

## **Evaluating Information – CRAAP Test**

**(Yes, that's the name of this useful tool we will be using to determine if the source you found is *reliable* and *valid*.)**

### **CURRENCY** – timeliness of information

- When was the information published?
- Is the information current and up-to-date?
- Has it been revised or updated? When? Should it have been updated?
- *If online*: are the links functional?

### **RELEVANCE** – uniqueness of information and importance to research needs

- Does the information relate to your topic?
- Who is the intended audience?
- Is the information at an appropriate level (i.e. too elementary or too advanced)?
- Can you find the same or better information in another source?

### **AUTHORITY** – source of information

- Who is the author/publisher/source/sponsor?
- What are the author's credentials? Any organizational affiliations?
- Is this author qualified to write on the topic?
- *If online*: examine the domain (.gov, .edu, or .com). Can you find the author's contact information?

### **ACCURACY** – reliability and correctness of information

- Is the information supported by evidence? Can you verify it from another source?
- Has the information been peer reviewed or refereed?
- Does the language seem biased? Is the tone free of emotion?
- Are there any typos, spelling, or grammatical errors?

### **PURPOSE** – presence of bias, reason the information exists

- What is the purpose of the information: to inform, teach, sell, entertain, etc.?
- Is the information fact, opinion, or propaganda?
- Is the point-of-view objective and impartial?
- Do the authors make their intentions or purpose clear?