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## What Clues Tell You Something is True? Empowering Students to Find Evidence

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# **What Clues Tell You Something is True?**

**Empowering Students to Find Evidence**

**Amanda Izenstark  
University of Rhode Island  
Quaker Education Conference  
October 13, 2017**

HELLO!

# Hi! I'm Amanda Izenstark

Professor, Reference & Instructional Design Librarian

I teach Information Literacy sessions & courses -  
often partnering with subject faculty



**Why?**

- “Fake News” isn’t new
- Misinformation isn’t new
- What form will it take in the future?
  - Manipulations of spoken words? See “Computer Scientists Demonstrate The Potential For Faking Video”  
<http://www.npr.org/sections/alltechconsidered/2017/07/14/537154304/computer-scientists-demonstrate-the-potential-for-faking-video>
  - *Who knows?*



# What Clues Do We Use?



**Let's Try**

## TOOLS NEEDED

- ❑ Worksheet
- ❑ Writing Utensil
- ❑ Materials to Evaluate, such as
  - ❑ Websites
  - ❑ Books
  - ❑ Articles



## METHOD

Find a partner and brainstorm what clues you might use to evaluate the quality of a website.

Enter your clue in the first column.

Leave the second column blank.



**Let's Share**



# Alternatives

## OTHER STRATEGIES

### **BEAM**

Background

Exhibit (Evidence)

Argument

Methods

Joseph Bizup, Boston U.

### **CRAAP**

Currency

Relevance

Accuracy

Authority

Purpose

Librarians @ Meriam  
Library, CSU Northridge

1

# ADAPTATIONS: CONTENT

## CONTENT

- Websites
  - All “good” websites?
  - Mixture of quality?
- Books
- Articles
  
- Students select their own materials?

2

## ADAPTATIONS: AGES

# AGES

**Middle School**

**High School**



3

## ADAPTATIONS: DELIVERY

## **Clue Collaboration**

In class =  
more bonding;  
active learning

Outside of class =  
easy to find criteria  
lists online

## **Evaluation**

In class =  
Support from instructor  
for those hard calls

Outside of class =  
Build evaluation skills in  
one's "native environment"

THANKS!

**Any questions?**

You can also find me at  
[amanda@uri.edu](mailto:amanda@uri.edu)

## CREDITS & REFERENCES

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See also: Burkhardt, J., MacDonald, M., & Rathemacher, A. (2010). *Teaching information literacy : 50 standards-based exercises for college students* (Second ed.). Chicago: American Library Association.

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