Is my source credible*?

Step 1
Source
Did you find this article in a library database?

Yes
No

Is the journal peer-reviewed?

Yes
No

Most likely scholarly
Not scholarly

Move to Step 2: Author(s)

Step 2
Author(s)
Are the author(s)* credentials provided?

Yes
No

Most likely not scholarly

Move to Step 3: Content

Step 3
Content
Does the article attempt to persuade or bias the reader?

No
Yes

Most likely not scholarly

Does the article have a works cited or bibliography?

Yes
No

Most likely scholarly

Is the topic treated objectively and is the information well-supported?

Yes
No

Most likely not scholarly

Move to Step 4: Verify

Step 4

Remember to double check all your sources--even if they are from a library database!
More questions? Talk to your instructor or Ask a Librarian*!

*www.library.illinois.edu/askus