

Can we really develop Wikipedia assignments at the university?

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22 February 2021

Josefine Hellroth Larsson

Project Leader, Education and Learning
josefine.hellroth.larsson@wikimedia.se



WIKIMEDIA
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NGO



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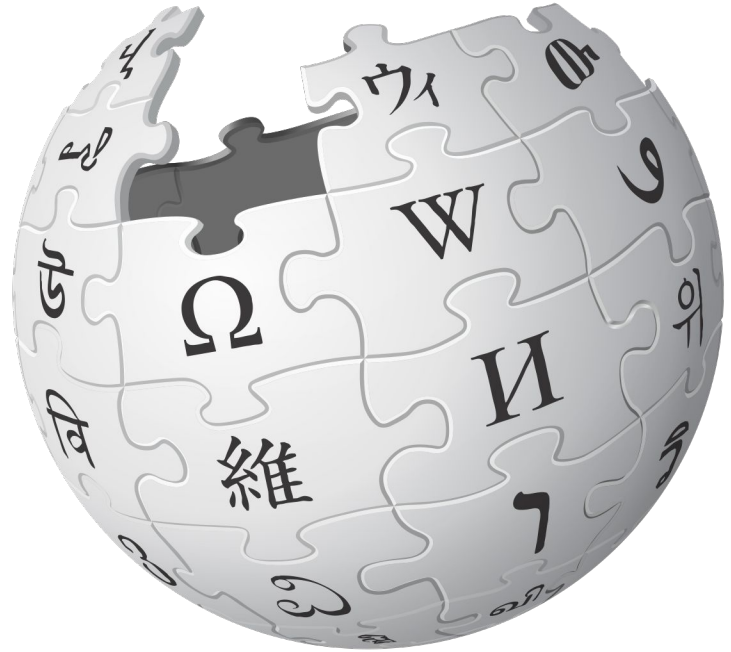
The board of Wikimedia Sverige 2019
By Arild Vågen CC BY-SA 4.0



Content forwards

- Recap: How does Wikipedia work, really?
- Reliability on Wikipedia
- Ongoing projects in education
- How could we work with Wikipedia?

“Imagine a world in which every single person on the planet is given free access to the sum of all human knowledge.
That's what we're doing.”





Community driven



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Raimond Spekking CC by SA 4.0,

Pillars

WIKIPEDIA IS AN ENCYCLOPEDIA

- ❑ No original research
- ❑ Style form for the text
- ❑ Everything does not fit in an encyclopedia, there is a notability criteria

EDITORS SHOULD TREAT EACH OTHER WITH RESPECT AND CIVILITY

- ❑ Respect your fellow wikipedians, even when you don't agree
- ❑ Never use Wikipedia as a battleground



WIKIPEDIA
Den fria encyklopedin

FREE CONTENT THAT ANYONE CAN USE, EDIT AND DISTRIBUTE

- ❑ All users license their work under free license, so anyone can use it – even for commercial reasons
- ❑ Plagiarizing from other sources is forbidden and controlled

A NEUTRAL POINT OF VIEW

- ❑ Wikipedia characterize information and issues rather than debate them, presenting different opinions where such exist
- ❑ No commercials of any kind

WIKIPEDIA HAS NO FIRM RULES

- ❑ There are policies and guidelines, but they are always open for discussion
- ❑ The principles and spirit is what matters
- ❑ Be bold!

Other important aspects

COPYRIGHT AND PLAGIARISM

- ☐ You cannot copy content from copyrighted sources to Wikipedia
- ☐ Only brief quotations are allowed
- ☐ Use your own words!

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- ☐ No paid articles
- ☐ No commercials of any kind
- ☐ Don't write about yourself



WIKIPEDIA
Den fria encyklopedin



Source criticism: **Talk and history pages**

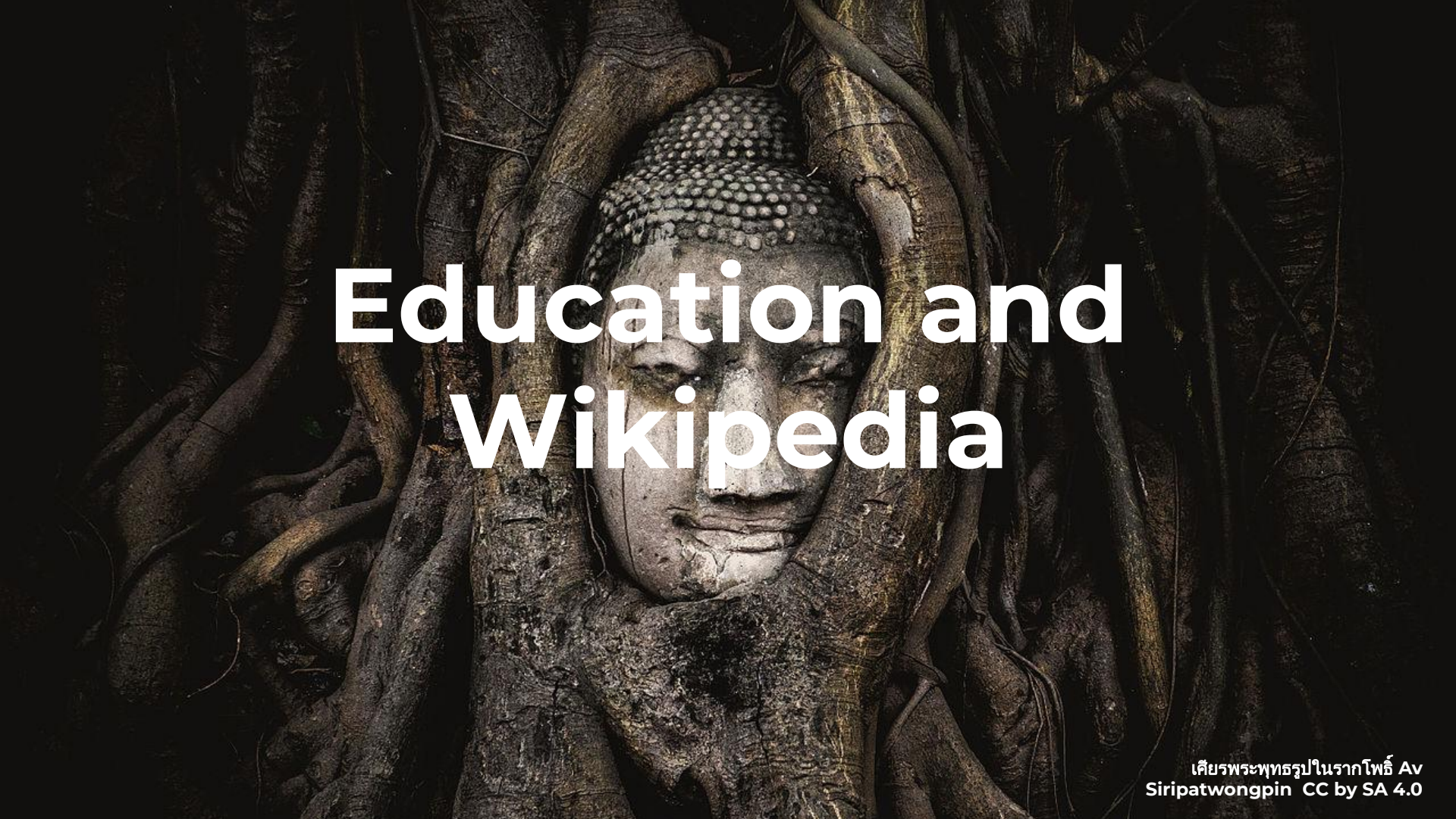
Articles:

How do you evaluate them?

- 5 minutes
- Pick one to begin with
- Discuss in small groups
- Strengths/weaknesses, why?

[Stockholm University](#)
[Eurovision Song Contest](#)
[Learning Styles](#)

“Random article”



Education and Wikipedia

Outreach

- 92% of young Swedes use Wikipedia (2018).
- ~ 156M page views of Swedish Wikipedia alone, each month.



Wikipedia Education Backpack
Blanca Flores CC by-sa 4.0

Universities making a mark

Examples of presenting research to the larger public



Introductory PhD Course TekNat Uppsala University



Coffee table talk with students – project Att skriva kulturhistoria på Wikipedia som gymnasiearbete, run in 2016–2017 av Zache CC BY-SA 4.0



Digital Humanities Master



Coffee table talk with students – project Att skriva kulturhistoria på Wikipedia som gymnasiearbete, run in 2016–2017 av Zache CC BY-SA 4.0



TÖI



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Coffee table talk with students – project Att skriva
kulturhistoria på Wikipedia som gymnasiearbete, run
in 2016–2017 av Zache CC BY-SA 4.0



Popular Science Communication Karolinska Institute



Coffee table talk with students – project Att skriva kulturhistoria på Wikipedia som gymnasiearbete, run in 2016–2017 av Zache CC BY-SA 4.0

Examples of methods

- Translation of relevant articles to your own language
- Evaluating existing articles within your field of education, investigating what the students know, or don't know
- Teaching students how to improve articles (eg. in adding citations or text), contributing to more accurate information
- See Wikipedia as a platform for (popular) science communication in encyclopedic form, adapting language etc.
- Teaching students how Wikipedia works, raising awareness of source criticism, copyright, independence etc.



What possibilities do you see?

(How) Could you plan a course connected to Wikipedia?

Group discussion

From the information you have gained today:

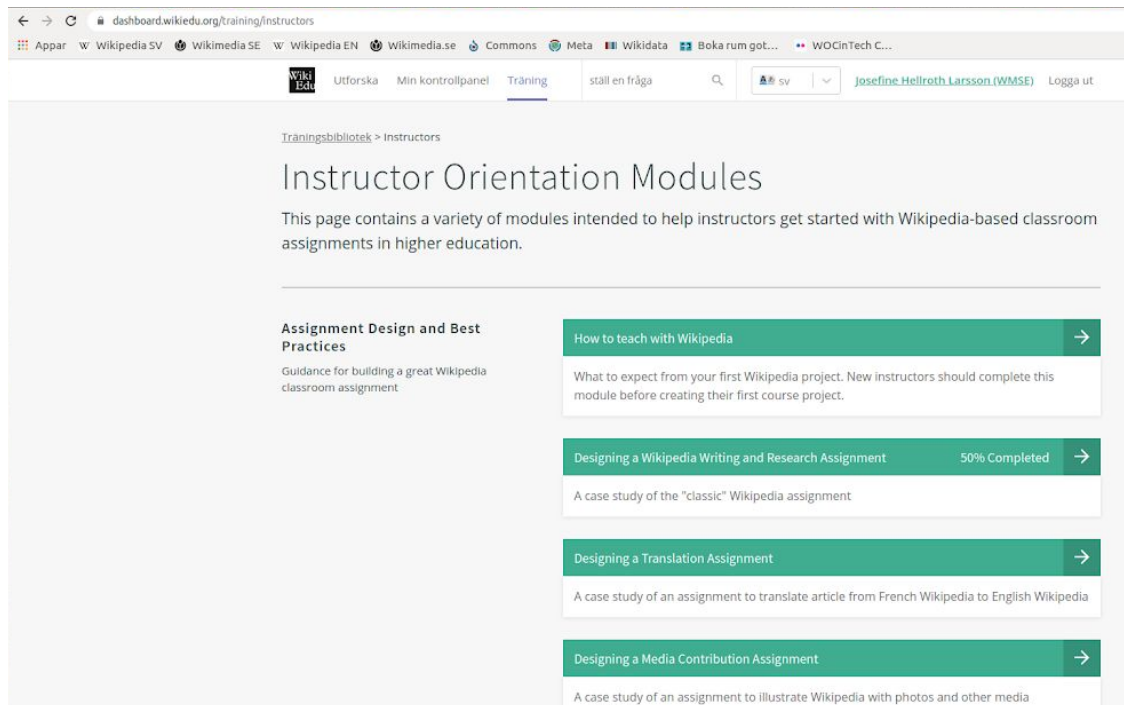
- Do you teach any courses where a connection to Wikipedia could be relevant?
- What methods of education connected to Wikipedia could you include in those courses?
- Are there any risks in developing such assignments?
- Has your perspective on using Wikipedia at universities changed?

Educate yourself



Editing Wikipedia:
A guide to improving
content on the online
encyclopedia

Educate yourself



The screenshot shows the Wikimedia Training Instructors dashboard. The browser address bar displays `dashboard.wikiedu.org/training/instructors`. The top navigation bar includes links for 'Appar', 'Wikipedia SV', 'Wikimedia SE', 'Wikipedia EN', 'Wikimedia.se', 'Commons', 'Meta', 'Wikidata', 'Boka rum got...', and 'WOCinTech C...'. Below this, a secondary bar contains 'Wikidata', 'Utforska', 'Min kontrollpanel', 'Träning', 'ställ en fråga', a search icon, a language dropdown set to 'sv', and a user profile for 'Josefine Hellroth Larsson (WMSE)' with a 'Logga ut' link.

The main content area is titled 'Instruktor Orientation Modules' and includes the sub-header 'Träningsbibliotek > Instructors'. A descriptive paragraph states: 'This page contains a variety of modules intended to help instructors get started with Wikipedia-based classroom assignments in higher education.'

On the left, a section titled 'Assignment Design and Best Practices' provides 'Guidance for building a great Wikipedia classroom assignment'. To the right, four module cards are listed, each with a green header, a description, and a right-pointing arrow:

- How to teach with Wikipedia**: What to expect from your first Wikipedia project. New instructors should complete this module before creating their first course project.
- Designing a Wikipedia Writing and Research Assignment** (50% Completed): A case study of the "classic" Wikipedia assignment.
- Designing a Translation Assignment**: A case study of an assignment to translate article from French Wikipedia to English Wikipedia.
- Designing a Media Contribution Assignment**: A case study of an assignment to illustrate Wikipedia with photos and other media.

Educate yourself



If you're interested in adding a Wikipedia assignment to your course, please visit teach.wikiedu.org for how to do so. There, you'll find step-by-step guidance for teaching with Wikipedia. This page serves as a useful reference once you're participating in our program.

Our staff has been supporting the Wikipedia Education Program in the United States and Canada since 2010. In that time, we've helped more than 1,000 instructors in higher education. We've collected their experiences and feedback to put together some guidelines and training for you and your students.

Do you want to try?

This upcoming week, think about what you could do to include Wikipedia in teaching. Any exciting ideas?

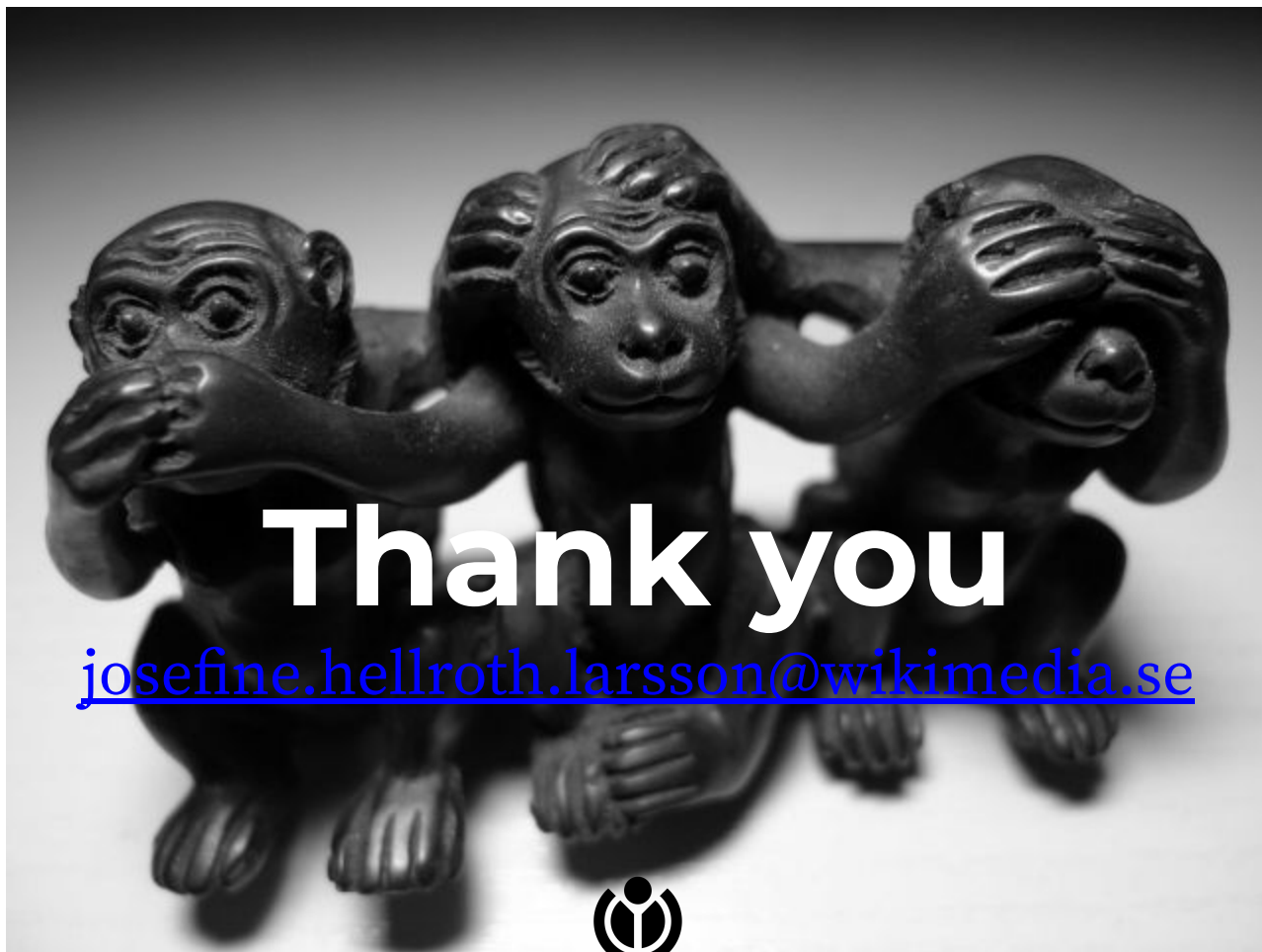
Contact me!

josefine.hellroth.larsson@wikimedia.se

What does it sound like?

Wikipedia is being edited in real time,
by the active community

<http://listen.hatnote.com/#sv,en>



Thank you

josefine.hellroth.larsson@wikimedia.se



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