

# CRAAP TEST

When evaluating sources you must ensure that they meet the following criteria before using them in your scholarly work.

- **Currency**—is the article current? Currency is usually thought of as in the past five years, however, some seminal pieces of research or books written 15 or more years ago may still be current. Standards and regulations change more slowly, so these topics can have a longer period of currency. Something in fields like biomed or artificial intelligence etc., is probably measured in much shorter time periods.
- **Relevance**—is the content of the source relevant to the question or subject being considered?
- **Authority**—does the author (or authors) have authority in the subject? Although Steve Jobs may have been an amazing designer, he probably had little authority when it came to the best way to raise puppies.
- **Accuracy**—how accurate do you judge the information to be? Information supplied by most government sites is usually more accurate than information supplied by a marketing site. Information provided by a standards organization such as Underwriters Laboratory is usually more accurate than information provided by a blogger.
- **Purpose**—For what purpose was the information produced? If the article or information was produced to persuade readers or to convey information, the content may be different. If the purpose is aligned with the person using the information, it is probably more reliable or useful.