

Website Evaluation Form

Use the rubric below to evaluate a website. **Download this form to your computer and open with your PDF reader.**

Student Name:

Website Address: www.

Criteria	Evaluation Techniques	0 points	1 point	2 points	3 points	Score
Currency When was the information written & last updated?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is there a copyright or "last updated" date on the top/bottom of page? Are there any broken links? Do you think it has current information for doing research? 	There is no indication of when the site was created or last updated. Numerous broken links.	The date given for the site's creation is over 3 years old. Some broken links.	The site has been created or updated within the last 3 years. No broken links.	The site has been created or updated within the last two years or less. No broken links.	
Relevance Does the website provide enough information for someone researching this topic?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does the website provide links to other reliable sources (experts in the field)? Would you be comfortable using this source for a research paper? 	There are no links to sources.	There is a general statement about the source of the info, but no links to sources. No works cited.	There are a few links to sources or a works cited list.	There are multiple links to sources or a works cited list AND they are from other reliable sources.	
Authority Was the information produced by a trustworthy, knowledgeable source?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is the domain (.edu, .com, .org, .net, .gov)? Is the author/source qualified to write on this topic? Is it sponsored by a trustworthy organization? 	This is a private individual's webpage, a .com (commercial website), or comes from an unknown source with no affiliation to a trustworthy organization.	The home page is a .com, .org, .net with no affiliation to a trustworthy organization.	The site is hosted by a known business, professional association, society, or museum.	The home page is a government department or agency, or the domain is a .edu.	
Accuracy Is it reliable, truthful, or correct?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are there spelling or grammar errors? Where does the information come from (the organization, experts in the field)? 	There are multiple spelling/ grammatical errors; not backed by reliable research or experts in the field.	The site provides information but does not provide source.	The site provides information from some reliable research or experts.	The site has spelling or grammatical errors. All info is from experts in the field/ trustworthy sources.	
Purpose What is the reason the information exists?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Who is the intended audience? Look in the "About" tab or locate the "Mission Statement". Why was it written? Does the information seem fairly represented or is it biased/one-sided? 	The purpose is personal and/or to sell something.	The purpose is to persuade or give a biased view. Focus is to promote something.	The site offers some factual information. Some bias and/or advertising.	The purpose is to support scholarly research with factual information. Balanced without any bias.	

Tally your points and enter the score here:

12 to 15 points: Excellent source for research.

8 to 11 points: Good source for research or academic project. Before using, confirm with other sources.

4 to 7 points: Useful for ideas or casual projects. Do not cite as a reference for a research paper or project.

0 to 3 points: Highly questionable source.