Website Evaluation Standards

Authority

- Who is the author?
- Is the author an expert in the field being researched? (Credentials, Affiliations)
- If an author is not cited, is an organization responsible for the information?
  - If so, is the organization well regarded, well known?
- Does the site provide contact information for the author?
- Is the site found in a reliable domain? (.edu, .gov, .org)

Accuracy

- Does the information presented seem specific or vague?
- Is the author’s expertise apparent in the content?
- Is there a list of references? Do the sources in the references list seem scholarly?
- Are there errors in punctuation or grammar?
- Does the writing suggest a bias?
- If disclaimers are present, what is the nature of their warning?

Currency

- When was the site created?
- When was the site last updated?
- If links are provided on the page, do they point to live, updated sites?