

Evaluating Course Materials Checklist

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The checklist below is for evaluating course materials and can provide a guide for considering whether and how to use them. Rate your resource against each criteria listed below on a scale of 1 to 10. Add notes to keep track of what you do like or might want to change about the resource you are evaluating, in relation to specific criteria.

Appropriateness and Fit

- The content aligns fairly well with my course learning objectives.
- The content is presented at a reading level appropriate for my students.
- The content is presented at a level of detail appropriate for use in my course.

Clarity, Comprehensibility, and Readability

- The content, including any instructions and exercises, is clear and comprehensible to students at the level I teach.
- The content is consistent with its language and formatting (e.g. key terms are bold).
- The content is well-organized in terms of sequencing and flow, or it can be reorganized to meet the flow of my course.



Accessibility & Ethics

- The content is accessible to students with disabilities through the compatibility of third-party reading applications. Talk to your Accessibility Services or Dean of Students office to learn about the screen-reading software available on your campus.
- The content's interface is navigable for students with only a keyboard.
- (For online content) Each image present has alt text that can be read. Videos have accurate closed-captioning.
- Students are able to access the materials in a quick, non-restrictive manner. Check for login screens, paywalls, pop-ups, or other items which might make access to the content difficult. This might be as simple as a screen that asks students to acknowledge Cookies will be monitored by a website, as is often the case with news sites.
- Students are able to access material without having their data logged by content providers. Check the Terms of Service or Privacy Policy (usually on the footer of the content's website) for specifics.

Content and Technical Accuracy

- The content is accurate based on my expertise.
- There are few to no factual, grammatical, or typographical errors present in the material. The errors that are visible could be easily or quickly corrected.
- The content's interface is straightforward and easy to navigate.



Adaptability and Modularity

- The resource is available in a file format which allows for adaptations, modifications, rearrangements, and updates.
- The resource can be easily divided into modules, or sections, which can be used or rearranged out of their original order.
- The content is available under an open license which allows for modifications (e.g., it is an OER).

