Melise Project

Media **Li**teracy for **Se**niors

COURSE FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

100% ONLINE & FREE

Launching on October 20, 2025

Networks and Realities: Media Literacy for Seniors

The European project Melise, led by UNED, offers an innovative sMOOC course on media literacy for the over 65s. **Launching on October 20, 2025, it is a free and accessible course that promotes critical thinking in a flexible environment adapted to each user.** Through gamified thematic blocks presented by fictional "agents", it deals with disinformation, artificial intelligence, opinion formation, audiovisual manipulation and fact-checking.

All this content is explained through short videos, interactive exercises and an educational metaverse of themed rooms and live events. Based on the 7S taxonomy, **it promotes collaborative learning, empowerment and critical citizenship, helping this group to navigate safely in the digital age.**

To learn more, visit:
www.meliseproject.eu

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. **To promote critical understanding** of the post-digital society and the impact of emerging technologies on everyday life.
2. **To encourage critical analysis of the disinformation** projected through the media and social networks.
3. **Develop skills to identify, analyse and verify digital content**, applying verification tools.
4. **Explore and understand the role of Artificial Intelligence** and its ethical, social and professional implications.
5. **Raise awareness** of the effects of disinformation and train in strategies for its identification and prevention.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of the course, seniors will be able to:

- **Verify news stories**, images and social-media posts before sharing.
- **Recognise AI-generated content** and understand its implications.
- **Safeguard their privacy** and avoid common online scams;
- Use social networks and messaging apps to stay connected and engaged in community life.
- **Act as confident, critical citizens** who contribute positively to Europe's digital public sphere.

SYLLABUS

The course is set in a James Bond-style detective agency, but instead of working for the Queen of England, we will be fighting against disinformation. We will have 5 agents, who are veteran experts in different fields.

This sMOOC is framed in 5 blocks of contents that are formed by:

- 3 explanatory videos led by the agent.
- 3 forums where people question, build and share.
- serious game where you put into practice what you have learnt.
- 1 questionnaire on the contents explained.
- 1 final WMOOC evaluation questionnaire
- 1 metaverse where all the blocks are included in different languages, where you can chat with the other participants and carry out various activities.

MISSIONS

Mission 1: Deciphering the media conundrum

This block is presented by agent Dis. She is a senior researcher in the field of communication and media. The objectives she will have in this block will be:

- Awakening interest in the post-digital society, the evolution of technology and its impact on everyday life.
- Recognise the role of the evolving media and its manipulative strategies.
- Identify the main networks and the social challenge of these networks.

To teach all this, Dis will focus on three specific contents that will be shown through three videos:

1. The power of innovation: In this part we are going to ask what is the postdigital society, take a look at the evolution of technology and the impact of technology on everyday life.

2. Voices and Echoes: This video will discuss the evolution of the media, types of digital media and news analysis.

3. Virtual connections: In this last part we will look at the main social networks and their use for communicating with family and friends. The dangers of social networks will be the final part of this block.

Mission 2: Artificial intelligence under suspicion

Agent In is an expert on technology and artificial intelligence. She takes a futuristic and optimistic approach to the role of artificial intelligence in information. She has a dynamic presentation full of examples. The objectives she will be working on will be:

- Understanding how generative AI works and how it is used.
- Recognise.
- Identify.

On this occasion, the IN agent shares her experience and knowledge on how AI, especially Generative Artificial Intelligence (GAI), is transforming people's daily lives.

The following specific content will be covered:

1. Artificial intelligence: In this video you will learn how to use prompts and check fonts with Perplexity.

2. Dialoguing with Artificial Intelligence: On this occasion, we teach how to use prompts to translate or simplify simple texts. In addition, we teach how to open an account on an AI website such as chatGPT.

3. Artificial Intelligence and disinformation: To conclude, we will talk about how the evolution of technology has transformed the way we access information, the risks involved, and generate critical thinking about how AI can be used to spread disinformation and manipulate perceptions in social networks.

<u>Mission 3:</u> Forging a critical shield against disinformation

Agent For is an open-minded philosopher. With him, three objectives will be set:

- Identify what an opinion is and how it is formed in the digital environment, recognising the influence of media and networks in the creation of opinions.
- Distinguish between reliable sources of knowledge in the digital environment.
- Understand the philosophical positions of realism, relativism and scepticism applied to the analysis of information.
- Apply technological tools to check the veracity of information on social networks, developing a critical perspective on the information consulted.

All this will be done through three videos:

1. What is opinion and how is it formed in the digital age? We will talk about the definition of opinion, the difference between opinion and knowledge. Finally, we will talk about public opinion and the media.

2. Sources of knowledge and attitudes to knowledge in a connected world: For will talk about the sources of knowledge and attitudes to knowledge: realism, relativism and scepticism.

3. The critical eye and tools for cross-checking information: We are going to talk about the critical look and the sources of contrasting information. Technological tools for contrasting information will also be provided.

<u>Mission 4:</u> Unmasking reality

Agent Mat is an expert in media technology and content editing. He gives presentations with practical demonstrations. He works on these three objectives:

- Identify manipulations in images and videos.
- Verify audiovisual content with digital tools.
- Create and share images responsibly.

Mat, with its accessible and friendly approach, seeks to educate viewers about the manipulation of images and the responsible use of audiovisual media. It does so through three videos with these specific contents:

1. Introduction to audiovisual management: In this video you will learn how to detect common modifications in photographs and analyse emblematic cases of digital manipulations. Finally, it aims to familiarise you with the key elements that often show faults.

2. Technological development, evolution and innovation: In this part, Mat will teach how to perform reverse searches of images to trace their origin. The application of geolocation techniques will also be taught. Finally, deepfakes will be identified by eye movements and shadows.

3. Unravelling. New content: This last part will teach how to remove backgrounds and elements with editing and implement practical tips for selfies. Finally, we will work on how to understand the privacy implications of sharing images on social networks.

<u>Mission 5:</u> Disinformation behind fake news

Agent Ion is a charismatic and motivational communicator. Ion focuses on three objectives:

- Know and identify fake news and its characteristics.
- Raise awareness of the social, political and personal impact of fake news.
- Training in the use of fact-checking tools and strategies.

With a motivational tone, Ion invites participants to take an active part in the fight against disinformation. To teach all this, Ion will focus on three specific contents that will be shown through three videos:

1. Introduction to the concept of fake news: This video discusses the concept of fake news and fake news in traditional communication channels and instant messaging (WhatsApp).

2. The impact of fake news: We work on the speed of dissemination in WhatsApp vs. traditional media and the social, political and personal consequences.

3. Source verification and critical thinking: This last video talks about identifying fake news and clickbait. Finally, the verification of forwarded messages on WhatsApp will be discussed.

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to navigate the
digital world safely
and confidently!**

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