

## A Rubric for Evaluating Web Sites

Name of site: Wikipedia

URL of site: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Velociraptor>

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Criterion</b> (Trait being evaluated)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Excellent</b> because . . .</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Acceptable</b> because . . .</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Unacceptable</b> because . . .</p>
<p><b>Authority</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are the author's qualifications to write about the topic?</li> <li>• Are the author's name and address on the site?</li> <li>• Check the domain name of the site (the part that ends with .com or .edu). Is the site affiliated with a reputable organization?</li> </ul>		<p>The content seems well written, there are no advertisements, and it ends in .org. But there is no information on the author.</p>	
<p><b>Content</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does the author present original material, or has everything come from another source?</li> <li>• Does the author present material in depth?</li> <li>• Does the author try to be objective? If the author is biased, does he/she make the position clear?</li> <li>• Does the site seem to be misleading?</li> <li>• Can you doublecheck the information for accuracy?</li> <li>• Has the information been updated recently?</li> <li>• Are links to other sources of information available?</li> </ul>	<p>The material is clear, it has working links, it was updated recently, the information is not misleading, and there is a list of other sources that this website got some information from.</p>		
<p><b>Purpose</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is the site trying to sell you something? Does that</li> </ul>	<p>The website is not trying to sell anything and it discusses both sides of the argument.</p>		

<p>affect the information being presented?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is the site a personal homepage or a professional source of information?</li> <li>• If the site is about a controversial issue, does it present one side or both sides of the argument?</li> </ul>			
<p><b>Design</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How much advertising does the site contain?</li> <li>• Has the author paid attention to spelling and other basic writing skills?</li> <li>• Are the links current?</li> <li>• Is it reasonably easy to find your way around the site?</li> </ul>	<p>The website has good, working links, the links are current, the punctuation is accurate, and there is no advertising on the website.</p>		