

ACCORD: Information Evaluation

Criteria	Evaluating Sources Based on Information Need and Context	Yes	No	Not Sure
A genda: <i>Why was this information made available?</i>	1. For websites, is advertising included? 2. Is the purpose of the information stated and clear? 3. Are there personal, political, religious, or cultural biases presented?			
C redentials <i>Is/are the author/s of this source credible?</i>	1. Are the authors' credentials and affiliations listed? 2. Is contact information provided for each author or organization? 3. For websites, what is the domain name in the URL? Is it a .com, .edu, .gov, .net, .mil, or .org? 4. Is it a personal website such as rachaelray.com 5. Does an organization appear to sponsor the information?			
C itations <i>Does/do the author/s cite their sources?</i>	1. Does the author cite works of others? 2. Are the sources listed in the bibliography or included links related to the focus of the research/purpose of the site? 3. For online sources, are links still current, or have they become dead ends? Note: The quality of Web pages linked to an original Web page may vary; therefore, you should always evaluate each Web site independently.			
O versight <i>Has the information been reviewed or refereed?</i>	1. Can you locate the publisher information of the journal, book, website, etc. 2. Is the journal in which you found an article or the book you located published or sponsored by a professional scholarly society, professional association, or college/university academic department or scholarly press? Note: To verify, check the journal or publisher's website.			
R elevance <i>Does the source fit your information needs?</i>	1. Does the information relate to or answer your research questions? 2. Is the information too technical or too basic for your purpose? 3. Is the information presented appropriate in terms of depth and breadth?			
D ate <i>When was the information published/updated?</i>	1. Have newer articles or books been published on your topic? 2. Are links or references to other sources up to date? Do the links work? 3. Is your topic in a subject that changes rapidly, or are older sources also appropriate?			