CRAP Worksheet

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Evaluating Information for Academic Research

Evaluating information is especially important when completing academic research assignments in college because you will be evaluated on the quality of sources you use. Use this handout to help you evaluate sources based on the C.R.A.P. method: currency, reliability, authority, and purpose.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Currency				
The information is current enough for my topic or assignment.				
The information includes the date when it was published or last updated.				
Reliability				
The author provides credible references or sources for data or quotations.				
The information has gone through a strict editing or review process, such as peer review.				
The information shared is consistent with information found in other credible sources on the same topic.				
The information is free of grammatical or typographical errors.				
Authority				
The author of the source is clearly identifiable.				
The author has advanced credentials and a high level of expertise in the subject covered.				
The author is affiliated with a reputable organization, such as a university.				
The publisher or sponsor has an excellent reputation and is trustworthy.				
Purpose				
The purpose of this source is meant to teach and inform, rather than entertain, persuade or sell.				
The intended audience is students, professionals, scholars, or researchers.				
The information is free of bias or opinion.				

Evaluate the Source
Overall, is this resource appropriate for use in your assignment according to the C.R.A.P. criteria? Explain your reasoning, using at least four of the listed C.R.A.P. criteria above.