Information Timeline

**Event Occurs**

- **Within minutes**
  - **Social Media**
    - “Breaks” the story. Info may be incomplete, false, or biased.
    - Examples: Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, blogs

- **Within days**
  - **News Sites, TV, Radio & Daily Newspapers**
    - As time passes, info gets added, updated, and verified. Opinions emerge.

- **Within a week**
  - **Weekly Magazines**
    - Offers more insight. Likely to include context info, interviews, related topics.
    - Examples: Time, Newsweek, People, The New Yorker

- **Within a month**
  - **Monthly Magazines**
    - Additional time allows for better reporting. May include opinions.
    - Examples: Wired, Scientific American, National Geographic

- **3+ Months Later**
  - **Scholarly Journals**
    - Written by experts. Well-researched and objective.
    - Examples: Journal of American Culture, Nature, JAMA

- **12+ Months Later**
  - **Books**
    - Benefit most from hindsight. Give most in-depth coverage of topic.
    - Examples: Nonfiction titles, biographies, textbooks, reference materials

**Where to Look**

- **Free Web**
- **Print**
  - **Free Web**
  - **Library Databases**
- **Print**
  - **Google Scholar**
  - **Library Databases**
- **Print**
  - **Library Databases**
  - **Google Books etc.**

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