, the reptilian federation will receive \$24 million and a pledge from NYU Professor Balcetis to neutralize animosity stirred between the two entities.





### Adding a Photo

- 1. Find the image you want to put in your news article. It can be a file or a URL.
- 2. Go to https://elmah.io/tools/base64-image-encoder/
- 3. Upload the file (or paste the URL). Then click "Encode Image".
- 4. Scroll down and find the box that says "HTML usage"; click the "Copy" button.
- 5. Go back to the Sublime Text window with the HTML code. Search the Page Source code for "<img" (this is called the img start tag). Now keep scanning ahead until you find "/>" (this is called the closing tag). Replace this entire img block (starting with "<img", all the way through the closing tag) with the encoded image that you copied in step 4. Save.
  - a. To adjust the image width to 500 pixels add "width=500" inside the img start tag right in front of the img end tag. Save.
  - b. To center your image add "<center>" just before the first img start tag and </center> in front of the img end tag. Save.
- 6. In Finder, find your html file and double-click to open.