

Website Evaluation Tool 1.0

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Adapted from criteria provided by New Mexico State University Libraries

<http://lib.nmsu.edu/instruction/evalcrit.html>

Criteria	Authority	Accuracy	Objectivity	Currency	Coverage
Indicators of sites to trust:	Author and /or organization is known and supported by appropriate credentials.	Consistency of information that can be easily verified with other sources.	Information is not limited to one side of an issue and material presented as fact is supported.	Provides a date when the page or site was last updated. Language and topics indicate content is dynamic.	Information is presented with elaboration, detail, and examples.
Questions to ask:	Who is the author? How does he or she know? Does the author have an affiliation? Is the affiliation known and trusted?	Is the page free of errors? Is the information verified by an organization? Is the information on the page clear and consistent?	Does the page have an agenda? Fact or opinion? Is author or organization biased? Is something for sale?	When was the page updated? Does the page refer to events in the past as if they are recent? Does the page use current and timely examples?	What is this site really about? Is this site a novelty or fun site? Is this site really useful to me?
Indicators of sites not to trust:	Author and / or organization are either unknown or lack credibility.	Conflicting information and errors are detected.	Presents a single side of an issue and presents information as fact without support.	Content is old or there is no way to verify when the site may have last been updated.	Little in-depth or relevant information provided.