



Transcription of

Currency and Seminal Works

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Hello. I'm Professor Wilcox. I teach American Government at Georgia Military College Valdosta Campus. Today I will be discussing the importance of currency of sources and also seminal work. All right, so let's start with currency of sources. All right. So the idea that the better, the newer the source, the better the source is not always true.

Evaluating the currency of a source is only one factor to consider when you're evaluating sources. And current information is not always the best information. So here are some tips to kind of keep in mind whenever you are evaluating the currency of your sources so that you are receiving reliable authority, authoritative and credible sources. So firstly, you will need to check the date of your sources, check how current your sources are, because if you are using online sources, sometimes that information can be there for years.

So you are responsible for checking to see when that information was published. And the currency of the source. So you can find this information how current the source is at either the top or the bottom of the web page. Second step is to evaluate the importance of the currency of this source. So what I mean by that is that sometimes the currency of the source is important, very important, and sometimes it's not.

For example, if you are evaluate writing a current event, you will then you will need to use current sources. But if you are evaluating a for, for instance, a Shakespeare play, then in those instances the currency of the source may not be as important. Last to is just the ultimately check with your professor. Check with your instructor to see how current they need your sources to be.

I know in social sciences they prioritize current up to date scholarships. So the basis is to check with your instructor on the currency of the source. All right. So now we will move to seminal works. So seminal works are any works that were pivotal to a field of study. They were in those works were [...] is where a lot of new research was done to kind of change. And they lead to a much higher understanding in that field of study. They present initial ideas of great importance to that field of study. So, for example, there was an article in sociology by a gentleman, Gordon Allport. He wrote a book in 1954. It was called The Nature of Prejudice. That is an example of a seminal work in the field of sociology, of the psychology of discrimination.

All right. So now we'll move to why are currency of sources and seminal works important research, starting with currency of sources, is important to research. And when you're writing research papers, because you are getting the most relevant information for your topic, you are ensuring quality in your research and your ultimately weeding out any biased, irrelevant, outdated or incorrect information in your research.

All right. Why are seminal works important? Because ultimately, these works are what is used in your research. This is these are the words that you reference, that you cite in your journals, in your lit reviews, in your articles, in your research papers. And there are a lot of times also used in dissertations. All right. So let's just kind of define what sources are we we're talking about the currency of sources and why they're important, but what our source that you can use or sources are texts. They can be diaries, books, interviews that you've taken, surveys that you've taken, analytical data that you've got. And these are your sources that you may use. They are articles, journals, books, websites. They are broken into two different types. They are either primary sources or secondary sources. So primary sources are going to be your firsthand account of sources. These are going to be the people and the event and events that took place and had a firsthand experience in the event. So they're going to be examples like your films. Those are primary sources. They're going to be your diaries, your interviews that were taken.

And the secondary sources actually use this information from primary sources to interpret it, discuss it, and analyze it.

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