CRAAP is an acronym for Currency, Relevance, Authority, Accuracy, and Purpose. Use the CRAAP Test to evaluate your sources. Start your research in a Librarian-curated research guide in your subject area @ https://library.claremont.edu/research-guides

CURRENCY: The timeliness of the information

- When was the information published or posted?
- Has the information been revised or updated?
- Does your topic require current information, or can older information work?
- Are the links functional on the site?

RELEVANCE: The importance of the information for your needs

- Does the information meet your needs?
- Who is the intended audience?
- Is the information at an appropriate level (i.e. not too elementary or advanced)?

AUTHORITY: The source of the information

- Who is the author / publisher / source / sponsor?
  - Knowing who or what funds the source will tell you more about any existing bias.
- What are the author’s credentials or organizational affiliations?
  - Are they a scholar or a celebrity figure?
- Is the author qualified to write the topic?
  - Do they have a degree or expertise in the area in which they are writing?
- What does the URL reveal about the author or source? (i.e. .com, .edu, .gov, .org, .net)
  - Domains ending in .edu or .gov are considered the most reliable. However, be aware that any domain may contain items with bias.
  - PLEASE NOTE: It is OK to use sources with bias present as long as you address it and make your reader aware of it in your research.

ACCURACY: The reliability, truthfulness and correctness of the content

- What does the information come from?
- Is the information supported by evidence? Are there citations or references?
- Has the information been reviewed?
- Are there spelling, grammar or typographical errors?

PURPOSE: The reason the information exists.

- Is it to inform, teach, sell, entertain or persuade?
- Do the authors / sponsors make their intentions or purpose clear?
- Is the information fact, opinion or propaganda?
- Are there any political, ideological, cultural, religious, institutional or personal biases?

*Adapted from "Evaluating Information - Applying the CRAAP Test" by Meriam Library, CSU*