WISER Project Discussion

Introduction

For the WISER project, you have to do several things.

1. Create Wikipedia ID and profile
2. Initial Topic Selection
3. Proposal
4. Peer Review Report

The first step is to create the Wikipedia User ID with your user profile and become familiar with Wikipedia, the fourth largest webpage in the world. It may take some time to become familiar with all the areas and tools that Wikipedia has so please begin looking at the pages as soon as possible

Next, you need to pick an article to work with. To do this, you should start by reading the two documents I posted to see what is expected:

1. WISER Rubric Explanation
2. Wikipedia Request for Proposals (RFP)—Posted in Task 12

These two documents help you to know what makes a good article overall in Wikipedia and what will make a promising article for the WISER project where you have to improve a page with support from good quality sources. In the end you do not need to make your page perfect but just improve it with expert revisions of content and support.

There are several ways to find a page to use for this project. If you need assistance with this, you can go to pages on Wikipedia that list stub articles, projects main pages that ask for help, or enter discussion pages on articles to see what people ask for help with. You may also wish to use Google or other search engine to search Wikipedia by entering a search string that contains Wikipedia.org and a term or field you are interested in. You can also just hunt around on Wikipedia in a topic area until you find something. The NJIT reference librarians can also assist you to select a topic.

At the heart of the WISER project is the idea of adding some small items to an existing article in Wikipedia so that the overall page is improved. There are many ways to edit an article but the WISER project aims to have the following types of edits made:
1. Adding content such as a picture, figure, illustration, or text,
2. Editing current text to make it more readable by the target or more accurate,
3. Adding in citations and other supporting materials.

The Wikipedia community itself tags articles as needing support, citations, references, more content, or clarification. Finding an article with these types of tags is an excellent way to start the WISER project.

Task 8: WISER Project Topic Selection
Once you find an article, I need to see that it will work for the WISER project before you submit
the proposal so that you do not do a great deal of work with a bad page. To know this, I asked
you to post your initial topic in task 8. This helps me see what you are thinking when you chose
the page and if you see the same things an expert might so that you do not pick a page that is too
good or one that needs to much work to finish for the class.

For the Forum
Each student must choose a different Wikipedia page to assess for the WISER project for the
class and so being the first to post the topic reserves that topic for you. In the post, you should
begin by providing the properly formatted APA citation for the Wikipedia article you want to use.
The following link will assist with the APA citation for your selected article:
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Citing_Wikipedia You should include the definition given on your
article page for yourtopic. this can be quoted directly. After this, comment on your assessment of
the quality of the definition given and if it needs to be improved. Then you should discuss why
you selected the topic, how it relates to your major, and why you feel it may need expert support
and revisions. Lastly you need to include the citation for one source you might use to support
your work.

Task 12: WISER Project Proposal
The proposal is detailed in the WISER Request for proposals (RFP)

Task 14: WISER Project Peer Review
Rather than just submit a report to me about what you have accomplished for the WISER project,
you are asked to make a presentation to the class. Since this is an online class, the report must be
viewable to everyone and so Camtasia Relay is to be used to record a multimedia presentation. It
is suggested that you create a PowerPoint that describes what you have done and then if you
wish you can also go live into your Wikipedia article and point out the changes you have made
while you narrate the oral presentation. Camtasia Relay can be used to record whatever appears
on your computer as you speak over it. NJIT ITMS has prepared tutorials and can assist with
other aspects of this if needed. More details on this will be given in Moodle later in the semester.

For the forum,
You must post your report about your attainment for the WISER project by November 23, 2010
and then make replies on the reports of classmates in this forum. Post the Camtasia Relay URL
and/or written report about your WISER revisions so others can comment on them and I can
grade the final work All replies must be completed by December 1, 2010.

Based on feedback, you can make changes or additions to your report and submit a revised
version as part of your final showcase if you wish. Be sure to clearly note that you have made
such a revision or the report posted in the forum for Task 14 will be used.

Final Report for WISER Project

The final report is a direct statement of why your work made a substantial improvement to the Wikipedia article you selected along the lines of what was asked for in the WISER project. You should give a brief summary of the changes you actually made.

You must also include the URL for the page as it originally existed taken from the history tab along with the URL for the final state of the page that you edited—if your edit is the most recent, you can just use the URL for the main page; if not, use the most recent edit you made from the history tab.

Also, you should give the original article assessment rubric scores for areas you feel your work has improved. Then you should explain how your edits increased the scores of that section and give the new (higher) score.

At the end you can make a pitch that persuades me that you deserve a good grade on the project based on the work you have done and the improvement you have made. Everyone's project will be different so I cannot tell you exactly what to write or include. It is up to you to make the argument for the work you have done and why it demonstrates your accomplishment in the class.

The overall final report does not need to be very long if you can make your argument directly and concisely. You can assume I have read all the previous parts of the project and know what you have been doing. This final report is a summation of what has been accomplish and helps me verify the work done.