

This document establishes a framework for cooperation between the Wikimedia Foundation and INSERT PROFESSOR NAME within the Wikipedia Public Policy Initiative. Both parties aim to develop and implement a mutually beneficial, experimental program that uses Wikipedia as a classroom teaching and learning tool.

The Wikipedia Public Policy Initiative, described at <http://bit.ly/WikiPubPol> , will run through the 2010–2111 academic year, involving activities in 15 to 30 classrooms, with evaluation and documentation to be completed by September 2011.

Wikimedia Foundation commitments

1. Wikipedia training for faculty members and students.

BENEFIT: Participants will learn how to effectively create and edit articles on the world's most prominent reference site. Hands-on experience with Wikipedia will provide professors and students insight into how Wikipedia content is created and how to evaluate it critically. Professors will gain experience using Wikipedia as a teaching tool.

2. Freely-licensed educational materials.

BENEFIT: Printed materials (e.g. sample lesson plans, learning activities, Wikipedia editing references.), online, and video materials will support current educational activities, and will be available for reuse, with or without modification, in future classes.

3. Ongoing support for teachers and students.

BENEFIT: Wikipedia experts will provide support to faculty and students throughout the Public Policy Initiative, answering questions both online (as Wikipedia Online Ambassadors) and offline (as Wikipedia Campus Ambassadors at your institution). After the initiative time-frame, we anticipate that students and Wikipedia Ambassadors will remain active in your department and on your campus, building a local community of Wikipedians.

4. Lessons Learned meeting for evaluation of the educational benefits, exploration of future potential.

BENEFIT: We will share our initial findings with all participants, and gather additional feedback. The feedback and evaluation will be used to develop strategies and support for on-going classroom activities in universities, determine next steps in relationship to the Public Policy initiative, inform and enhance Wikipedia Ambassador training, and determine how to expand the Public Policy Initiative model into other topic areas and geographies.

5. Recognition as a "Wikipedia Teaching Fellow," an honor bestowed upon professors who pledge to follow the Guidelines for Course Design document.

BENEFIT: The professor's contribution to new learning innovation and Wikipedia in the classroom will be recognized by the Wikimedia Foundation and the Wikipedia community with a Wikipedia Teaching Fellow title that can be used on a C.V.

Professor commitments

1. Use Wikipedia as a teaching tool in your class during the specified term, and assign Wikipedia contribution to your students as coursework. Involvement with Wikipedia assignment will be mandatory for each student, span at minimum half of the course term, and consist of making substantial course-related contributions to Wikipedia. See the Guidelines for Course Design for more detailed information.

BENEFIT: Students will write for a significant and diverse audience, and receive varied feedback in that process. Using Wikipedia as a learning tool and along with faculty guidance, students will develop a deeper understanding of public policy topics, document their research process, and learn to evaluate information resources.

2. Engage your students in structuring the course's topic area on Wikipedia, expanding or otherwise improving existing public policy articles, adding supporting material, and/or starting new articles related to public policy.

BENEFIT: Students will improve content areas within the broad topic of the course. Through exploration of content that already exists on Wikipedia, and engaging with the question of how to best improve it, they will gain a greater understanding of how to use Wikipedia to disseminate information to a broad audience.

3. Maintain frequent communication with Wikimedia Foundation staff, Campus Ambassadors, and Online Ambassadors via email and phone, and with the Wikipedia community through an up-to-date description of the assignment on the Course page of the related WikiProject. Campus Ambassadors should have access to a list of all students' email addresses to facilitate important (but infrequent) communication.

BENEFIT: Public Policy Initiative stakeholders will be able to work in concert with the assignment to provide the best support possible for your students.

4. Evaluate your overall Wikipedia classroom experience and your students' work on Wikipedia, and share this information with the Wikimedia Foundation's public outreach team, other Initiative participants, and any interested news media. You agree to participate in an interview via telephone or Skype about your experience and facilitate administration of student pre/post surveys conducted by outside evaluator WestEd.

BENEFIT: The Wikimedia Foundation's outreach team and WestEd will use the information to evaluate the effectiveness of using Wikipedia as a teaching tool, to report back to the funder, and to present the results to the general public. Additionally, this feedback may influence the Foundation's future development of educational materials and Wikipedia Ambassador trainings.

Specifics

- Dates of semester or quarter:
- Professor name:
- Teaching assistants, media services contacts, or other local resources:
- Department, school, or academic program:
- Course title and brief description:
- Number of students:
- Contact info:

I agree to base my course activities on the guidelines.

Signatures

- Professor
- Wikimedia Foundation representative: