DEVELOPING WIKIPEDIA EDITING ASSIGNMENTS

WIKIPROJECT LIMNOLOGY & OCEANOGRAPHY





Glen Canyon Dam, USA. Image by Chmehl, Own work, CC-BY 2.5

Wikipedia editing is an excellent alternative to traditional classroom assignments. Students learn to evaluate information, conduct in-depth research, write concisely and factually, and cite their work using reliable sources. And as opposed to a traditional term paper or writing assignment, Wikipedia articles are eventually posted and shared freely online. This adds to our collective knowledge and puts the students' work into the public domain.

There are a number of resources that are available to post-secondary instructors who are using Wikipedia in the classroom. One valuable resource is Wiki Education, an organization that engages students and academics to improve Wikipedia, enrich student learning, and build a more informed public. The Wiki Education website contains a number of useful resources for educators, along with the Dashboard tool, which can be used to create and manage Wikipedia assignments.

The WikiProject Limnology & Oceanography (WP L&O) also has a number of resources to support post-secondary aquatic science educators. These include the WP L&O project site, a Google Drive folder of resources and publications, and a Twitter feed where we promote student-generated Wikipedia content. We also maintain a Slack channel for aquatic science educators – come join us there and ask any questions you may have!



