I created the tool below for my research courses. I require at least 10 different source types for final papers in all of my classes (graduate and undergraduate). Below is an expanded list of required primary, secondary, and tertiary sources for research papers along with my evaluation criteria.

**Evaluation Criteria: Content, Structure, & Sources**

- **Content**: Clear main idea; relevant question; answer that directly addresses the question; thesis statement; theoretical frame; methodology; argument development; relevant evidence; provides detailed points about time and place as well as context; point of view; style; originality; addresses several parts of Bloom’s taxonomy (KCAASE)
- **Structure**: Organization with unified beginning, middle, and end; clear flow of ideas by effective use of sections and subsections; appropriate transitions; paragraphs and sentence structure; proper punctuation; appropriate language; mechanics; evidence of editing; flow
- **Sources**: Valid sources that support but also complicate argument; appropriate scholarly weight; primary documents with nuanced interpretation; correct citation in text and bibliography; correct citation for academic discipline: Turabian, Chicago, MLA, or APA. **Scholars without sources are REAL BAD NEWS.**

**RLL BBAADD NNEWS**

1. **Report**/ government document/ database
2. **Live source**/ oral history/ interview/ video
3. **Laws and legal journals**

4. **Books** (nonfiction, scholarly, two disciplines)
5. **Book reviews**
6. **Articles** (scholarly journals and magazines)
7. **Archives**/ museums
8. **Agency**, professional association, or organization
9. **Dissertations**/ theses
10. **Documentary or movie**

11. **Newspapers** (one prior to 1945, one contemporary)
12. **Novel** or short story
13. **Encyclopedia**/ bibliography/ anthology
14. **Website**/ internet/ multimedia/ blogs/ social media
15. **Songs** or poems