

# Teacher's Web Site Evaluation Checklist

## Authority

- ✓ Is the information reliable?
- ✓ What are the author's credentials? Can you find them? Is the author an expert?
- ✓ Is there a business, organization or sponsor of the site? Are they reputable? Would they be biased?
- ✓ Does the author or sponsor include contact information?
- ✓ If there is no indication of sponsorship, domain names provide clues about the producer of the information source.  
Recognize domain types:

.gov (U.S. government)  
.mil (US military)  
.edu (accredited higher educational institution)  
.com (commercial, for profit),  
.org (non- commercial, not-for-profit)  
.net (computer network)  
.int (international organization)  
.jp, .ru, .ca, .au, etc. are country identifiers

## Scope

- ✓ **Coverage**
  - How in-depth is the material?
  - Is the information accurate? Is it unique or useful or can it be found somewhere else?
  - Is the purpose clearly stated and does it fulfill that purpose?
  - Is the information factual or opinion?
  - Does it contain original information or is it mainly links?
- ✓ **Currency**
  - How often is it updated?
  - Does it have a date on it?
  - Do the links work or are some of them expired or moved?
- ✓ **Objectivity**
  - Does the information show a minimum of bias?
  - Is the page designed to sway opinion?
  - Is there any advertising on the page?

## Navigation, Format, Accessibility

- ✓ Does the site take a long time to load?
- ✓ Is the site organized well? Is the arrangement of the links uncluttered?
- ✓ Are there software or browser requirements that limit access to critical information?
- ✓ Is the site easily browsable or searchable?
- ✓ Is the site available on a consistent basis?
- ✓ Is response time fast?
- ✓ Does the site have a text-based alternative?