



A demonstration of Wikiversity

Cormac Lawler
ALT-C, Nottingham, 2007



Cormac Lawler
ALT-C, 4th September, 2007





Wikiversity: Overview

- Project of Wikimedia Foundation (eg. Wikipedia)
- Officially launched in August 2006
(Had been previously “incubated” in Wikibooks for 2-3 years)

Scope:

- Educational materials & activities (including research)
- All learner levels and languages



[project page](#) [discussion](#) [view source](#) [history](#)


Election results for the Wikimedia Foundation Board of Trustees.

Wikiversity:Main Page

Welcome to Wikiversity

Set learning free

[About](#) · [Browse](#) · [Community](#)
[Editing](#) · [Help](#) · [Questions](#) · [Tour](#)
We take requests!



Communications and community

- [Community portal](#) — A listing

navigation

- [Main Page](#)
- [Browse](#)
- [Recent changes](#)
- [Random page](#)
- [Help](#)
- [Donations](#)

community

- [Portal](#)
- [Colloquium](#)
- [News](#)

search

toolbox

- [What links here](#)

Browse our schools and subject areas:
[Humanities](#) · [Physical Sciences](#) · [Life Sciences](#) · [Practical Arts and Sciences](#) · [Mathematics](#) · [Engineering and Technology](#) · [Interdisciplinary Studies](#) · [Social Sciences](#) · [Education](#) · [Media](#) · [Professions](#) · [Other portals](#)

What is Wikiversity?

Welcome, newcomers!

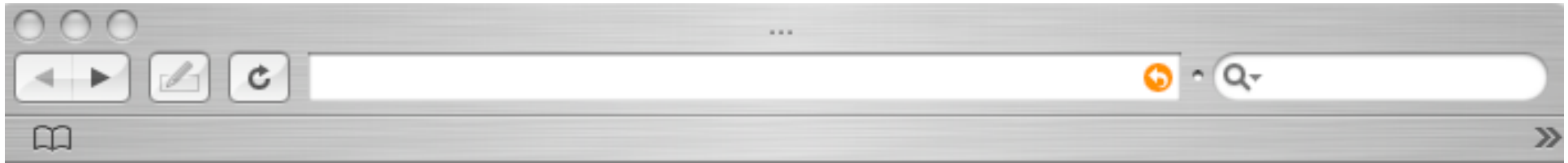
Wikiversity is a community for the creation and use of free [learning materials](#) and [activities](#).

...The English Wikiversity




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[content page](#) [discussion](#) [view source](#) [history](#)


Wikiversity



WIKIVERSITY

search

English



English
Free Learning Community

Deutsch
Freie Forschungsgemeinschaft

Español
Comunidad de Aprendizaje Libre

Français
Communauté pédagogique ouverte

Italiano
L'università libera


...Multilingual hub



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Wikiversity
Beta

navigation

- [Main Page](#)
- [Root category](#)
- [Help](#)
- [Babel](#)
- [Recent changes](#)
- [Random page](#)
- [Donations](#)

search

toolbox

- [What links here](#)
- [Related changes](#)
- [Upload file](#)
- [Special pages](#)

[article](#) | [discussion](#) | [view source](#) | [history](#)

Main Page

Friday, August 3 2007

Welcome to Wikiversity beta

[العربية](#) | [Български](#) | [Česky](#) | [Deutsch](#) | **English** | [Ελληνικά](#) | [Español](#) | [فارسی](#) | [Français](#) | [Ἑβραϊκή](#) | [עברית](#) | [Italiano](#) | [日本語](#) | [Kölsch](#) | [Libneneh](#) | [Ἑλληνικά](#) | [Nederlands](#) | [Português](#) | [Română](#) | [Русский](#) | [Svenska](#) | [Türkçe](#) | [中文](#) | [Polski](#) |


What is Wikiversity beta?

This website is a central hub for coordination of all the language-specific Wikiversity projects. This **multilingual coordination** builds upon Wikiversity's **mission** and the **Wikiversity project proposal**. This website hosts discussions about Wikiversity **policy** for original research.


Wikiversity beta is also an incubator for Wikiversities in various languages that are not yet separate projects. So far, **English**, **German**, **Spanish**, **French** and **Italian** are separate projects. See the **News from separate projects**.


Announcements

June 2007

 **10** : [Wikimedia Board Election](#) opens.

May 2007

 **31** : [m:Wikimedia brand survey](#) initiated by [Eric Moeller](#)

 **18** : [20:19: Italian wikiversity](#)

...The “Beta” Wikiversity



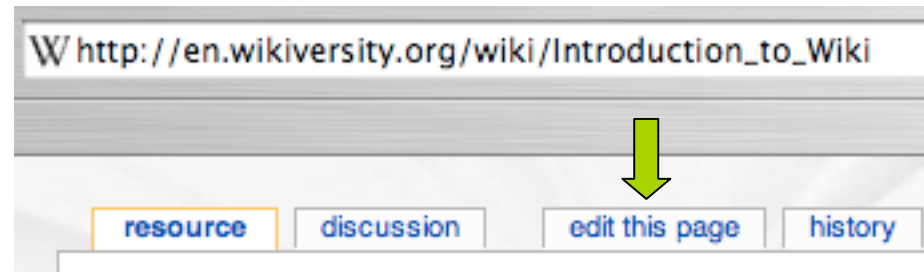
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What is a Wiki?

- Editable website...



- Invented in 1994 - becoming more prominent (Wikipedia)
- Many practical usages (eg common interests, companies)
- Work based on the formation of a community



Community at work (Recent Changes)

- (diff) (hist) . . School:Political science; 15:32 . . (+1) . . [81.76.111.118](#) (Talk | block) (→Plans for Departments)
- (diff) (hist) . . School of Mathematics:Introduction to Graph Theory:Problems 1; 15:31 . . (+44) . . [74.99.31.225](#) (Talk | block)
- (diff) (hist) . . **Topic:Audio engineering**; 15:30 . . (+5) . . Est (Talk | contribs | block) (→Active participants)
- (diff) (hist) . . **Topic:Audio engineering**; 15:29 . . (+14) . . Est (Talk | contribs | block) (→Active participants)
- (User creation log); 15:28 . . [Clara811222](#) (Talk | contribs | block) (New user)
- (diff) (hist) . . Lesson 1b: The consonants; 15:13 . . (+2) . . [Plbidis](#) (Talk | contribs | block)
- (diff) (hist) . . **N** User:Cuchullainn; 15:09 . . (+107) . . Cuchullainn (Talk | contribs | block) (New page: *Conor Neill Professor in Managerial Communication at IESE, University of Navarra [http://www.iese.edu IESE]*)
- (User creation log); 15:07 . . Cuchullainn (Talk | contribs | block) (New user)
- (diff) (hist) . . Topic:CommunicationBeta; 15:06 . . (+4) . . [213.97.26.87](#) (Talk | block) (→Communication Media)
- (diff) (hist) . . Massive Multiplayer Online Role Playing Game Research Project; 15:02 . . (-139) . . [68.160.161.209](#) (Talk | block)
- (User creation log); 14:53 . . [Nohide](#) (Talk | contribs | block) (New user)
- (diff) (hist) . . School:Theology; 14:51 . . (+67) . . [AlistairReece](#) (Talk | contribs | block) (→Active participants)
- (diff) (hist) . . School talk:Theology; 14:50 . . (+278) . . [AlistairReece](#) (Talk | contribs | block) (Department of Christian Theology?)
- (diff) (hist) . . Talk:Technical writing; 14:50 . . (+211) . . [Adam.fox](#) (Talk | contribs | block) (→Making a link to Business Writing?)
- (diff) (hist) . . **m** Template:Mad Max:Narrative Music:Pop Quiz:Answers; 14:48 . . (+8) . . [Robert Elliott](#) (Talk | contribs | block) (Minor Additions)
- (diff) (hist) . . **N** Talk:Nicene Creed (Roman Catholic Theology); 14:48 . . (+332) . . [AlistairReece](#) (Talk | contribs | block) (New page: *As this resource is dedicated to the theological aspects of the Creed, should we use agree that the original text be the basis for discussion rather than that which is accepted by the Lati...*)
- (diff) (hist) . . History Of Scotland; 14:42 . . (+145) . . [AlistairReece](#) (Talk | contribs | block) (→Contributors)
- (diff) (hist) . . **N** Talk:History Of Scotland; 14:41 . . (+278) . . [AlistairReece](#) (Talk | contribs | block) (Possible topics)
- (User creation log); 14:39 . . [Eric19870909](#) (Talk | contribs | block) (New user)
- (diff) (hist) . . **N** Talk:Technical writing edits; 14:39 . . (+89) . . [Adam.fox](#) (Talk | contribs | block) (New page: *===Adam=== You use 'planning' as a heading twice. What is the difference between the two?*)
- (diff) (hist) . . **Wikiversity:Help desk**; 14:00 . . (+21) . . [StuRat](#) (Talk | contribs | block) (→To overcome a confused mind.)



Elements of wikis

- ‘Talk’ (or ‘discussion’) pages
- Watchlists
- Structure (eg. categories, namespaces)
- Page protection (“custodians / admins / sysops”)



Community, Participants, Users...

- 34 new accounts p. day (av.)
- Total: 13,236 (as of 02-09-07)

However...

- 375 contributors with >10 edits
- 31 new contributors per month
- 5-10 active; 50-100 very active

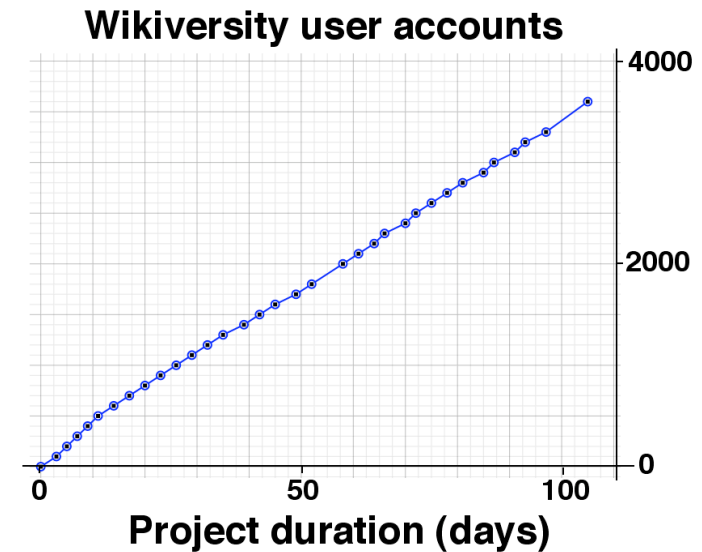
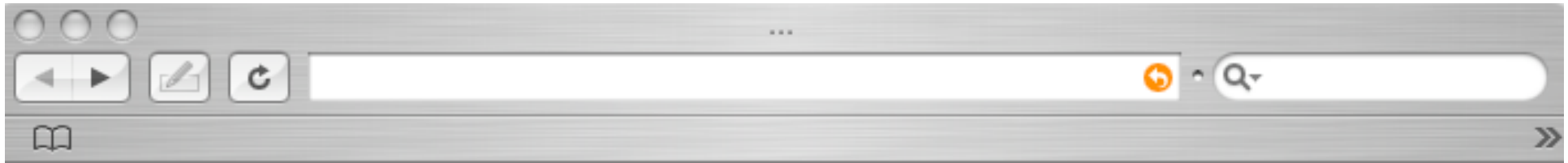


Image: John Schmidt
<http://en.wikiversity.org/wiki/Image:Wikiversityuseraccounts105.png>



(Some) Resources in Wikiversity:

- http://en.wikiversity.org/wiki/Introduction_to_Wikiversity (First stop)
- <http://en.wikiversity.org/wiki/Wikiversity:Introduction> (Basic edit tutorial)
- http://en.wikiversity.org/wiki/Wikiversity:Welcome%2C_newcomers (FAQ)
- <http://en.wikiversity.org/wiki/Help:Contents> (Help)
- <http://en.wikiversity.org/wiki/Wikiversity:Browse> (browse wiki)
- <http://en.wikiversity.org/wiki/Filmmaking> (Example of educational content)
- <http://en.wikiversity.org/wiki/Wikiversity:Colloquium> (Discussion forum)
- <http://en.wikiversity.org/wiki/Help:Quiz> (Quiz extension)
- http://en.wikiversity.org/wiki/Supporting_Wikiversity_participants
- <http://en.wikiversity.org/wiki/Special:Statistics> (basic stats)
- <http://stats.wikimedia.org/wikiversity/EN/TablesWikipediaEN.htm> (more stats)

(See also: <http://en.wikiversity.org/wiki/User:Cormaggio/ALT-C>)



Wikis can be intimidating...

"In 1989 I brought home my first ever company car, a Toyota Camry with fuel injection and electronic ignition and all fuel and servicing provided, free. Up until that day I had usually done my own engine tune-ups because I liked fiddling with points and carburettors. After six months I decided to open the bonnet 'to see if it had an engine'. I noted the sealed systems and need for special diagnostic equipment and closed the bonnet on that area of interest. In a strange way wiki is like re-opening that bonnet."
(Anon)



But wikis offer new possibilities...

“ When I think about the ultimate goal of Wikiversity, I think about the historical origins of universities, collaborative efforts to facilitate learning that brought together learners and teachers. In a sense, we are starting over from that fundamental starting point but doing it in a new medium, a virtual world that is not constrained by the need to work in a restrictive physical space. We are able to explore what can be done in this new virtual space.” (JWSchmidt)



Feedback...

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Blog: <http://cormaggio.org>

WV page: <http://en.wikiversity.org/wiki/User:Cormaggio>