How to get help

Are you stuck? Need help figuring out where to go next? Follow these guidelines!

For most kinds of help on Wikipedia—technical questions; policies and guidelines; etiquette; conflicts with editors; feedback and reviews of your work—the first place you should turn is the talk page for your course. On the course talk page, you can also see what questions and requests for feedback your classmates posted, and you may be able to learn from the answers they got or answer their questions yourself. If you’re working with an experienced Wikipedian to help you get started, you can also leave a message on his or her user talk page.

1. Go to your course page, click the “Talk” tab, and post your question or request in a new section. Be sure to sign your post with four tildes (~~~~) and enter an edit summary before you save it.

2. If you’re working with an experienced Wikipedian, leave a message on their talk page, and let them know that you’ve just posted a request on the course talk page.

3. If you don’t get a response within a day or two, ask your instructor.

For immediate help, you may want to try live IRC chat: the #wikipedia-en-classroom or #wikipedia-en-help channels on Freenode.

If you have conflicts with another editor that you don’t want to post about publicly, try talking with your instructor or any experienced Wikipedians your class is working with.

For subject-specific questions related to your course, talk to your instructor(s), teaching assistants, and classmates.

Glossary of places to get help

- Article talk pages – The talk pages of articles are typically where discussions about the content of articles take place. Other editors may leave messages about your work here. If someone reverts changes you make to an article, the talk page is where you should start a discussion. Put it on your watchlist!

- Campus Ambassadors – If your class is working with one or more Campus Ambassadors, the Ambassador(s) may hold office hours to meet with you to discuss problems and questions about Wikipedia.

- Course talk page – This is the main place for discussing your assignments, posting problems or questions that come up, and giving and receiving feedback about your articles. Put it on your watchlist!

- Wikipedia:Help desk – This page is an additional forum for getting help from Wikipedians.

- Help:Contents – The is the hub of Wikipedia’s extensive collection of help pages. You can browse or do a search for the particular topic you’re looking for help with.

- Wikipedia:Teahouse – This is a friendly space for newcomers where you can ask questions and get to know other editors.

- IRC channels – These are chatrooms where experienced Wikipedians can often give you immediate help or advice. #wikipedia-en-help and #wikipedia-en-classroom are good places to start looking for help.

- WikiProject talk pages – These are message boards for users interested in editing articles about particular topics.