# Evaluating/Assessing Websites

## Who [authority/expertise]

- Who authored the site? You may have to dig around for this…
- Are they experts in the field/in the subject addressed on the site? How do you know?
- What are their credentials? Who are they affiliated with?
- Is there a site sponsor?  Who is it?  Is it a corporate group?
- Does their domain name (com/commercial; org/organizational; edu/educational; gov/governmental; net/network) tell you something about them?

## What [bias/objectivity]

- What point of view is expressed?  Is this information more opinion based or more fact based?
- Do you see any biases? Are the viewpoints of others present, especially ones that contradict that/those of the author(s)?

## When [currency]

- Is the publication date on the site? A copyright notice? How current is it?
- Does the site indicate when it was last updated? Note: Different webpages within the site may have different dates….

## Where [structure/meaning/appropriate evidence]

- Does this information fit in with other information you have gathered? Where does it fit?  Does it support or contract that earlier information?
- Are links or references to related information provided? Are these links functional and do they lead to current or updated information?
- Does the site give you other information about where to go next?

## Why [intentionality/authority]

- Why are they presenting this information publicly? Do they make their intentions clear?
- Why would you use this information? Does their opinion have standing in the community?

## How

- Can you easily verify the accuracy of this information?
- How can you use this information for your needs? Where in your paper/project?
- How can you contact others for further information?

### Need More Help?  Ask us!

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We're here and want to help.  *Whoosh!*

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