

EVALUATION TIP SHEET

Relevance

What is this source about?

- Evaluate the title, abstract, subject headings, table of contents, keywords and other descriptors in order to determine relevance to your research question.



Authority

Who created this?

- Locate and verify author credentials and institution affiliation(s).
- Look for affiliated institutions, parent organizations, and funding sources.



Purpose

Why was this written and how does that affect the information?

- Identify source intention (to inform, persuade, entertain, instruct, sell, etc.) Why something was written helps to identify potential biases.
- Examine evidence of author bias, such as omitting important and relevant information.
- Analyze if source is written for scholars, the public, professionals, or students?



Currency

When was this source created?

- Identify the date of the publication (this may affect the timeliness of the content).
- Identify when the research was conducted.

