Student Name

Section ##

Project #: Short Project Title

TOPIC:

**Overview:** This document will serve as your team’s database of research. It is a living document meaning it will be edited and revised throughout the semester. After you have each completed the individual component, your team will create a master database incorporating all research.

**Directions:** Use this form as a guide, but all supplied information should be deleted (including these directions). Use the table to complete a comprehensive summary of each source researched. The more detail you supply now, the easier it will be with each step of the Conceptual Design Process. As you evaluate and dissect research articles, if at any point you realize the article doesn’t work for your project, delete it and find another. If a source fails at Credibility, Relevance, Authority, and/or Purpose but you still believe it is needed, you must explain your position. This document needs to be functional. Remember, revisit the master document often.

**Research Table (3 Sources)**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| APA Reference of Source 1 | | |
| Evaluation  Is the source reputable? | Credibility:  [ ] High [ ] Medium [ ] Low | Analyze the publisher, container, and date of publication. Can you trust the source? Describe the publisher and why, or why not, it is a reliable source. Is it a peer reviewed journal? Is the website a government agency or a reputable source? Etc. Note that the database and publisher are not the same thing. Is this information still current? |
| Relevance:  [ ] High [ ] Medium [ ] Low | Is this a primary source meaning is the author the originator of information? Did the author use any evidence with citations and references? Is the spelling and grammar correct? Can you verify information through other sources? Does this relate to your research topic? |
| Authority:  [ ] High [ ] Medium [ ] Low | Describe the author’s expertise and why, or why not, they are a reliable source. Who is the author, and what are their credentials? How many years of experience do they have in the related field? Etc. What does the URL end with (.gov, .org, .edu, .com)? Does “~” appear anywhere in the URL? (“~” denotes a personal page, so even if it is a Ph.D. researching at a prestigious institution, a “~” explains that the institution is not overseeing the information on the page) |
| Purpose:  [ ] High [ ] Medium [ ] Low | What is the author’s motivation for publishing the resource? Does the author seem objective or biased? Are there ads or direct links to products? |
| Evidence  What information, facts, figures etc., may be helpful for my project? | Keyword(s) (ex. Safety) | “Put a direct quotation from the resource to use or paraphrase later. Use proper in text citation, so that the information is never separated from the source it was taken from” (Engineering Design Division [EDD], 2019). |
| Keyword(s) (ex. Accuracy, Performance) | “Find quotes that have facts and figures that will be used to influence and support design choices” (EDD, 2019, p. 2). |
| Keyword(s) (ex. User Interaction, Portability) | “The keyword(s) will help your team find similarities amongst your resources, which will help you write research papers using a wider variety of resources” (EDD, 2019, p. 3). |
| Repeat the process… (ex. Structure, Function, Maintainability, Construction etc) | “Each quotation should have its own spot in this table. Expand the table to be as long as is needed. Remember this information is going to help you write the research paper, so take the extra time now to write important things down to save you time later” (EDD, 2019, p. 4). |
| Summary | You will need to revisit the original source. In order to help guide your rereading, write a brief summary or abstract about the article. | |
| Analysis | How can this resource be applied to your project? | |

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| --- | --- | --- |
| APA Reference of Source 2 | | |
| Evaluation  Is the source reputable? | Credibility:  [ ] High [ ] Medium [ ] Low | Analyze the publisher, container, and date of publication. Can you trust the source? Describe the publisher and why, or why not, it is a reliable source. Is it a peer reviewed journal? Is the website a government agency or a reputable source? Etc. Note that the database and publisher are not the same thing. Is this information still current? |
| Relevance:  [ ] High [ ] Medium [ ] Low | Is this a primary source meaning is the author the originator of information? Did the author use any evidence with citations and references? Is the spelling and grammar correct? Can you verify information through other sources? Does this relate to your research topic? |
| Authority:  [ ] High [ ] Medium [ ] Low | Describe the author’s expertise and why, or why not, they are a reliable source. Who is the author, and what are their credentials? How many years of experience do they have in the related field? Etc. What does the URL end with (.gov, .org, .edu, .com)? Does “~” appear anywhere in the URL? (“~” denotes a personal page, so even if it is a Ph.D. researching at a prestigious institution, a “~” explains that the institution is not overseeing the information on the page) |
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| APA Reference of Source 3 | | |
| Evaluation\*  Is the source reputable? | Credibility:  [ ] High [ ] Medium [ ] Low | Analyze the publisher, container, and date of publication. Can you trust the source? Describe the publisher and why, or why not, it is a reliable source. Is it a peer reviewed journal? Is the website a government agency or a reputable source? Etc. Note that the database and publisher are not the same thing. Is this information still current? |
| Relevance:  [ ] High [ ] Medium [ ] Low | Is this a primary source meaning is the author the originator of information? Did the author use any evidence with citations and references? Is the spelling and grammar correct? Can you verify information through other sources? Does this relate to your research topic? |
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