

Evaluating Websites for Research

		Website 1	Website 2	Website 3
Currency	When was it created?			
	Last updated?			
	Dead Links?			
Overall Opinion				

Authority	Trusted author?			
	"Contact Us" link?			
	References or sources available?			
Overall Opinion				

Purpose	Purpose of site			
	Is URL trustworthy?			
Overall Opinion				

Objectivity	Bias?			
	Associated with agenda?			
	Advertising?			
Overall Opinion				

Writing Style	Spelling or grammar errors?			
	Is site searchable?			
	Information presented well?			
Overall Opinion				

[Website 1](#)

[Website 2](#)

[Website 3](#)

Currency

- When was the page created?
- When was it last updated?
- Any dead/up to date links on page?

Authority

- Who wrote the website?
- Are they an expert? Trusted?
- Is there a "contact us" link?
- Are sources/references available?

Purpose

- Why was the site created?
 - Education
 - Informational
 - Persuasive
 - Entertainment
 - Commercial (lots of advertisements)
 - Hoax/satire
- Checking URL's for publisher/purpose

Objectivity

- Is the author/site biased?
- Is only one side of an argument presented?
- Are they known to be associated with an organization with an agenda?
- Does the site have a lot of advertising, indicating they are more interested in selling than providing quality information?

Writing Style

- Is the information clear and legible?
- Are there spelling or grammar errors?
- Is the site searchable?
- Is the information presented well?