

Sourcing Assignment

Background:

Wikipedia has a “reliable sources” policy, which outlines that “articles should be based on reliable, third-party, published sources with a reputation for fact-checking and accuracy. This means that we only publish the opinions of reliable authors”. In general, scholarly publications and well-respected news publications are the most reliable sources, but other sources are accepted when they represent an expertise in a particular subject matter.

Assignment:

Open the article that you are going to be working on this semester. It is listed in the Articles section at the bottom of our syllabus.

Part I: Evaluate existing sources

- (a) Check **two** individual facts in the article against the sources. If a fact has multiple sources, check the first source. First, pick the facts and sources you will check. Second, locate the sources. Third, determine if the source provides evidence for the fact that is reported in Wikipedia. Note: you do NOT need to read the entire source. You only need to know if the source supports the claim that is in Wikipedia.
- (b) Is the source available to all users of Wikipedia? Sometimes sources require passwords or payment. If so, replace the source with one that is available to everyone.
- (c) Is the fact reported correctly in Wikipedia? If not, remove or revise or replace the source as appropriate, and discuss this change on the talk page. If you cannot figure out how to fix the problem, just discuss the problem on the talk page.
- (d) Is the source unreliable? If so, replace the unreliable source with a reliable one, and then discuss this change on the talk page. If you cannot figure out how to fix the problem, just discuss the problem on the talk page.

Part 2: Add new source

- (a) Consider the entire article. Are there any facts that do not have a source? If so, find a reliable source and add it to the article. On the talk page, explain what source you added and why.
- (b) If ALL facts already have a source, locate a new piece of information that should be added to this article. Add the information and its source. On the talk page, explain the information and source you added.

Reference:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Rs>