The CRRAPP Criteria Rubric

When you are researching a topic for a college-level academic assignment, it is important to subject your online information sources to a greater level of scrutiny. You’ll get better grades and learn more if you use high-quality dependable sources of information. If you’re not sure whether or not you should use a particular resource, ask yourself the following questions. These questions were developed with websites in mind, but most will work for other types of sources, both print and online.

| CURRENCY                      | • When was this page created? Last updated or revised?  
|                              | • Do the links work?  
|                              | • Is the page being maintained and new material added?  
|                              | • Is it important that this page be current, given your subject?  
| RELEVANCE                    | • Does the article improve your understanding of the issue?  
|                              | • Is the article lengthy enough to be worthy of inclusion?  
|                              | • Does all or most of the article apply to your topic?  
| RELIABILITY                  | • Is the content mostly opinion or is it stating facts?  
|                              | • Are there sloppy errors, such as bad grammar, misspelling, etc. which might indicate hastiness?  
|                              | • Does the author provide references for or sources of facts, data, or quotations?  
|                              | • Can you confirm what the author is saying in another source?  
| AUTHORITY                    | • Who is the author of this page?  
|                              | • What are their credentials?  
|                              | • Can you find more information about the author somewhere else?  
|                              | • What institution are they affiliated with?  
|                              | • Can you find more information about their institution elsewhere?  
| PURPOSE                      | • What is the purpose of this page?  
|                              | • Does the author intend to persuade you of something? Teach? Inform? Entertain? Provoke an emotional response?  
|                              | • Does the author or the sponsoring organization state their goals?  
| POINT OF VIEW                | • If the author is affiliated with an institution (government, university, business, organization, etc.), does this affiliation bias the information presented?  
|                              | • If you search for the name of the author or their institution, can you find any information about any bias or what they stand for?  
|                              | • Does the sponsoring publication have a known bias?  
|                              | • Is the tone of the article inflammatory or snarky?  

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