***The Case for Credibility: Evaluating Sources Worksheet***

|  |
| --- |
| **[MLA or APA] Citation:** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ***Context***  What is your information need? What is your topic or research question? What kind of source(s) do you need to use and for what purpose? |  |
| ***Define***  Define credibility in terms of *content*, not format. What clues do you look for when  trying to decide something is credible? It doesn’t matter if the source is web-based or on paper. Disregard the format the information is delivered in, and instead define credibility in terms of qualities that are related to the source’s content, currency, and authorship. |  |
| ***Question***  Examine your definition. Ask yourself how your own personal biases or points of view might influence your definition of credibility and the application of your definition. |  |
| ***Apply***  Apply your definition to the information source—review your source in terms of the definition of credibility you’ve developed. |  |
| ***Purpose***  Consider the purpose of the source. What is the author trying to accomplish, and what impact that have on its credibility? |  |
| ***Decide***  Decide if your source is credible. Does it  meet the requirements you’ve defined?  Why or why not? |  |