Worksheet for the Evaluation of Web Sites

Part I. Gathering Information about the Web Site.

A) What is the URL of the Web site? (The URL is the Web site address and follows http://)
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________

B) What is the Name/Title of the Web site?
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________

C) What date did you visit the Web site?
_____________________________________________________________________________________

Part II. Questions:

Authorship

1. Who created this Web site? Has the author provided contact information?
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________

2. Can you identify the qualifications, credentials of the author of this Web site?
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________

3. Is the author associated with an institution, company, organization or agency? What is the domain (e.g., .com, .net, .edu, .org?)
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________

4. Is there an “About” link to more information about the author and any affiliations?
_____________________________________________________________________________________

Accuracy

5. Can you locate the information provided through this Web site elsewhere? If so, where? How current is the information on this Web site in comparison to the other sites?
6. Is the information easy to navigate, readable and written with correct grammar and spelling?

7. Does the Web site provide enough/too much/too little information on your subject?

8. Is the information that is provided the original work of the author? Does the author cite other sources?

Relevancy

9. What information from this Web site can you use for your research?

10. Is a Mission Statement available on the Web site? Can you determine the primary purpose of the Web site? Is it meant to be educational, entertaining, etc.?

11. Does the Web site provide links to other sites that provide similar information?

Audience and Objectivity

12. Who is this Web site primarily intended for? (e.g., children, adults, researchers?)

13. Is there a clear bias to the Web site. How does this perspective relate to your research?

Currency

14. Is there a date indicating when the Web site was originally posted? Are dates listed for revisions?

15. Are there any "dead" links to Web sites that have been either discontinued or moved?

16. List any other observations you found to be important and explain why.