

Screening Guidelines for Evidence-Based Research and Practice

Below is a tool developed to help you critically appraise material you may be considering when developing an evidence-based project. The information is not exhaustive; should you have questions, please contact your training liaison.

Score Level	Source	Author	Date	Content	Relevance
Highly Reliable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Material is from a professional peer-reviewed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Journal ○ Book ○ Government document ○ Research Group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Considered an expert in the field ▪ Governmental organization ▪ Highly respected in the community he/she represents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Published within the past 5 years ▪ If from a website, published within the past 2 years. If the last update cannot be located, the site's home page has been updated in the past year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Seminal work in the field ▪ Information provides a clear study design, including methodology, results, and limitations ▪ Information presented is supported by other credible sources and references are cited ▪ Information is presented without bias ▪ Information presented is ethically compliant with professional standards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Study population is reflective of the intended clients': <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Age, Gender, Race/ethnicity, Culture/ Beliefs/ Norms, Socio-economic status, Environment, Clinical setting ▪ Information is applicable to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the intended trainees, clients, communities ○ the respective work setting ▪ Information clearly identifies practice implications and areas for future research ▪ Culturally competent and the results are transferrable
Reliable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Material is from a non-peer reviewed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Website ○ Book ○ Research Group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Educational institution ▪ Governmental organization ▪ Professional Organization ▪ Community Organization ▪ Personally associated with the community they represent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Material is one that has shaped the area of interest to which other articles/ experts refer ▪ If from a website, published within the past 2 years. If the last update cannot be located, the site's home page has been updated in the past year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Seminal work in the field ▪ Information provides a clear study design, including methodology, results, and limitations ▪ Information presented is supported by other credible sources and references are cited ▪ Information is presented without bias ▪ Information presented is ethically compliant with professional standards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Study population is reflective of the intended clients': <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Age, Gender, Race/ethnicity, Culture/ Beliefs/ Norms, Socio-economic status, Environment, Clinical setting ▪ Information is applicable to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the intended trainees, clients, communities ○ the respective work setting ▪ Information clearly identifies practice implications and areas for future research ▪ Culturally competent and the results are transferrable

Reliable with Caution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Material is from a non-peer reviewed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Website ○ Book ○ Journal ○ Professional newsletter ○ Documentary ▪ Material is from the lay media <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ TV ○ Newspaper ○ Magazine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Advocacy Group ▪ Area of expertise matches the material's content ▪ Has had recent contact with the community he/she represents ▪ Was recommended by a credible source 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Published within last 5 years ▪ Date cannot be determined 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Information is presented in a clear and focused manner ▪ The author's intention is clear (beware of potential biases) ▪ Information presented is supported by other credible sources and references are cited ▪ Information presented is ethically compliant with professional standards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Study population is reflective of the intended clients': <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Age, Gender, Race/ethnicity, Culture/ Beliefs/ Norms, Socio-economic status, Environment, Clinical setting ▪ Information is applicable to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the intended trainees, clients, communities ○ the respective work setting ▪ Information clearly identifies practice implications and areas for future research ▪ Culturally competent and the results are transferrable
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How to Cite Literature - The academy requests that APA format be used in all curriculum and training materials.

Power point presentation: References should be identified at the bottom of the slide and again in a separate slide found at the end of the presentation.

Handouts: Include a separate page identified as "References". Below are examples of how commonly used materials would be cited in APA format. For further assistance please see <http://www.liu.edu/cwis/cwp/library/workshop/citapa.htm>

- In text (or bottom of ppt slide) : One item: (Holosko, 2006) or Two referenced items: (Holosko, 2006; Schaffer & Borduin, 2005) or Three referenced items: (Holosko, Schaffer & Borduin, 2005)
- Book: Cournoyer, B (2004). *The evidence-based social work skills book*. Boston, MA: Allyn and Bacon
- Periodical/ Journal Article:
Schaffer, C.M. & Bourduin, C.M. (2005). Long-term follow-up to a randomized clinical trial of multisystemic therapy with serious and violent juvenile offenders. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology, 73*, 445 -453.
Trochim, M.K. (2006). Quasi-experimental design. *Social Research Methods: Knowledge Base*. Retrieved March 25, 2009, from <http://www.socialresearchmethods.net/kb/quasiexp.php>.
- Interview
Pence-Wilson, Donna. Personal interview. 29 March 2009.

Adapted From:

Cournoyer, B.(2004). *The evidence-based social work skills book*. Boston, MA: Allyn and Bacon.

[cachildwelfareclearinghouse.org](http://www.cachildwelfareclearinghouse.org)

Diaz, K.R. & O'Hanlon, N.O. (2004) *A guide and sourcebook for researching controversial issues on the web*. Westport, CT. Libraries Unlimited.

Holosko, M. (2006) *Primer for critiquing social research*. Belmont: CA. Thomson Brooks/Cole.

Benson, E., Welles, M., Williams, D.O., Friedberg, S., & Blanchard, M. (2004). *Research style & usage APA/MLA*. SparkCharts. USA. Spark Publishing.