Evaluating web sites

Authority
- Does the **author cite their sources?**
- Is the information reliable?
- What are the author’s credentials? Can you find them? Is the author an expert?
- Is there a business, organization, or sponsor of the site? Are they reputable? Would they be biased?
- Does the author or sponsor include contact information?

Domain Names
- Domain Names can often provide clues about the source of a web site
  - .gov (U.S. government)
  - .mil (military)
  - .edu (accredited higher educational institution)
  - .com (commercial, for profit)
  - .org (non-commercial, not-for-profit)
  - .net (computer network)
  - .int (international organization)
  - .jp, .ru, .ca, .au, etc. are country identifiers

Coverage
- How in-depth is the material?
- Is the information accurate? Is it unique or useful or can it be found somewhere else?
- Is the purpose clearly stated and does it fulfill that purpose?
- Is the information factual or opinion?
- Does it contain original information or is it mainly links?

Currency
- How often is it updated?
- Does it have a date on it?
- Do the links work?

Objectivity
- Does the information show a minimum of bias?
- Is the page designed to sway opinion?
- Is there any advertising on the page?