

Activity: Use Evaluation to Trim Your Working Bibliography

Source:

Notes:

Evaluation:

Weak						Strong						Notes:
NA	1	2	3	4	5							
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>							

<div> <div>Weak</div> <div>Strong</div> </div>						Notes:
NA	1	2	3	4	5	

3. Who is the author?

With rare exceptions (such as when you are illustrating divergent opinions), any author you cite should be reliable and trustworthy. To learn about an author, try to find out about (1) the author's knowledge and expertise, (2) the author's affiliations, and (3) the author's biases. If a source does not identify its author, try to identify the publisher or sponsoring organization.

[illegible]

4. Who is the publisher? A publisher is a person or group who prints or produces the documents written by authors. As you evaluate a source, consider (1) the publisher's purpose for producing the source, (2) the publisher's intended audience, and (3) the extent to which a publisher's biases shape the ideas and information in the source.

Weak						Strong						Notes:
NA	1	2	3	4	5							
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>							

5. Is the source timely? The importance of timeliness—when a source was published—varies according to your purpose and topic. If you are not working on a project that studies a particular time period, use the most recent sources you can find. Use older materials only when their value has held up over time or if your research focuses on a particular period earlier than the recent past.

Weak						Strong						Notes:
NA	1	2	3	4	5							
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>							

6. Is the source comprehensive? Comprehensiveness refers to the extent to which a source provides a complete and balanced view of a topic or issue. Comprehensiveness can be a useful evaluation criterion when you need to provide a complete and balanced treatment of your topic, or if you are just beginning to explore a topic and need to learn as much as you can about it.

<div> <div>Weak</div> <div>Strong</div> </div>						Notes:
NA	1	2	3	4	5	