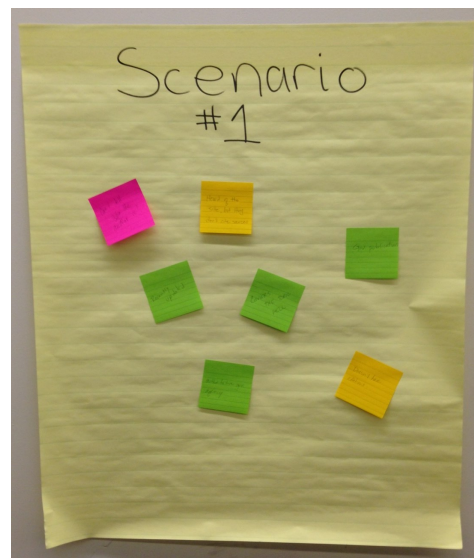# Source Evaluation

Learning Objective: Students will establish basic criteria for source evaluation and determine a source's appropriateness to their research.

Threshold Concept: "Format as Process" and "Authority is Constructed and Contextual"

"Low Tech"

- Students receive a handout describing three scenarios in which individuals have information needs. Each scenario includes a link to a website that might meet the need.
- Students form groups of 3-4 and are given three pads of Post-It Notes: red, yellow, and green.
- Groups discuss the value of each site in the context of the scenario. If a site is of little value, they write their reasons on a red Post-It; if it might be valuable, they use a yellow Post-It; and if it is a good source, they use a green Post-It.
- Post-Its are placed on corresponding chart paper in the front of the room and results are discussed by the whole class.

"High Tech"

- Students visit a LibGuide that describes three scenarios in which individuals have information needs. Each scenario includes a link to a website that might meet the need.
- Students form groups of 3-4 and are given a link to Poll EveryWhere.
- Groups discuss the value of each site in the context of the scenario. They use Poll EveryWhere to vote "Valuable," "Not Valuable," or "Maybe Valuable" for the site in question.
- Results are discussed by the whole class. Reasons why the group voted as they did are elicited through discussion.