Week 2: Unpacking Sources

Getting Started
What does “success” mean? What does it mean to “succeed” in college? Are there different ways to “succeed”? Write some thoughts in the space below.

Evaluating a source
You will be given printed documents of different types of information. In groups of 4-6, review these documents and answer the following questions for your source (following page). Please pick a representative to share two major points about your source with the whole class.

Resource types include: journal article, newspaper article, book chapter, social media post, wiki page, statistical data, book, report, and others, too!

Authorship: Not all authors or creators are immediately recognizable, and can include organizations or crowd-sourced writing.
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Source Type:
Title:

Who is the author or creator?

What do you think is the purpose of this information?

Can you tell where this information came from?

Are there cited sources?

How can you engage with this information?

When would this resource be valuable?

What strengths does it have?

What weakness does it have?

Is this a scholarly source?
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Group Discussion Questions

1. Which of these sources would you use for a research paper? How would you use it?

2. Which of these give you the best background information? Where would you go from there?

3. Which of these sources do you think were reviewed by experts? Which do you think were not reviewed by anyone?

Tips and Tricks

Tips for reading a scholarly article:

- Start by reading the abstract—the abstract will give you an overview of the article content. This can be helpful since scholarly articles are often longer.
- Cited references are always found at the end.

Reminder: To access all the material for this program go to http://libguides.colostate.edu/bridge

Need more help? Ask at the Help Desk.
Reflection
Based on what you know and the sources you reviewed, quickly write down and brainstorm any words that come to mind when you think of “Student Success”.