

Activity: Political Prisoner Bio Research & Presentation

Handout: Web Research Guidelines

If you use the Internet to help your research please be aware that not all websites are equal. Here is some help for **web-based research**.

History site:

<https://www.loc.gov/collections/>

Library of Congress' National Digital Library Program. Search function and several links.

Search engines:

Altavista--<http://www.altavista.com>

Google-- <http://www.google.com>

Yahoo-- <http://www.yahoo.com>

Lycos--<http://www.lycos.com>

Metasearch engines:

Dogpile-- <http://www.dogpile.com>

IXQuick-- <http://www.ixquick.com>

Metacrawler-- <http://www.metacrawler.com>

Online encyclopedia/dictionary:

<http://www.Britannica.com>

Reliability of sites:

Authority--Who are the authors? What are their qualifications?

Currency--Is the site up to date?

Affiliation--With what organization/group is this site affiliated?

Comparison--How does this site compare with other sources?

Audience--For whom is the site created? Students? Fans? Researchers?

Domain names in general order of reliability:

.edu--education

.gov--government

.org--organization

.net--network

.com--commercial

Website evaluations:

http://www.media-awareness.ca/english/resources/educational/teaching_backgrounders/internet/web_as_research_tool.cfm

http://www.media-awareness.ca/english/resources/special_initiatives/wa_resources/wa_shared/tipsheets/quick_tips_authenticating.cfm

Also, the book *History Highway* by Trinkle and Merriman is a good resource for websites and how to use the Internet to find historical data. Try to use the latest edition.