Internet Evaluation

Internet information is not regulated for quality or accuracy. It is up to the individual internet user to evaluate the information found there. Be very critical of any information you find on the Web and carefully examine each site.

When using the Internet for research, you might want to keep these things in mind.

Author:
What do I know about the Author?

- Is the author/creator named on the page?
- Are credentials, like experience, education, or occupation listed?
- Is the author qualified to write on the given topic? Why?
- What does the domain name.URL reveal?
- Is the page sponsored by an organization?

Purpose:
What is the purpose of the page?

- Who is the intended audience of the page?
- What does the site do?
- Is it intended to educate, explain, persuade, or sell a product?

Objectivity:
How can I judge the objectivity?

- Is the information fact, opinion, or propaganda? How can you tell?
- Is the author objective or biased?
- Does the author have an affiliation with an organization? Does it affect the objectivity?
- Is the page sanctioned by an organization?

Accuracy
How can I determine the accuracy?

- Are sources for the information verifiable?
- Who is responsible for the information's accuracy?
- Can the information be verified elsewhere?
- Is it free of typos and grammatical errors?

Currency
Is the information current?

- Is the web sire kept up-to-date?
- Are you able to identify when the site was last updated?

Links
Are the links helpful?

- Is the web sire kept up-to-date?
- Are you able to identify when the site was last updated?