



WHAT IS CRAAP?

A GUIDE TO EVALUATING WEB SOURCES

CURRENCY

HOW OLD OR NEW IS THE INFORMATION?



- ★ When was the information posted or last updated?
- ★ Are the links working? If not, that means no one is maintaining the website.
- ★ What is the copyright or publication date?

RELEVANCY

DOES IT HAVE THE INFORMATION YOU NEED?

- ★ Does the information relate to your topic or answer your question?
- ★ Who is the intended audience?
- ★ Is it too simple or too advanced for your purpose?

AUTHORITY

IS THE AUTHOR OF THE INFORMATION QUALIFIED AND TRUSTWORTHY?

- ★ Who is the author/publisher/source/sponsor?
 - ✓ Associations, agencies, affiliations, titles, credentials
- ★ Is the author qualified to write on this particular topic?
- ★ Is there contact information, such as a publisher or email address, for further investigation?
- ★ Read the "About Us", "Our Mission", and "FAQs"
- ★ Google the author for more information about the author or organization.

Look at the domain for clues:

- .com** commercial business, online retailer, for-profit
- .edu** educational institutions, universities, schools
- .gov** government body (Fed, state, local)
- .org** organization not gov't affiliated, not-for-profit
- .net** networking tech originally, now a "catch-all"

ACCURACY

IS THE INFORMATION ACCURATE AND UNBIASED?

- ★ Is it supported by evidence you can check and verify yourself?
- ★ Is it objective and free of emotion?
- ★ Are there errors in spelling, grammar, or punctuation?

PURPOSE

WHY WAS THE INFORMATION CREATED AND SHARED?

- ★ Do the authors/sponsors make their intentions or purpose clear?
 - ✓ Is the purpose to Inform? Persuade? Sell? Entertain?
- ★ Is the information fact, opinion or propaganda?
- ★ Does the point of view appear objective & impartial?
- ★ What can the mission statement tell you?

