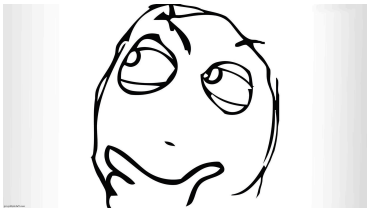
Credibility Checklist

Name: _____

Website: _____

Credibility

- Is there an author listed?



- Does the author cite sources or a bibliography?
- Does the author cite formal credentials or experience? (Dr., PhD, etc.)
- Can you contact the author?
- Do you know who sponsored the page? Are they reputable?
- Is the site free of spelling/grammatical errors?
- Is the site easily readable and free of clutter?

Bias

- Does the site present information in an objective (non-judgemental) manner?
- Are all sides of an issue represented, or is this site biased?

Audience

- Is the level of the website appropriate to your needs?
- Does the content cover several topics minimally or one topic in detail?

Accuracy

- Does the site provide documentation for the information provided?
- Does the site provide information that contradicts other sources?
- Does the site include an explanation of its research methods?

Currency

- Was the information recently published?
- Has it been updated or revised?

Relevance

- Does the information add to or support your research?
- Does the site provide additional links that are also useful?
- Does the page provide more or less information than you need?

____ Total Checkmarks

If fewer than half of your boxes are checked, you should consider finding a new source.

Adapted from: http://www.lib.unc.edu/instruct/evaluate/web/checklist.html