Web Site Evaluation Guide

Your Name: ______________________________ Date Accessed: __________________

Web site URL: http://___________________________

Title of web site: __________________________ Copyright date: __________________

Most information required below can be found on the Home page of the web site.

**Purpose and Content:**

Is the purpose of the web site (circle one): **STATED** **IMPLIED** ?

Is the purpose of the web site to (circle one): **INFORM** **SELL** **PERSUADE** **ENTERTAIN** ?

Is the web site biased? (circle one) **YES** **NO**  To answer this question, look at:

1. advertising—often companies advertising on a site influence the content and cause bias
2. author(s)—web sites created by individuals are often biased (ex. student web sites)
3. information—should not be contradicted in other sources whether electronic or print
4. facts—opinions should not be stated as facts; references to support facts should be named

Using the above criteria, briefly describe the purpose and content of this web site:

**Currency:**

Is the information in the web site current? (Circle one) **YES** **NO** (Check copyright date.)

Does current information matter for your research paper? (Circle one) **YES** **NO**

**Authority:**

Write the name of the person or organization responsible for this web site: __________________________

List any credentials this person(s) or organization has, any reviews by an online reviewing agency, or any awards won:

Is there an e-mail address to contact the author(s) or organization? (circle one) **YES** **NO**

What does the URL’s home page end with (circle one): **.com** **.org** **.edu** ?

If you circled .com, list any commercial influences found on the web site:

Are you positive that this web site is the best source for the information needed? **YES** **NO**

Explain:

**How to cite a web site (not a database):** If information is not available, go to the next item. Web site creator/Author (last name, first). “Title of article (what you looked up).” Title of web site (found at the Home page). Copyright or posting date. Web site’s editor/publisher (can be a person or a company). Date of access <URL> **Example:**


<http://www.who2.com/michelleobama.html>