Advice for choosing articles to work on

- Choose a term that is well established in the discipline, but only weakly represented on Wikipedia. The best choice is a topic where a lot of literature is available, but isn't covered extensively on Wikipedia.

- Scope: Look for topics that are specific and narrow enough to be manageable, but broad enough that sufficient sources exist to write a solid, sizable article.

- Gravitate toward "stub" and "start" class articles. These articles have only 1-2 paragraphs of information and are in need of expansion.

- * Before creating a new article, spend 15-20 minutes searching related topics on Wikipedia to make sure your topic isn't already covered. Often, an article may already exist under another name or be a subsection of a broader article.

What to avoid for student projects

- Trying to improve articles on very broad topics (e.g. Law) or articles that are already of high quality on Wikipedia

- Trying to improve articles on topics that are highly controversial, e.g. Global Warming, Abortion, Scientology, etc. (Start a sub-article instead.)

- Working on something only sparsely covered by literature

- Starting articles with titles that imply an essay-like approach, e.g. "The Effects That The Recent Sub-Prime Mortgage Crisis has had on the US and Global Economics" instead of "Subprime mortgage crisis"