Use of resources. What sources are reliable and unreliable?

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Lecture 7

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Reliable vs. Unreliable Sources

- Reliable Sources = TRUSTWORTHY SOURCES
- - Written by experts in a particular field.

- Unreliable Sources = SOURCES THAT CAN BE ALTERED BY ANYONE
- - Sources, such as Wikipedia, may not be reliable as authors may lack full expertise.

Examples of Reliable Sources

- Examples include:

- - Books

- - Newspapers and magazines

- - Peer-reviewed journals

- - PhD or MBA dissertations and research

- - Public libraries

- - Scholarly articles

Determining Reliability

- Check the URL ending:
- - .edu: Educational institution
- - .gov: Government website (often good for statistics and objective reports)
- - .org: Non-profit organization

- For News Sources:
- - Verify focus on information over entertainment
- - Always check the author for credibility

Examples of Unreliable Sources

- Examples include:

- - Wikipedia (for preliminary ideas only)

- - Blogs, tweets, and personal websites

- - Sites with political or biased agendas

- - Self-published and opinionated articles

- - Sites ending in .com or .html (potentially unreliable)

Works Cited

- Requirements:

- - Include FIVE citations in MLA format

- - Organize entries in alphabetical order

- - Use hanging indents for entries that extend past the first line

Formatting Book Entries

- For a book with one author:

- Format:

- - Last name, First name. Title of Book. Place of Publication: Publishing Company, year.

- Example:

- - Weinburg, Steven. Dreams of a Final Theory. New York: Pantheon, 1992.

Parenthetical Citations

- In-text Citation Example:

- - "All logical arguments can be defeated by the simple refusal to reason logically" (Weinburg 25).

- - Use citations for any information not originally from you.

Formatting Webpage Entries

- General Webpage:

- Format:

- - Title of Page. Date published. Organization/Owner. Access Date. <URL>

- Example:

- - SpaceTelescope Science Institute Home Page. 20 Nov 1997. NASA. 28 Oct 2004. <http://www.stici.edu>

Parenthetical Citations for Webpages

- Example:
- - "The goal of the Office of Public Outreach is to..." (SpaceTelescope Science).

- Note: Use the first words of the Works Cited entry for clarity in citations.

Formatting Database Articles

- Format:
- - Last name, first name. "Article Title." Journal Name. Volume (Year): Pages. Database. Access Date.
- Example:
- - Langhamer, Claire. "Love and Courtship in Mid-Twentieth-Century England." Historical Journal. 50.1 (2007): 173-96. ProQuest. Web. 27 May, 2009.

Lab Resources

- Tools:

- - Google Scholar

- - Destiny

- - NCWise Owl

- Use these resources to find scholarly, peer-reviewed articles and books.

Works Cited Example

- Example:

- Austin Peay State University. "Reliable and Unreliable Sources". Academic Support Center Writing Lab. Oct 29 2012. Web.

Thank you for your attention!