**ACCORD Model Transcript**

Welcome to Marymount library’s tutorial on evaluating resources using the ACCORD model. This tutorial will help you improve your ability to evaluate sources for your research project.

Information is everywhere and it can be hard to distinguish what is good information and what is bad information. The internet has so much information that it is vital to your success as a student and professionally to evaluate the information you intend to use. To help you evaluate sources we are providing you with the ACCORD model. When evaluating a source, consider the context in which you will use it. A source may not be good or bad, but it will either be appropriate or not appropriate for your particular project. For this tutorial, imagine that you are working on a paper that examines job satisfaction of millennials in the workplace. This paper should cite at least five sources that were published in the last 5 years.

To get started let’s review the ACCORD model and then you will have the opportunity to evaluate sources on your own. On the left hand side you can see the criteria you will use to evaluate the sources, then the questions you will think critically on to determine if the source passes or fails your evaluation.

Let’s take a look at the criteria

First is Agenda which focuses on determining what was the author’s purpose.
Second is Credentials which focuses on determining if the author is credible.
Third is Citations which focuses on the sources this author cites.
Fourth is Oversight which focuses on how and where the information was published.
Fifth is for Relevance which focuses on how appropriate the article is for your research.

And last but not least is the Date which focuses on the timeliness of publication.

Let’s walk through each criterion in more detail.

**AGENDA**
First you evaluate the source based on its AGENDA. Information is created for different purposes like advertising, entertainment and research. Ask yourself for whom was the information published and why? Is the information objective (factual) and/or subjective (opinions)?

**Credentials**
The second criterion is the Credentials of the author. Ask yourself who is the author? Are the author's’ credentials and affiliations listed? Does an organization appear to sponsor this information? Now remember you have to think critically especially in regards to sponsored information. For example information sponsored by the American Heart Association would be trustworthy because the Agenda of that group is clear; while information from say the NRA lobby would have to be fact checked against multiple sources before determining if it is appropriate for academic work.
Citations
The third criterion is Citations. Ask yourself: Does the author cite the work of others? If there are no citations there is a good chance the AGENDA of the author was to express an opinion and this will be a factor in determining if this source is appropriate for your academic work. If sources are listed what type of sources are they? Are they academically appropriate?

Oversight
Next you will look at the Oversight of the source – this is simply looking to see if the information has been reviewed or referred to ensure its accuracy. Ask yourself has the information been reviewed? Also who published the material? You will often hear your Professors request scholarly or peer reviewed articles. These types of articles are written by experts and are reviewed by several other experts in the field before the article is published in the journal in order to insure the article has proper oversight.

Relevance
Now let’s take a look at the RELEVANCE of the information – meaning how pertinent is the information to your topic? Ask yourself: Does the information relate to or answer your research question? Does the information meet the requirements of your assignment?

Date
Lastly let’s look at the Date the information was published. Ask yourself: When was the information last published or updated? Is your topic in an area that changes rapidly or will older sources work as well? Also pay attention to the criteria your Professor set out. Do you have a date range? For this example we wanted material published in the last five years.

All of the criteria for evaluating sources are equally important. It’s up to you as a researcher to determine if the sources are academically appropriate. Utilizing the ACCORD model will help you to think critically about whether or not a source should be included in your assignment.

Let’s look at some example sources and evaluate them using the ACCORD model. Click on the book’s title to open the full record in the catalog.

Keeping the Millennials: Why Companies are Losing Billions in Turnover to This Generation--and What To Do About It

Do you think this book passes all of the criterion in the ACCORD model and for your assignment? Reminder you need to find five sources related to job satisfaction of millennials in the workplace. In addition your Professor has required your sources be published in the last five years.
Answer: No it does not because this book was published in 2009 and that is more than 5 years as described in the assignment.
Review the citation information for this article and evaluate it using the ACCORD model. It is from the *Journal of Leadership, Accountability, and Ethics*: **Bracing for the Millennial Workforce: Looking for Ways to Inspire Generation Y**

Let’s review one last article from a well-known website: **Measuring Job Satisfaction in the Millennial Age**

Answer: This article is questionable. If you click on the author’s information she holds a B.A. in Economics and International Relations and a Philosophy, Politics and Economics minor. This would not be considered a field expert unless her educational background was supported by many years of professional work and research in the field. I would be wary of including this in my academic work.

Now that you are familiar with the ACCORD model and have had the opportunity to practice evaluating sources go back to your Canvas course and complete the post tutorial quiz.

Remember if you have any questions or concerns about evaluating sources don’t hesitate to contact a librarian. We are always happy to help. You can reach us via live chat, email, phone or in person at the reference desk.