CRAAP Test Quick Reference Guide

Currency: Why is the information current or out-of-date for your topic?
- When was the information published or last updated?
- To what extent does your topic require the most up-to-date information?

Relevancy: Why is the information relevant to your research topic?
- How much of the information relates to your topic or answers your question?
- Is the information targeted or appropriate for your intended audience? Or, is it too simplified?
- Does the information meet your research (or, if applicable, your assignment) requirements?

Authority: How is the the author or source authoritative?
- To what degree do the author's credentials (degrees, experience, affiliations) indicate expertise or qualifications to write on this topic?
- To what degree is the publisher, organization or sponsor reputable, reliable, and trustworthy?

Accuracy: How accurate is the information provided?
- Are there facts or data you know to be false?
- To what extent is the information supported by external evidence? (references, links to other sources, research, data)
- Was the information reviewed by editors or subject experts before it was published?

Purpose: How does the information related to purpose affect your confidence in using this source?
- What is the author's primary purpose in writing (to inform, to persuade, to sell or to entertain)? How does purpose affect your use of the information?
- Does the author omit obvious facts or data that might disprove a claim?
- Is there an obvious bias or prejudice that calls into question the author's use of evidence?

Created by Ruth Baker, Chris Caplinger, Stacy Kluge and Alicia Spence from Georgia Southern University. Adapted from Applying the CRAAP Test by California State University - Chico and Tutorial for Information Power by University of Wyoming.