

Assignment 2: *Wikipedia* writing project

Due: February 12 by 5pm (email text to me and **post** to *Wikipedia*)

Point value: 40 pts

For this project, you will contribute content to *Wikipedia: The Free Encyclopedia*. Your contribution should be about a topic that interests you but is also needed by *Wikipedia* (see #4 below). The required length is 1200-1500 words. Your contribution must also be factual (no invented or fictional content) and well-researched (secondary sources are required by *Wikipedia*).

Prior to writing for *Wikipedia*, you should

1. Create a *Wikipedia* account
2. Consult the *Wikipedia*: Help contents page which links to information about how and when to contribute to *Wikipedia*: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Help:Contents>
3. Consult the publishing and style guidelines outlined by *Wikipedia*'s editors: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Manual_of_Style
4. The *Wikipedia* community has identified topics and articles in need of expansion. To select a topic to write about, you should consult these lists and select a topic/article in one of these lists:

Wikipedia: Pages needing attention: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Pages_needing_attention

Wikipedia: Stubs: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Stub#Locating_stubs

Your entry should be encyclopedic in nature and provide a useful addition to the shared knowledge base that is *Wikipedia*. You must conduct research about your topic; this is a key portion of the assignment. In investigating your topic, you should consult print and online sources and cite all of your sources using *Wikipedia*'s citation conventions (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Citing_sources). You should also link your article to relevant content within *Wikipedia*.

Grading criteria

Purpose

- Article provides information needed by *Wikipedia* users
- Article provides specific, concrete, detailed, and factual information
- Article content is derived from thorough research
- Article cites sources
- Article is encyclopedic in nature and is credible
- Article is submitted to *Wikipedia*
- Submitted article to me lists the *Wikipedia* URL for the posted location at the top

Product

- Article follows *Wikipedia*'s content, format, and citation conventions

- Article is linked to relevant *Wikipedia* content
- Article is clearly written
- Article is grammatically correct and spell-checked

Process

- Article's content and format reflect author(s)' understanding of *Wikipedia*'s guidelines and conventions
- Article reflects author(s)' ability to follow instructions
- Article reflects an understanding of the unique publication guidelines and conventions of this resource