## C.A.R.S. Checklist for Evaluating Sources

**Resource Title and Author:**

### Credibility
- How do you know the information and author are authentic and reliable?
  - What is the publishing or sponsoring organization?
  - What are the author's credentials?
  - Is the author/producer an authority on the subject?
  - What is the author/producer's contact information?

### Accuracy
- How do you know the information is up-to-date, factual, detailed, and comprehensive?
  - What is the date of publication or copyright?
  - Does the information on the site agree with other sources?
  - Does the information contradict itself?
  - How is the information relevant to your research needs?

### Reasonableness
- How do you know the information is fair, objective, moderate, and consistent?
  - What bias does the author, host or sponsor appear to have?
  - In what way is the information provided balanced?

### Support
- How reliable, accurate, reasonable and well-supported are the sources for your resource?
  - How many sources support the resource? Can you find them easily?
  - Pick one source and evaluate it with the CARS list. How credible, accurate, reasonable, and well-supported does it seem?

### Additional factors to consider:

**Design & Style**
- Is the page layout visually pleasing?
- How do the images enhance the message?
- Is the language readable and understandable?
- Are the grammar and spelling correct?

**Electronic Sources**
- What is the purpose of the site? Is it clearly stated?
- When was the site last updated?
- Who is the intended audience of the site?
- Are links provided to more information? What percentage of the links still work?