

Learning Objective: Previewing a website

- STOP and THINK!
- Read the title of the page and the title of the website in the margin at the top of the window.
- Scan menu choices. Hold your mouse over the navigational menus on the left frame or across the top of the window, but don't click yet. Get a big picture of the information available within the site.
- Make predictions about where each of the major links may lead and anticipate a link's path through multiple levels of a website.
- Explore interactive mouseover features that may reveal additional levels of information contained within the site.
- Identify the author/webmaster/sponsor and consider what this information indicates about the site.
- Notice and try out any internal search features like an organizational site map or an internal search engine.
- Make a judgment about whether to explore the site further. If the site looks worthwhile, decide which areas of the site to explore first. If the site does not look worthwhile, return to a search engine to refocus, revisit your reading goals, and refine your search.