

Syllabus & Timeline

Wikipedia + Libraries: Better Together Online Training Program

September 13 – November 15, 2017

Instructors

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Wikipedia + Libraries is a **9-week course** consisting of **6 live online sessions (Sept. 13, 20, 27, Oct. 11, 25 & Nov. 15)**, online discussion forums, reading and activities. Course work requires a time commitment of about **3-5 hours per week**. Receiving a certificate of completion will require attending all live sessions (or viewing recordings), participating in discussion forums and completing key assignments.

Live sessions will include guest presenters who will share their experiences as librarians who Wikipedia. In between live online sessions, learners will participate in discussion forums in small groups, with volunteer Wikipedian guides to support their learning.

Getting Started

Your Wikipedia journey the WebJunction way

WebJunction provides an online learning environment where you can find all materials for the course and can connect with your instructors, guides and peer community. Prior to the first live session on Sept. 13, follow directions to get set up for the course, including creating a Wikipedia account.

Section 1 – September 13 - 17

Wikipedia for you, your library and your community

Live session – Wed. September 13, 1-2:30pm ET

Topics

- Welcome and overview of course
- Why Wikipedia is important to libraries, the range of ways you can engage
- What is an encyclopedia?
- History of Wikipedia
- How Wikipedia works, Five Pillars of Wikipedia
- A guest speaker will discuss why Wikipedia is important for 21st-century librarianship

Assignments include completing two short self-paced modules and participating in discussion groups.

Session 2 – September 18 - 24

Evaluating Wikipedia with a critical eye

Live session – Wed. September 20, 1-2:30pm ET

Topics

- How Wikipedia's community of editors navigate notability and conflicts of interest
- Defining a quality article: objectivity, neutral point-of-view, verifiability, resources, no original research
- A guest speaker will share their experiences with editing articles and how to assess rigor, quality and authority

Assignments include completing a short self-paced module prior to the live online session, evaluating Wikipedia articles and talk pages, and reflecting in discussion groups.

Session 3 – September 25 – October 8

Contribute to the Wikipedia body of knowledge

Live session – Wed. September 27, 1-2:30pm ET

Topics

- Basics of editing Wikipedia
- Negotiating conflicts of interest for libraries
- Overview of advanced editing and other Wikipedia projects and campaigns
- A guest speaker will share their experiences with Wikipedia editing for their library, and how they participate as a librarian for Wikipedia's thematic editing projects.

Assignments include completing a short self-paced module prior to the live online session, taking first steps in editing pages, and reflecting on the experience in discussion groups.

Session 4 – October 9 - 22

Wikipedia empowers your community

Live session – Wed. October 11, 1-2:30pm ET

Topics

- Engaging community through Wikipedia projects and outreach
- Introduction to engagement models
- Planning programs and engagement activities for your library
- Guest speakers will share their experiences with Wikipedia programming

Assignments include reviewing materials and case studies, and forming new discussion groups to begin creating a plan of action for your library

Session 5 – October 23 – November 12

Organize a Wikipedia event or activity for your community

Live session – Wed. October 25, 1-2:30pm ET

Topics

- Continued introduction and review of Wikipedia engagement models
- Building an action plan for Wikipedia engagement for your library after the course
- Guest speakers will share their experience with Wikipedia programming

Assignments include reviewing case studies and continuing to build a plan of action for your library.

Session 6 – November 13 - 15

Your Wikipedia journey continues

Live session – Wed. November 15, 1-2:30pm ET

Topics

- Where are you on your journey, what have you learned, where are you going together?
- Participants share their learnings and action plans
- Going beyond – more advanced Wikipedia engagement
- Staying connected/connecting with other library staff on Wikipedia
- Using what you've learned and sharing your engagements after the course

Statement on Learning Community Values

WebJunction is committed to meeting learners where they are in our community of practice. Course participants are expected to be professional and respectful to others and their viewpoints to ensure our shared learning environment is safe and meaningful.