Evaluating Sources with the CRAP Test*

Currency
• How recent is the information?
• Is the information updated?
• Is it current enough for your topic?

Reliability
• What kind of information is included in the source?
• Does the author provide sources or references for data and quotations?
• Is the content primarily opinion? Is it balanced?

Authority
• Who is the author? What are the author’s credentials?
• Who is the publisher? Is there a sponsor? Do they have interest in this information?
• Is the author, publisher, or sponsor reputable?

Purpose/ Point of View
• Is this fact or opinion?
• Is it biased? Is the author trying to sell you something?
• Are there advertisements?

*Adapted from LOEX 2008 wiki:
http://loex2008collaborate.pbworks.com/w/page/18686701/The%20CRAP%20Test