

WIKIPEDIA ARTICLE ASSIGNMENT
CULP 45, Fall 2010

CHOOSE A TOPIC: You will choose a topic in consultation with Professor D. to work on as a Wikipedia article over the semester. You must choose a topic that relates to a community or group that you belonged to in the past, or belong to in the present. We will investigate through this process what it means to write from a neutral point of view about a subject that is part (or has been part) of your life and about which you have insider knowledge.

Post it by September 15th for feedback and approval by Professor D.

Blog entry #1: write a paragraph or two on the process of trying to find a topic. What did you discover? What brought you to this topic? What are you going to address and why? (Make sure you are analytical in your writing and that is not a rambling, stream of consciousness block of text).

LEARN HOW TO WORK IN A WIKI AND TO CREATE A DRAFT OF YOUR WORK IN THE SANDBOX:

September 22nd in class.

WHAT YOU WILL NEED TO DO BE READY TO DO FOR THIS ASSIGNMENT:

- rough outline (what you will create/add/address, etc)
- a preliminary bibliography (minimum of 5 sources)
- a preliminary list of relevant links you might want to add

[**Blog entry #2:** post your outline, bibliography, links, etc., in the Blog]

October 14: REVIEW BY PROFESSOR D:

By October 15th, you need to have your entry in what you think is a fleshed out outline. This would mean that you have your Table of Contents up there, and then some material in each level. That could be ideas or whole sentences. You should make notes for yourself as to where that information is coming from.

OCTOBER 28

1. LIVE POSTING #1:

You will post your article live by October 28th (if you haven't done so already). This is your public debut of your work. You should have considered my comments and some of the other feedback from Wikipedia ambassadors in this process.

2. [Blog entry #3: post your entry to the blog. In addition, write a reflective paragraph or two on the process of creating your entry. What did you learn? What was difficult? What was easy?]

WHAT YOU WILL BE GRADED ON:

Your grade is about five things: 1) your vision for the entry content; 2) your research in thinking-beyond-google to find relevant and diverse sources; 3) your organization of the entry and the content; 4) your writing of a well-supported, well-researched entry; 5) how you address the comments you were given.

Between now and November 18 you should work additional research, writing, and editing, and on selecting an image/s, map/s, etc. that adheres to Wikipedia guidelines for your entry. You can continue to build/add on to the entry at any time.

NOVEMBER 11:

1. REVIEW OF COMMUNITY RESPONSE:

On November 10, you should examine your work and assess what has happened since you posted it two weeks before. Out of this, you should do Blog entry #4.

2. BLOG entry #4: Summarize what the community has done to your entry in the past two weeks. What was the response of the community and why do you think the community responded the way/s it did? How might you address their response? (Adjust? Defend your position? Add more support?) Develop a plan to make the changes you wish to make.

NOVEMBER 18: LIVE POSTING #2 and GRADE #2:

On November 18, you will work in class to prepare your articles for your “final” posting of the class, including adding images, maps, etc. You should have developed and worked on it since November 3 (and you can have made changes all throughout this time period).

WHAT YOU WILL BE GRADED ON:

Your grade is about five things: 1) your vision for the entry content; 2) your research in thinking-beyond-google to find relevant and diverse sources; 3) your organization of the entry and the content; 4) your writing of a well-supported, well-researched entry; 5) how you addressed the comments from the community.

DECEMBER 21: DUE AT TIME OF FINAL RESEARCH PAPER:

BLOG entry #5:

- 1) In a few paragraphs, reflect on the process of your researching and writing this entry over the last 3 months.
- 2) In another paragraph or two, reflect on the process of representing a community that you are/were part of.