Evaluating Information

1. What do you plan on using the information for?
2. What type of information are you looking for?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General Interest</th>
<th>Both General Interest &amp; Scholarly</th>
<th>Scholarly</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Current Events)</td>
<td></td>
<td>(College classes)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Authority**
- Who is the author?
- What are the author’s credentials?

**Audience**
- Who was it written for?
- Why was it written?

**Accuracy**
- Is there a bibliography?
- Are there spelling, grammatical, or technical errors?

**Currency**
- When was the information published?
- Is the information still valid?

**Objectivity**
- Is there bias?
- Who is the publisher?
- What organization is affiliated with the information?

Think Critically!
Combine your assessment of the source in all the areas to determine if it is suitable to rely on the information.

Think Critically!
Be aware of the areas your information is lacking in when you use it.

Charlene Thompson, Librarian
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