

Student Learning Outcomes using Wikipedia based assignments



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“Overall, young people’s ability to reason about the information on the Internet can be summed up in one word: *bleak*.”

“Evaluating Information: The Cornerstone of Civic Online Reasoning”, Stanford University, 2016



Abstinence-only
Wikipedia education
doesn't work



Wikipedia's impact on students

Powerful learning for students



Wiki
Edu

Fall 2016 Student Learning Outcomes study

- Total 1627 Students (survey)
- Three surveys across semester
- 96 Instructors (survey)
- 13 class focus groups (+200 participants)
- Open data and methods released (links on Wiki)

Student Learning Outcomes using Wikipedia-based assignments

Fall 2016 Research Report

June 2017

Prepared for the Wiki Education Foundation

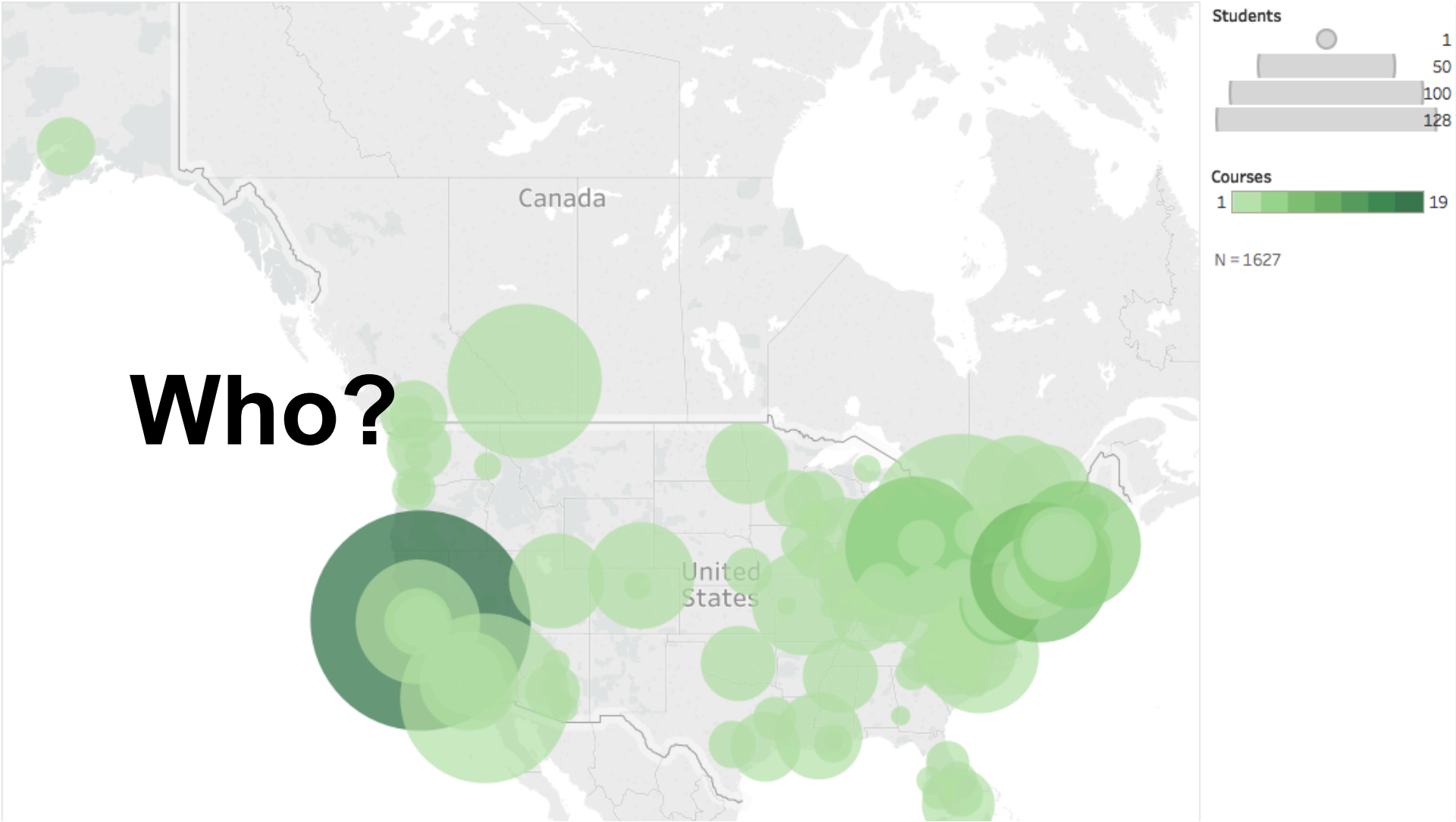


Major findings

- More time spent on assignments
- More satisfaction with work
- More perceived value for transferrable skills
- Shifting perceptions of Wikipedia / knowledge production in general



Who?



More satisfied with their work

Year in College	Much less	Less	Same	More	Much more
Freshman	1.15%	5.75%	37.93%	40.23%	14.94%
Sophomore	5.56%	6.94%	38.89%	37.50%	11.11%
Junior	10.23%	9.09%	40.91%	30.68%	9.09%
Senior	6.34%	10.56%	37.32%	36.62%	9.15%
Graduate Student	2.67%	5.33%	34.67%	41.33%	16.00%
Non Traditional	5.00%	5.00%	40.00%	40.00%	10.00%

Proud of their work

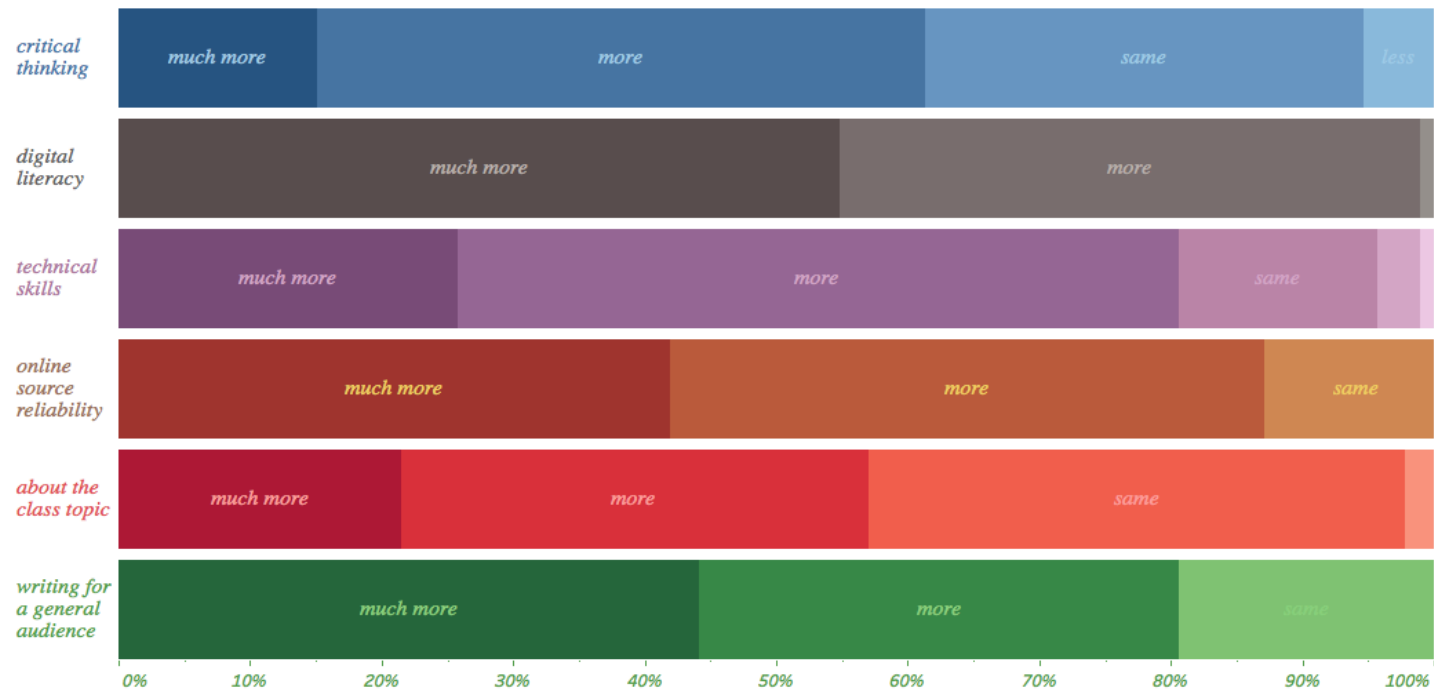
Year in College	Yes	No
Freshman	90.62%	9.38%
Sophomore	80.85%	19.15%
Junior	95.45%	4.55%
Senior	87.74%	12.26%
Graduate Student	89.58%	10.42%
Non Traditional	93.33%	6.67%

Spend (a little) more time

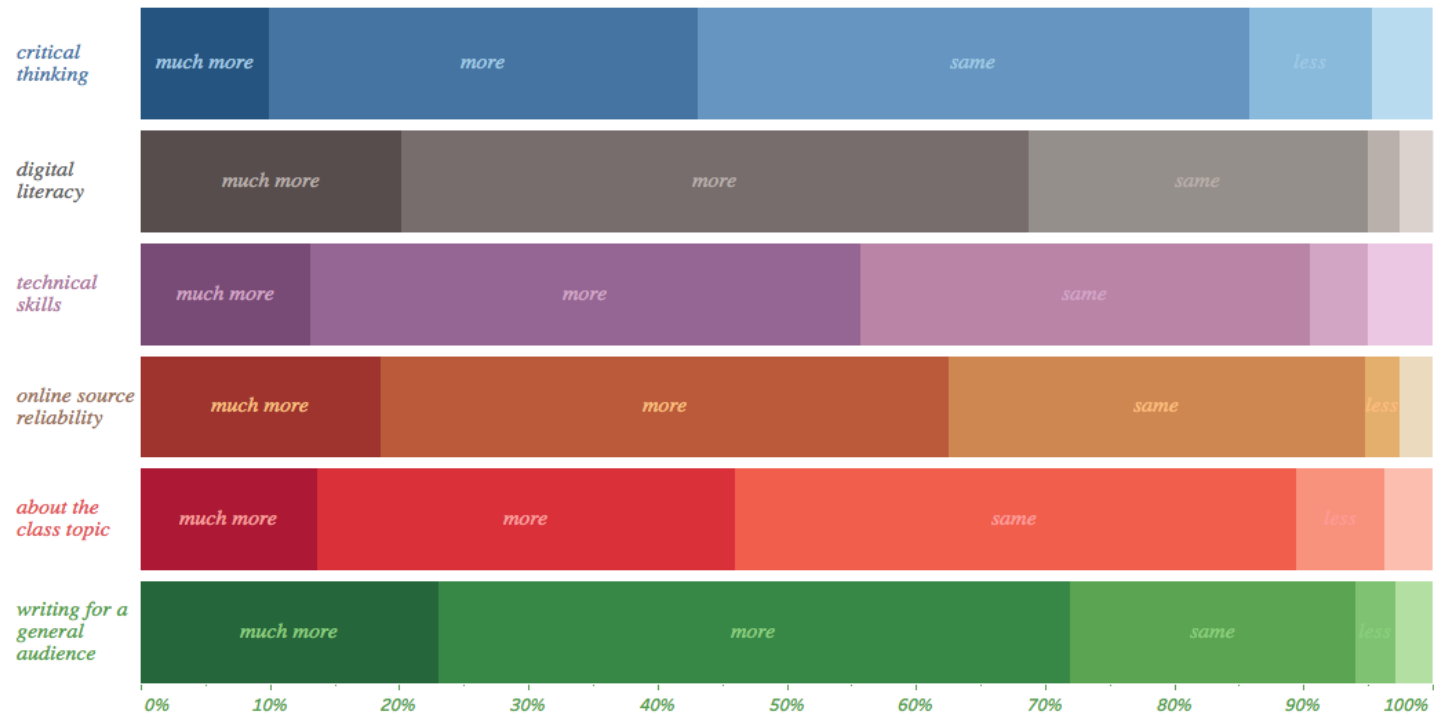
Year in College	Much less	Less	Same	More	Much more
Freshman	3.45%	17.24%	49.43%	22.99%	6.90%
Sophomore		20.83%	51.39%	22.22%	5.56%
Junior	2.27%	15.91%	50.00%	20.45%	11.36%
Senior	2.11%	16.20%	46.48%	29.58%	5.63%
Graduate Student		13.33%	57.33%	26.67%	2.67%
Non Traditional	5.00%		25.00%	55.00%	15.00%

Skills transfer

In comparison with a traditional assignment, **instructors** value Wikipedia assignments for learning



In comparison with a traditional assignment, **students** value Wikipedia assignments for learning



What is happening? (preliminary qualitative analysis)

Feeling good

“I think also the fact that it's public facing instead of just for a teacher. ***You're definitely more motivated to do something good that everybody approves, not just a teacher.*** Maybe you don't care about grades too much. Maybe you have an opinion about your teacher. That's irrelevant... ***you make those changes and you have something that stands, you feel good about yourself.***”



Learning critical skills

“I think you're a lot more ... you have much more of a questioning mentality and ***you're a lot more conscious of the validity of the information that you read.***”



Learning job skills

“It's a resume worthy skill at this point.”

“People want you to be able to use Facebook, Twitter. ***I feel like the direct skill, being trained and editing Wikipedia specifically is a valuable skill.***”



Finding a purpose

“I found it like less daunting, like when the professor assigns me a ten page research paper or something. *I have trouble getting myself to do it sometimes just because I'm like, "Why?"* But this, I was like I'm contributing to something bigger and it's public. *So, I felt more motivation to go in and edit it and whatever.* “



Making a difference

“One thing I realized is, ***a lot of the stuff that we're writing about is very interconnected... I would try to link stuff and then it wouldn't work - there would be no page... it's not random, the information that's missing from Wikipedia.*** It's a history of the knowledge of the events that have been documented and historicized in the world, and that's what's on Wikipedia right now.”



Impacting diversity (and they know it)





80,000 volunteers
("Wikipedians")
create Wikipedia

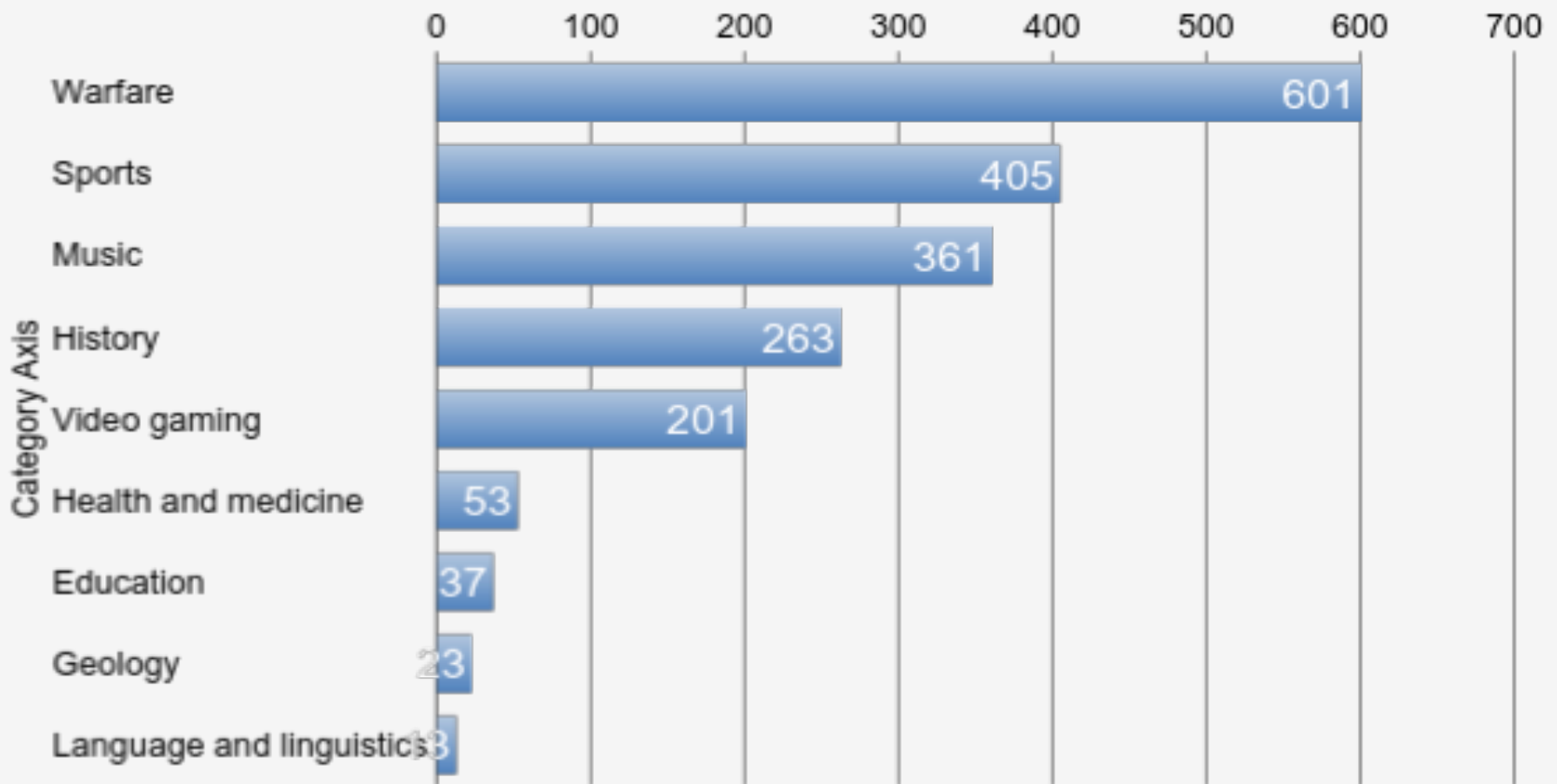


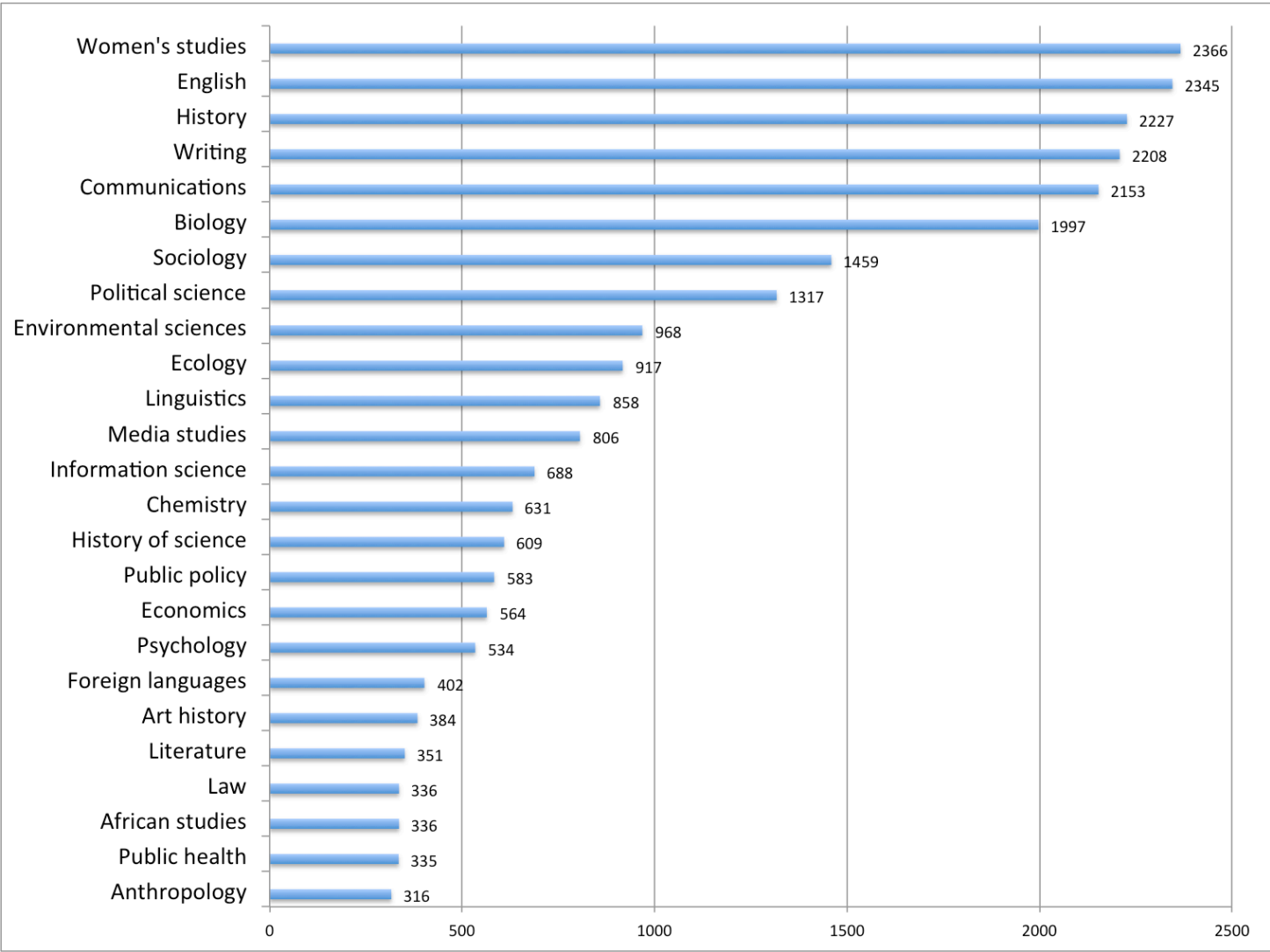
90% male

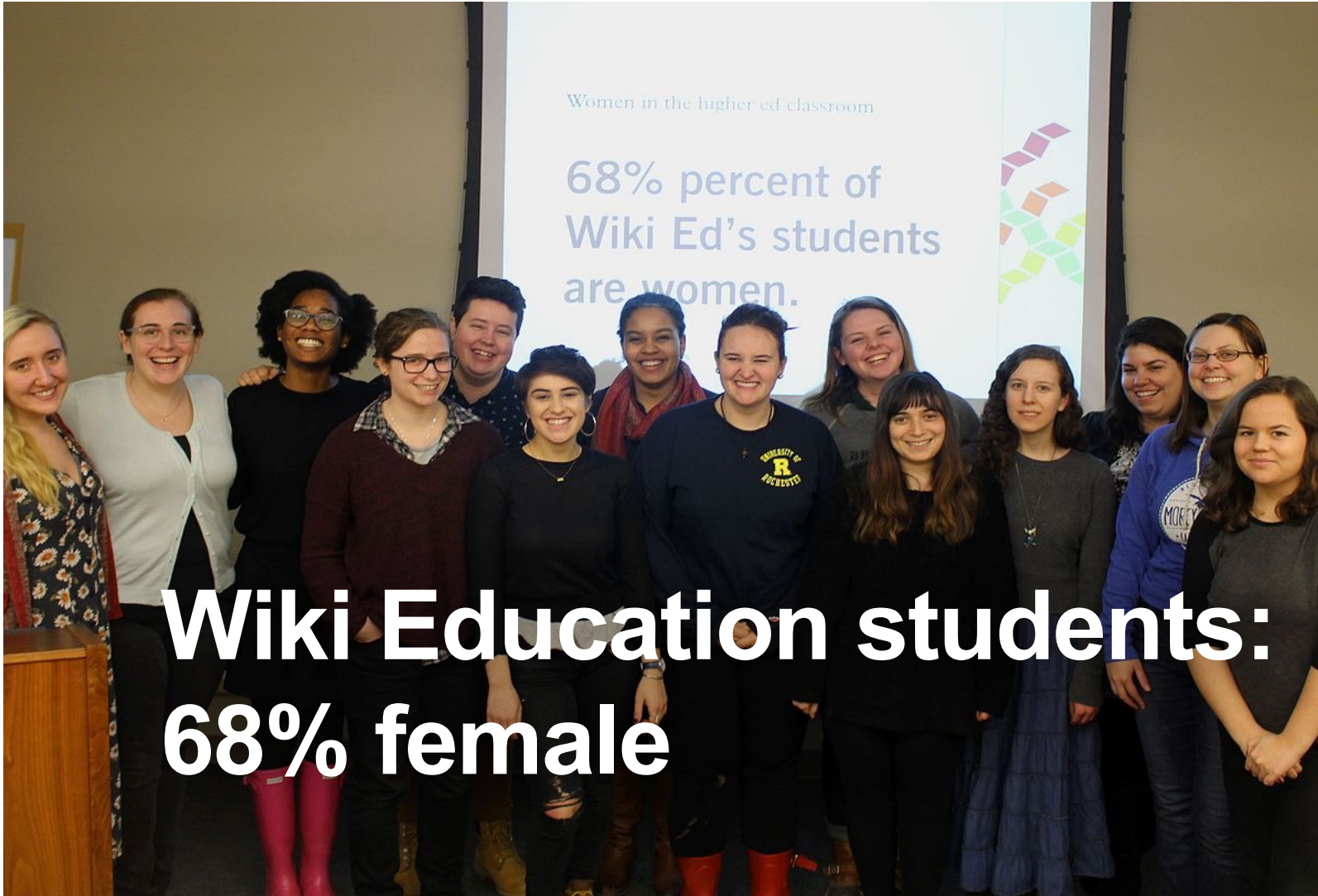
The “Gender Gap”

Only **16.9%** of Wikipedia’s biographies are of women.









Women in the higher ed classroom

68% percent of
Wiki Ed's students
are women.

**Wiki Education students:
68% female**



Wiki
Edu

**2.2 million words in gender,
race, sexuality topic areas**

5% of last print edition of *Encyclopedia Britannica*

Discuss:

**How can you apply
these learnings to
your community?**



Thank you

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