

INFORMATION SOURCES

AVOID

(Usually unacceptable for college-level research)

- anonymous blog postings
- anonymous websites
- personal websites with no affiliation to any organization or institution
- content farm web pages. Examples:
 - *Yahoo Voices*
 - *Seed* (AOL)
 - *eHow*
 - *answerbag*
 - *essortment.com*
 - *suite101.com*
- entertainment websites (e.g. celebuz.com)

USE WITH CAUTION

(Recognize limitations and possible biases)

- Wikipedia
- commercial websites (.com)
 - companies / corporations (e.g. www.honda.com)
 - public relations and marketing firms (e.g. Ogilvy PR)
- advocacy websites promoting a social or political cause (e.g. www.nra.org)
- general interest ("popular") magazines (e.g. *Newsweek*)
- magazines featuring commentary and opinion. Examples:
 - *Mother Jones* (liberal)
 - *New Republic* (moderate)
 - *Cato Journal* (conservative)

GIVE TOP PRIORITY

(Most likely to provide credible, authoritative unbiased, and accurate information)

- informational websites (.org .edu or .gov) sponsored by:
 - research institutes and scholarly groups
 - universities and colleges
 - government agencies
 - non-partisan and non-profit organizations
 - professional organizations
 - public service and public policy organizations
- nationally and internationally prominent newspapers and news sites (e.g. *New York Times*, *npr.org*)
- academic, professional, and trade journals
- books published by university presses and reputable commercial publishers