

Evaluating websites activity:

I do this activity with classes myself sometimes, but also have it up online on the FYWP Instructor Guide as something 121 instructors can do on their own. It includes a short PowerPoint where we go over the parts of the CRAAP Test (Currency, Relevance, Authority, Accuracy, Purpose) and talk a little about Wikipedia as well. Then students are asked to look at two different websites about depression and make notes on the chart attached about each area of the CRAAP test, as an exercise in evaluating websites and comparing different search results.

This can then be adapted for students to complete with different info sources related to their own topics.

More info at: <http://guides.emich.edu/fywp> and click on "Evaluating Sources"

Does Your Web Site Pass the CRAAP Test?

Currency: *The timeliness of the information.*

- When was the information published or posted?
- Has the information been revised or updated?
- Is the information current or out-of date for your topic?
- Are the links functional?

Relevance: *The importance of the information for your needs.*

- Does the information relate to your topic or answer your question?
- Who is the intended audience?
- Is the information at an appropriate level (i.e. not too elementary or advanced for your needs)?
- Have you looked at a variety of sources before determining this is one you will use?

Authority: *The source of the information.*

- Who is the author/publisher/source/sponsor?
- Are the author's credentials or organizational affiliations given? If yes, what are they?
- What are the author's qualifications to write on the topic?
- Is there contact information, such as a publisher or e-mail address?
- Does the URL reveal anything about the author or source?
examples: .com .edu .gov .org

Accuracy: *The reliability, truthfulness, and correctness of the informational content.*

- Where does the information come from?
- Is the information supported by evidence?
- Has the information been reviewed or refereed?
- Can you verify any of the information in another source or from personal knowledge?
- Does the language or tone seem biased and free of emotion?
- Are there obvious errors (spelling, grammar, etc.)?

Purpose: *The reason the information exists.*

- What is the purpose of the information? to inform? teach? sell? entertain? persuade?
- Do the authors/sponsors make their intentions or purpose clear?
- Is the information fact? opinion? propaganda?
- Does the point of view appear objective and impartial?
- Are there political, ideological, cultural, religious, institutional, or personal biases?

	NIMH Site
Currency	
Relevance	skip this section
Authority	
Accuracy	
Purpose	
	HelpGuide Site
Currency	
Relevance	skip this section
Authority	
Accuracy	
Purpose	