

Evaluating Sources¹

Print Resources

- ✓ Is the text up to date and relevant to your topic?
- ✓ Who is the author?
- ✓ Does the author present information in an objective way? Are the language, tone, and style unbiased?
- ✓ Is the publisher well known? Who is the publication's main audience?
- ✓ What is the main purpose?
- ✓ Does the text contain informative diagrams or other visuals?

Online Resources

- ✓ *Who* is the author? Why should that author be trusted?
- ✓ *What* is the main focus of the page? Does it make sense?
- ✓ *Where* does the site originate? Is it put out by an organization, individual, or institution?
- ✓ *When* was the site published online? Is it updated regularly?
- ✓ *Why* does the page exist? Can you find a purpose statement or an "about us" page? Is there a particular bias?
- ✓ *Does* the information available compare favorably with at least two other reputable online sources?

¹ Chapter 6, p. 174