

Wikimedia + Education Conference 2019

**How to get subject
matter experts to
click the edit button**



Let's start with a question:

What challenges have you had getting subject matter experts to edit?

Some challenges we've heard

- Academic expertise isn't valued by Wikipedians; edit count is
- No benefit for career (“publish or perish” and Wikipedia isn't publishing)
- Conflict of interest
- What's a good source for discipline isn't a good source for Wikipedia and vice versa

**So here's our solution:
A professional
development course
to edit Wikipedia**

Wiki Scholars & Scientists

- Application process

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- Certification at completion of course

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- Charge money for it and provide continuing education credits

What we learned

Planning/application phase learnings

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- Schedule times in cohort ahead of time.
- Create cohorts with same/similar disciplines

Curriculum phase learnings

- The milestones and weekly tasks on the timeline continue to be useful as a structure to keep participants on track.

Wiki Scholars - NARA - 2019 Home **Timeline** Editors Articles Uploads Activity

Week 5 02/03 - 02/09 (Wed)

Milestone: Everyone has started writing in their sandbox Milestone

By this week's meeting, everyone should have at least a full paragraph or two of content in their sandbox, with citations.

Meeting agenda for week 5 In Class

[Here's a recording of this week's meeting.](#)

As you start writing in your sandbox, how is it going? Have you had any challenges along the way? We'll also start to talk about the content of your contributions.

Discussions:

- What are the impacts and limits of Wikipedia as a source of information?
- Encyclopedias vs research vs other sources of information?
- As a reader, why do you visit Wikipedia? What disappoints you when you read an article? What is most useful?

Week 1	01/06 - 01/12
Week 2	01/13 - 01/19
Week 3	01/20 - 01/26
Week 4	01/27 - 02/02
Week 5	02/03 - 02/09
Week 6	02/10 - 02/16
Week 7	02/17 - 02/23
Week 8	02/24 - 03/02
Week 9	03/03 - 03/09
Week 10	03/10 - 03/16
Week 11	03/17 - 03/23
Week 12	03/24 - 03/30

Continue building your contribution, Assignment - Due: 2019-02-13

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- Peer review wasn't effective with this group.
- Take extensive notes during meetings!
- 12 weeks ideal time (not too short, not too long)

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- Tell different contributors' stories to show there's no one right way to become a Wikipedia.
- Editing anecdotes often led to important discussions of policy.

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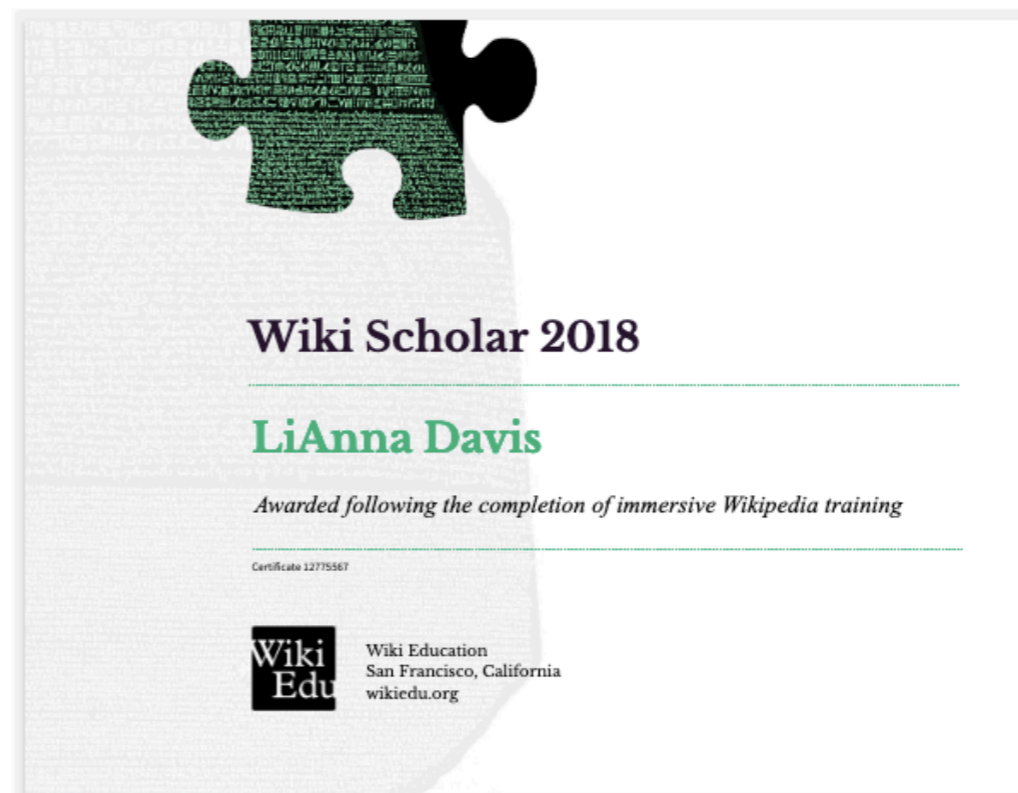
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Certifications



Wikipedia Training Certificate
Wiki Education Foundation, License 12775567
April 2019 – Present



Overcoming earlier challenges

- Choose articles that require subject expertise and are underdeveloped because of it
- Encourage scholarship about process
- Certifications!
- Provide the “why” behind Wikipedia’s policies and guidelines

[Learn more](#)



More details

About courses: learn.wikiedu.org

Evaluations:

★ [[meta:Wiki Education Foundation/
Wikipedia Fellows pilot evaluation]]

★ [[meta:Wiki Education Foundation/
Wikipedia Fellows pilot evaluation update]]