How do you know if the information you find is good information? You have to decide for yourself, and the CRAAP test can help. CRAAP is a list of questions to help you evaluate articles, websites, and other information.

The CRAAPy Criteria

**Currency**: The timeliness of the information
- When was the information published or posted?
- Has the information been revised or updated?
- Does your topic require current information?

**Relevance**: The importance of the information for your needs
- Does the information relate to your topic or answer your question?
  - Is it too broad? Too narrow?
- 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?

**Authority**: The source of information
- Where did you find the information?
  - GALILEO?
- Who is the author/publisher/source?
- What are the author's credentials or organizational affiliations?
- Is there contact information, such as publisher or email address?
- Does the URL reveal anything about the author or source?
  - .com, .edu, .gov, etc.

**Accuracy**: The reliability, truthfulness, and correctness of the content
- Where does the information come from?
- Is the information supported by evidence?
- Is there a References list at the end?
- Has the information been reviewed or refereed?
  - Is it in a peer-reviewed journal?
- Can you verify any of the information in another source or from personal knowledge?
- Does the language or tone seem unbiased and free of emotion?
- Are there spelling, grammar or typographical errors?

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