

Terman Web Site Evaluation Form

Circle all that apply, then add the points to determine a score. Only web sites that score 12 or above should be used as an information source.

Author authority score _____

- 1 Author is identified
- 1 Author's background and/or expertise is described
- 1 Author's background and expertise is related to the subject s/he writes about on the web site
- 1 Information about the author is easy to find with a link on the first page
- 0 Cannot identify author.

Comments _____

Publishing Organization score _____

- 1 Publishing organization is identified
- 1 Publishing organization's purpose is described
- 1 Publishing organization has credibility and/or authority
- 1 Publishing organization's purpose or authority is related to the web site
- 1 Information about the publishing organization is easy to find with a link on the first page
- 0 Information about the publishing organization is hard to find and/or not credible

Comments _____

Objectivity of Site score _____

- 1 The site has educational, factual information about the topic I am researching
- 1 The site has no advertising
- 1 The site presents the information objectively, without bias
- 0 The site is commercial or is a mask for advertising
- 0 The site presents biased information and opinions of the author or publishing organization
- 0 Cannot determine if the site is biased or opinionated

Comments: _____

Coverage of the Web site score _____

- 1 The site has information that meets my research needs
- 1 The site's information is detailed and appears thorough
- 1 The site's information is well written (grammatically correct and descriptive)
- 1 The site has other quality links on it.
- 1 The site lists sources that show where the author got his/her information

Comments _____

Currency of Web Site score _____

- 1 The site was produced or updated within the past 5 years
- 1 The site was produced or updated within the past year
- 0 No date could be found on the web site

Final Score _____ (add up all scores)

Excellent site 16-20 Good site 12-15 Questionable quality 10-11 Poor quality 1-9

If the web site is good or excellent record the bibliographic information below:

Author (if known) _____

Page Title or Article Title _____

Publishing organization (if known) _____

Date published or revised _____

Web Site Address (URL) _____