

# Looking at the Internet critically



***“Digital literacy is the ability of the user to find information, determine its usefulness and accuracy and utilise it effectively.”***

***Schrock K.***

# WEBSITE EVALUATION CRITERIA



- **AUTHORITY:** Who is the author? Is the name given? Is there any information on their job or qualifications?
- **BIAS:** Is there any information about the organisation behind the page? What is their mission? What is their reason for providing the information?



**CITATIONS:** Are there any references to the sources of the information?

**DATES:** Is the information up to date?

**MISINFORMATION:** The use of opinion verbs and appeals to emotion may indicate bias.

## QUESTIONS TO ASK

**WHO** wrote the pages (are they an expert in the field)?

**WHAT** does the author say about the purpose of the site?

**WHEN** was the site created, updated, last worked on?

**WHERE** does the information come from?

**WHY** is it useful?

Source: <http://kathyshcrock.net/abceval/>

## **APPLYING INFO SEARCH STRATEGIES**

- **Make use of search engines (e.g. Google, Yahoo, Altavista)**
- **Identify key terms (in English)**
- **Learn some basic rules for narrowing your search profile**