Web Site Evaluation Checklist

Does the Web Site you are evaluating pass the **CRAAP** (**C**urrency, **R**elevance, **A**uthority, **A**ccuracy, **P**urpose)Test? Fill in the following information about your Web Site to examine if it should be used a resource for your research.

1. Title of Web Page:

2. URL:

3. Currency:

    a. When was the information published or posted?
    b. Is there a date given for when the site was last updated?
    c. Do the links work?

4. Relevance:

    a. Is the information meeting your research needs?
    b. Who is the intended audience?
    c. Is the information covered at the appropriate level or do you need to consult more sources?

5. Authority:
    a. Who is the author?
    b. What are the author's or organization's credentials?
    c. Is the author qualified to write on this topic?
    d. Is there contact information given for the author?

6. Accuracy:

    a. Where does the information come from and is it supported by evidence?
    b. Can the information be verified in other sources?
    c. Does the author use unbiased language that is free of emotion?
    d. Is there spelling or other typographical errors on the page?

7. Is the Purpose of the site clear? Is it designed to:

    a. Sell you something? Inform? Persuade?
    b. Are there any political, institutional, cultural, or personal biases?

If many of your answers to these questions are "not sure" or "no," you should be cautious about citing the Web Site it for your research

*The CRAAP acronym and descriptions are from Meriam Library at California State University Chico. CRAAP Test from the Meriam Library website.