The **CRAAP Test** is a useful guide to evaluating resources. **CRAAP** is an acronym for the general criteria that can be used to evaluate information you find. Use the CRAAP Test to decide if information is appropriate for your research!

| **CURRENCY** | • When was the information published or last updated?  
• Have newer articles been published on your topic?  
• Are links or references to other sources up to date?  
• Is your topic in an area that changed rapidly, like technology or popular culture? |
| **RELEVANCE** | • Does the information answer your research question?  
• Does the information meet the stated requirements of the assignment?  
• Is the information too technical or too simplified for you to use?  
• Does the source add something new to your knowledge of the topic? |
| **AUTHORITY** | • What are the author’s credentials?  
• Is the author affiliated with an educational institution or prominent organization?  
• Can you find information about the author from reference sources or the Internet?  
• Do other books or authors cite the author? |
| **ACCURACY** | • Are there statements you know to be false?  
• Are there errors in spelling, punctuation, or grammar?  
• Was the information reviewed by editors or subject experts before it was published?  
• What citations or references support the author’s claims?  
• What do other people have to say about the topic? |
| **PURPOSE** | • Is the author’s purpose to sell, persuade, entertain, or inform?  
• Is there an obvious bias or prejudice?  
• Are alternative points of view presented?  
• Does the author omit important facts or data that might disprove the claim?  
• Does the author use strong or emotional language? |