When you search for information, you're going to find lots of it... but is it good information? You will have to determine that for yourself, and the CRAAP Test can help. The CRAAP Test is a list of questions to help you evaluate the information you find. Different criteria will be more or less important depending on your situation or need. None of your answers should just be "yes" or "no". You need to explain.

Evaluation Criteria

**Currency:** The timeliness of the information.
- When was the information published or posted?
- Has the information been revised or updated? If so, what is the update date?
- Does your topic require current information, or will older sources work as well?
- Are the links functional?

**Relevance:** The importance of the information for your needs.
- How does the information relate to your topic or answer your question?
- Who is the intended audience?
- Is the information at an appropriate level (i.e. not too elementary or advanced for your needs)?
- Would you be comfortable citing this source in your research paper? If so, explain why.

**Authority:** The source of the information.
- Who is the author/publisher/source/sponsor?
- What are the author's credentials or organizational affiliations?
- What evidence did you find that supports the author's qualifications?
- Is there contact information, such as a publisher or email address? If no information is provided, how could you find additional information?
- What is the domain of your URL and what information does that reveal?

**Accuracy:** The reliability, truthfulness and correctness of the content.
- What evidence is provided to support the information?
- Can you verify any of the information in another source or from personal knowledge? Explain.
- Does the language or tone seem unbiased and free of emotion? Explain.
- Are there spelling, grammar or typographical errors? Explain.

**Purpose:** The reason the information exists.
- What is the purpose of the information? Is it to inform, teach, sell, entertain or persuade?
- How do the authors/sponsors make their intentions or purpose clear?
- Is the information fact, opinion or propaganda? Explain.
- Does the point of view appear objective and impartial? Explain.
- Are there political, ideological, cultural, religious, institutional or personal biases? Explain.