

How to evaluate information

LIB 1201

Thursday, April 11, 2013

Critically analyzing information sources

- Initial appraisal
 - Author
 - Date, edition/revision
 - Publisher
 - Title
- Content analysis
 - Audience
 - Objective reasoning
 - Coverage
 - Style
 - Evaluative reviews

Evaluating Web Pages (site isn't working)

- The URL
 - ~ indicating a personal page
 - Domain, country code
 - Publisher or sponsoring entity – familiar?
- Scan the page for answers
 - About
 - Date
 - Author's credentials
 - Links, footnotes, other documentation

Evaluating Web Pages, continued

- Check Wayback Machine at archive.org
- Google the author
- Truncate the URL back to the domain:

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/publications/obsessive-compulsive-disorder-when-unwanted-thoughts-take-over/what-are-the-signs-and-symptoms-of-ocd.shtml>

Quick Guide to Evaluating Websites

- Author
- Sponsor/publisher
- Purpose
- Accuracy
- Timeliness
- Suitability
- Uniqueness

crowdsourcing evaluation criteria

- Each group creates a 3 point checklist for what to use when evaluating ANY kind of information
- Use sync.in so we can work collaboratively
- Determine best 3 by consensus and finalize
- We will use one checklist of the best criteria
- Checklists for the game on Tuesday

Your criteria for evaluation!

- Reliability
- Accuracy (is information correct?)
- Relevance

Questions to ask:

- What is the purpose of the site or page?
 - Inform, persuade, sell, etc.
- Is it irony, satire, parody?
- Is it as credible as print sources on the same topic?

Reading and homework for Tuesday, April 16

- Your research paper outline is due as an email attachment to me by the start of class
- Blogging – comment on a classmate’s blog post (either 1 100-word comment or 2 comments totaling 100 words)
- Please read Fister, “[The devil in the details: Media representation of ritual abuse and evaluation of sources](#)” and Grimmelman, “[The Google Dilemma.](#)”
- Time permitting, we’ll play a game

CITY TECH'S 32ND ANNUAL **LITERARY ARTS FESTIVAL**

<p>STUDENT PERFORMANCES & READINGS</p>	<p>SPECIAL GUESTS</p>  <p>Katie Dellamaggiore Director of Brooklyn Castle</p>  <p>Pobo Efekoro Star of Brooklyn Castle</p>
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Thursday, 18 April 2013, 5:30pm
Midway Auditorium (240 Jay Street)
Free & Open to All

32ND ANNUAL LITERARY ARTS FESTIVAL at City Tech

Thursday, April 18

Midway Auditorium

Free and open to all

BROOKLYN ZINE FEST

Sunday, April 21

Public Assembly

70 N. 6th Street

Brooklyn

Free & open to all!

