

## EVALUATION OF INFORMATION SOURCES: CRITICAL QUESTIONS

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>AUTHORITY</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What is the source of the information? Is this a scholarly, peer-reviewed publication?</li><li>• What is the method of access? Did you access through a controlled gateway such as a database?</li><li>• Is the author an expert or authority? What is his/her affiliation? What else has he/she written? Is he or she often referenced or cited by other authors?</li></ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ACCURACY &amp; CURRENCY</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Is the date written evident? Are the dates of specific datasets within the source provided? Assess the writing for time-sensitive information and its relevance to your purpose.</li><li>• Are the sources for any factual information and data clearly listed so they can be verified in another source?</li></ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>OBJECTIVITY</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Is the author or sponsor advocating particular viewpoints or causes? Are any biases or assumptions noted?</li><li>• Does the publication appear to be marketing services or products?</li></ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>RELEVANCE &amp; AUDIENCE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Does this source give some relevant data, information or useful background for your research question?</li><li>• Who is the intended audience? Is the information written for consumers, employees, investors, students, researchers, specialists, or experts? Is the level of content appropriate for your research?</li></ul>

