

Five Criteria for Evaluating Web Pages

Web Page _____

1. Accuracy of Web Documents

Reviewers Comments

Who wrote the page and can you contact him or her?

What is the purpose of the document and why was it produced?

Is this person qualified to write this document?

2. Authority of Web Documents

Who published the document and is it separate from the "Webmaster?"

Check the domain of the document, what institution publishes this document?

Does the publisher list his or her qualifications?

What credentials are listed for the authors?

3. Objectivity of Web Documents

What goals/objectives does this page meet?

How detailed is the information?

What opinions (if any) are expressed by the author?

4. Currency of Web Documents

When was it produced?

When was it updated?

How up-to-date are the links (if any)?

How many dead links are on the page?

Are the links current or updated regularly?

Is the information on the page outdated?

5. Coverage of the Web Documents

Are the links (if any) evaluated and do they complement the documents' theme?

Is it all images or a balance of text and images?

Is the information presented cited correctly?

Putting it all together

- **Accuracy.** If your page lists the author and institution that published the page and provides a way of contacting him/her and . . .
- **Authority.** If your page lists the author credentials and its domain is preferred (.edu, .gov, .org, or .net), and, . . .
- **Objectivity.** If your page provides accurate information with limited advertising and it is objective in presenting the information, and . . .
- **Currency.** If your page is current and updated regularly (as stated on the page) and the links (if any) are also up-to-date, and . . .
- **Coverage.** If you can view the information properly--not limited to fees, browser technology, or software requirement, then . . .

Is this a Web Page that is valuable to your research? _____