ASPECT Worksheet

ASPECT is a mnemonic to help you evaluate resources you find. You don’t have to limit your use of ASPECT to academic articles: it can also be applied to YouTube videos, podcasts, news blogs, and other materials you encounter. ASPECT was developed by the Clark College Libraries. While you can work through ASPECT in order A through T, you can also evaluate different parts at different times; for example, if you found an article that was published too long ago, that would not meet your need for T: timeliness.

A: **Authority**

Who created this? Who are the authors? Where is it published?

What are their credentials?

Do the authors and the publishing location have similar works?

S: **Sources**

Is this presented as fact?

Is there documentation/ sources?

Are these credible?

P: **Purpose**

Why was this created: to inform, to sell, to entertain?

Who is the audience?

Does this meet your research needs? Can you read this?

E: **Evenness**

Is the material presented as objective?

Does the creator recognize their bias/es?

C: **Coverage**

How does this support other information you’ve found?

What questions does it ask?

What questions does it answer?

Is this information useful to you?

T: **Timeliness**

When was this published?

Is the time it was published appropriate for your needs?