

# Using Wikipedia as a teaching tool



Jami Mathewson, Wiki Education



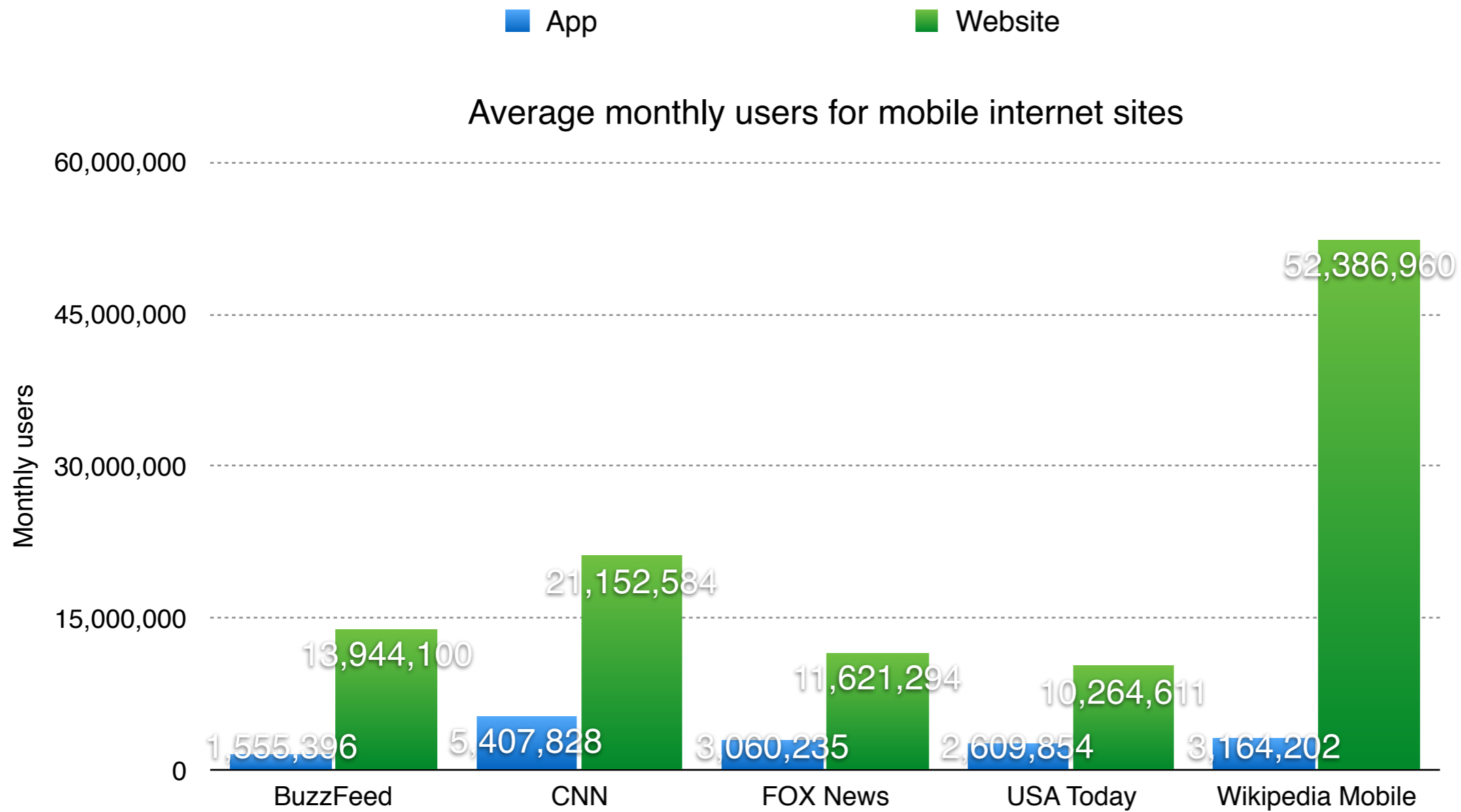
# First: What is Wikipedia?

# 6th most visited website

**500 million unique  
visitors each  
month**



# Knight Foundation study: average monthly users for mobile internet sites



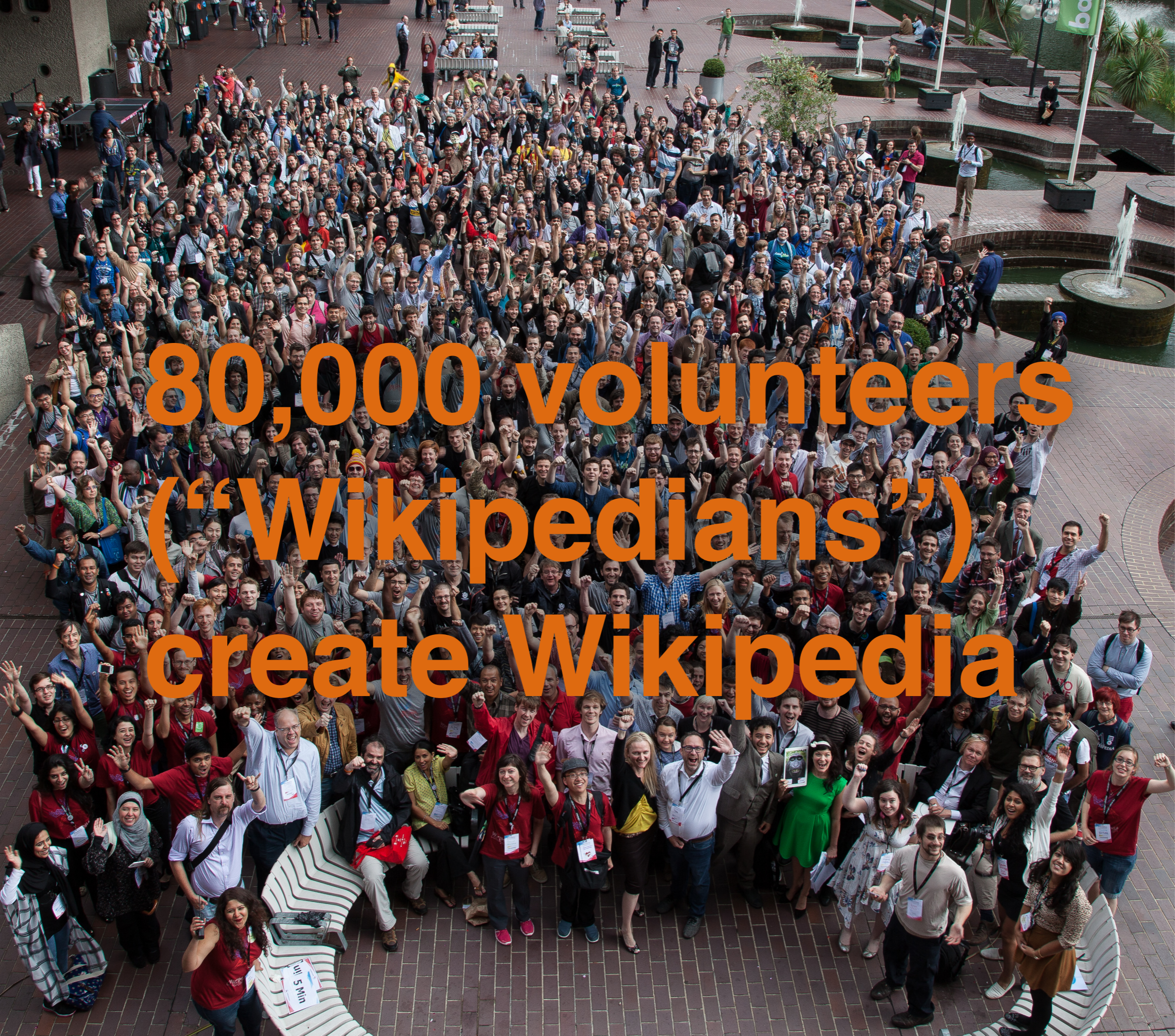
When people want to know something,

**Wikipedia is  
where they find  
answers.**

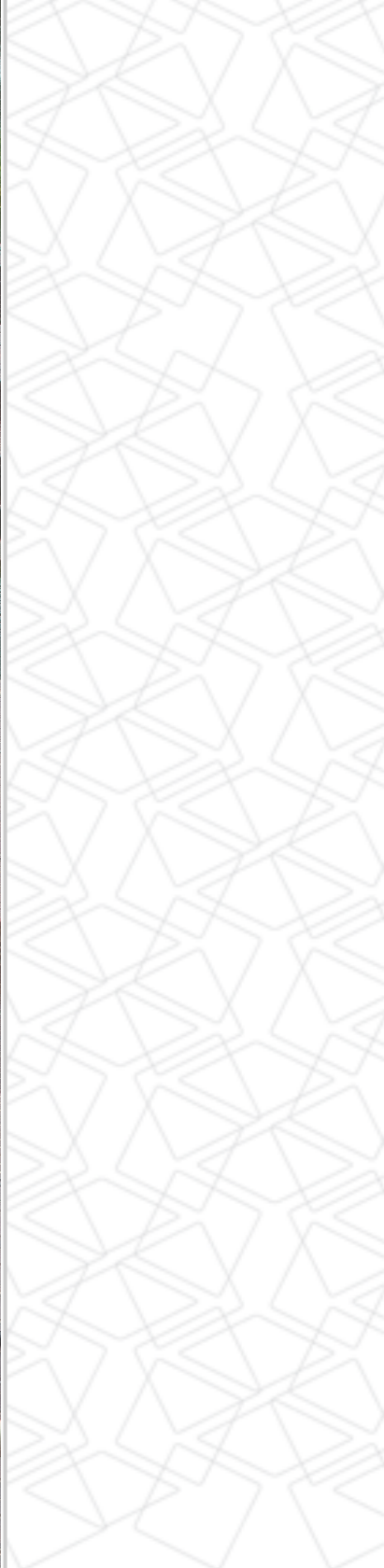


# Who writes Wikipedia?





**80,000 volunteers  
("Wikipedians")  
create Wikipedia**







90% male

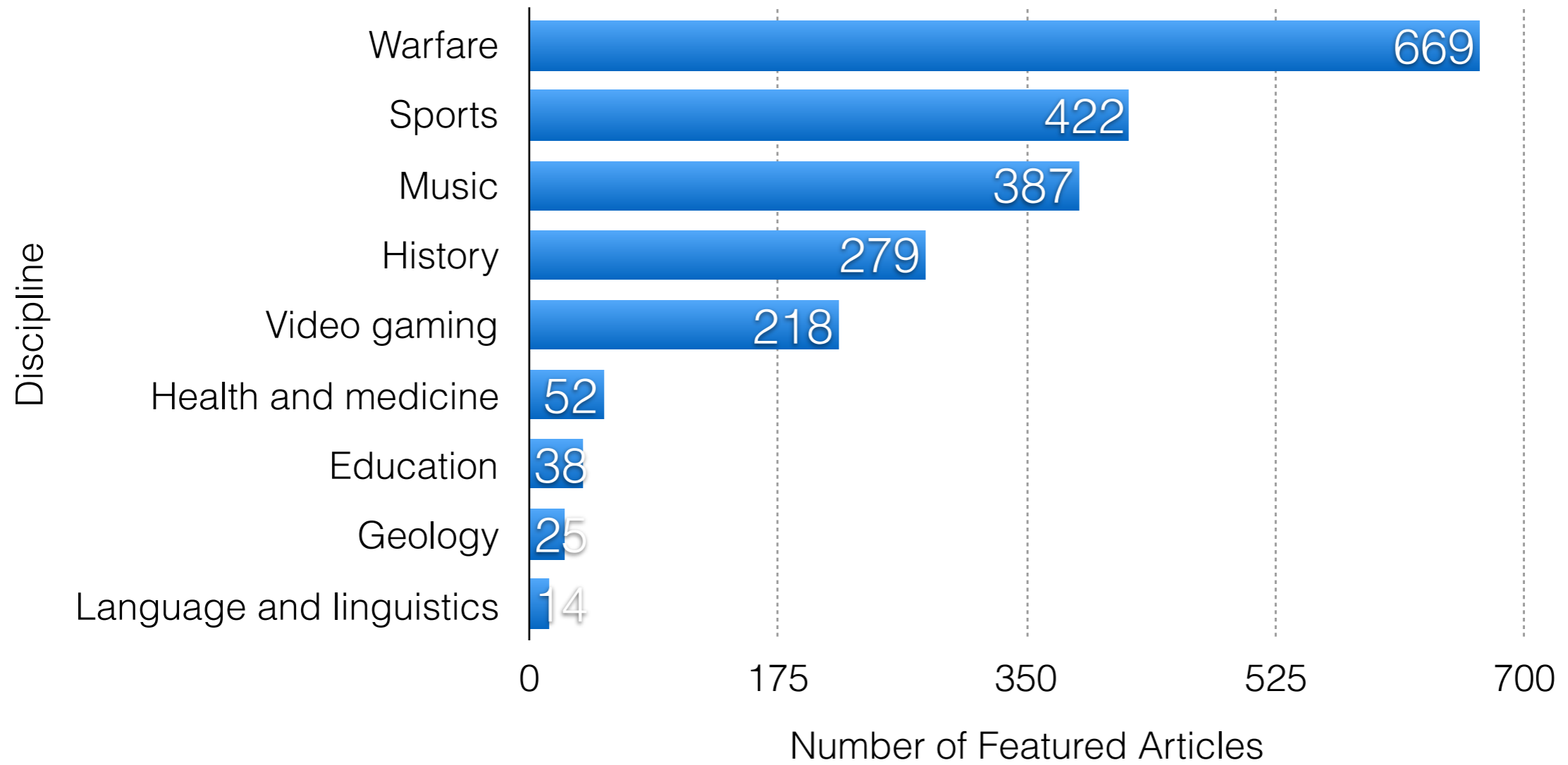




# Content gaps

What is still missing on Wikipedia?

# Wikipedia's Featured Articles



# Students write Wikipedia

Wiki Education's Classroom Program



Case Study: improving Wikipedia's equity

# How do students share knowledge with the world?

Only **17.49%** of  
Wikipedia's biographies are  
of women.



# Adding biographies of women and underrepresented communities

Sarah Grosvenor

Lear Green

Mamta Patel

Nagaraja

Sylvia Dubois

Cherry Turner

Lee Jeong-hyang

Sara Mae

Stinchfield Hawk

Adaline Weston

Couzins

Suzanne

Saueressig

Kate Gordon

Moore

Alison S. Brooks

Natalie Ahn

Inge Lehmann

Paulien Hogeweg

Irene Crespin

Susanne Langer

Harriet

Martineau

Mercy B. Jackson

Eleanor Pairman

Aletta Jacobs

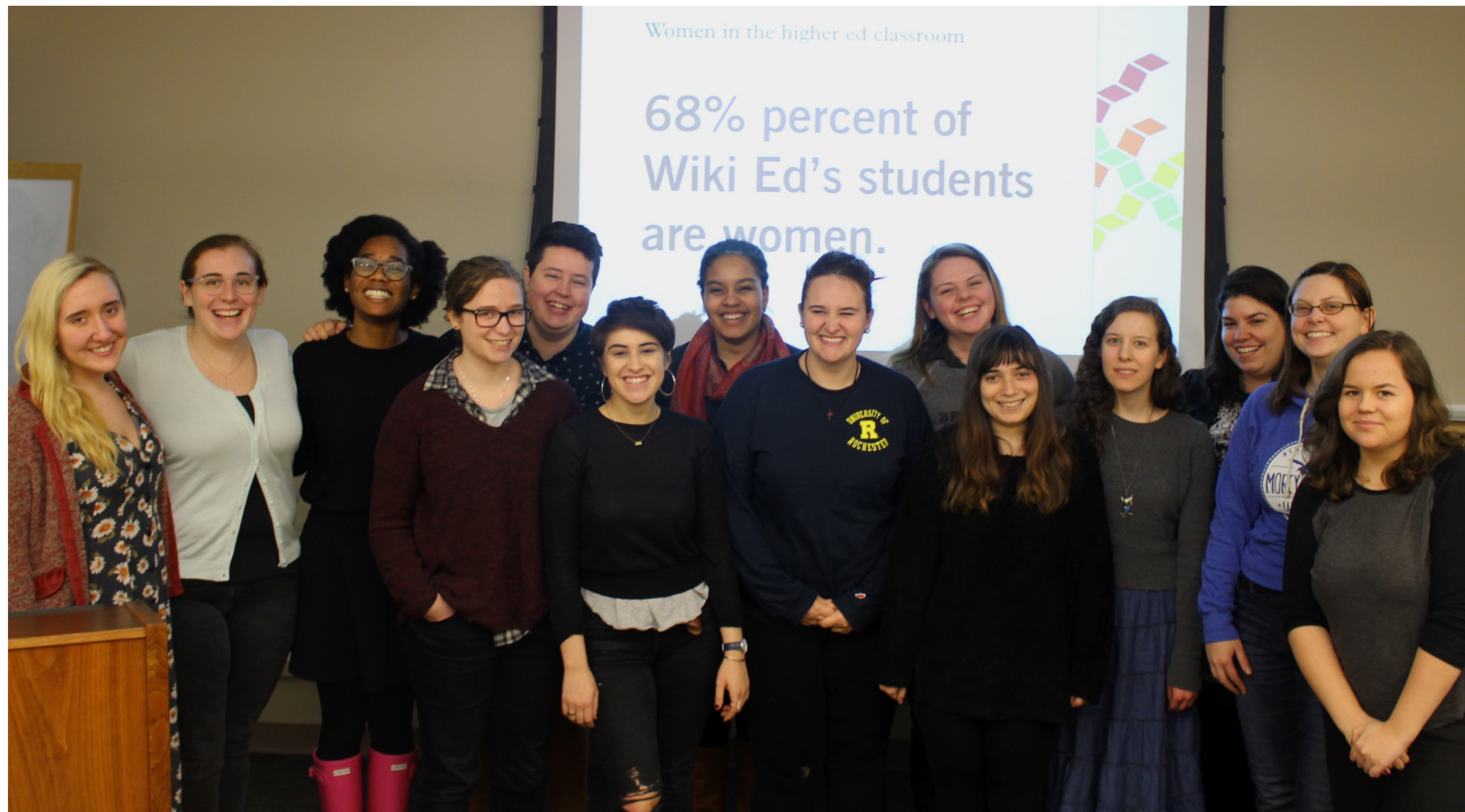
Kate Gordon

Moore

# Representing more equitable information

- Women in Arab societies
- Feminism in Latin America
- Multiracial feminist theory
- Feminist activism in hip hop
- Hookup culture
- Education in Zimbabwe
- Fourth-wave of feminism
- Gender Inequality in Sri Lanka
- Medieval Singlewomen

# Bringing new voices to Wikipedia



Instructors report that 68% of Wiki Education's students identify as women.



# **Student work:** **Kalief Browder**

# Kalief Browder

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

This is an **old revision** of this page, as edited by [68.144.124.207 \(talk\)](#) at 00:03, 3 March 2017. The present address (URL) is a **perm** significantly from the current revision.

[\(diff\)](#) ← [Previous revision](#) | [Latest revision \(diff\)](#) | [Newer revision](#) → [\(diff\)](#)

**Kalief Browder** (May 25, 1993 – June 6, 2015) was a young man arrested at the age of 16 under suspicion of robbery and imprisoned without conviction for three years on [Rikers Island](#). His case has been cited by activists who call for reform of [New York City's](#) criminal justice system.

# Kalief Browder

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

This is an **old revision** of this page, as edited by [Ujwalamurthy \(talk | contribs\)](#) at 23:55, 21 March 2017 (*See also*). The present address which may differ significantly from the current revision.

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This article **may require [copy editing](#) for grammar, style, cohesion, tone, or spelling.** You can help [WikiEdu](#) by [addressing these issues](#).  
*(March 2017)* (*Learn how and when to remove this template message*)

**Kalief Browder** (May 25, 1993 – June 6, 2015) was a young [African American](#) man who was arrested at the age of 16 for allegedly stealing a backpack. He was imprisoned for three years on [Rikers Island](#) without trial and spent most of this time in solitary confinement. Two years after his release, Browder committed suicide. His case is cited by activists who call for the reform of the [New York City](#) criminal justice system and is the subject of a six-part [docuseries](#) on [Spike](#), *[TIME: The Kalief Browder Story](#)*.





**1,467,177 readers  
since March 2017,  
when the student  
improved the  
article.**

# Reach to even more readers!

The image shows a Google search interface. The search bar contains the text "kalief browder". Below the search bar are navigation tabs for "All", "Videos", "News", "Images", "Books", and "More". The "All" tab is selected. Below the tabs, it says "About 297,000 results (0.91 seconds)".

The search results list several items:

- Kalief Browder - Wikipedia**  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kalief\\_Browder](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kalief_Browder) ▼  
Kalief Browder (May 25, 1993 – June 6, 2015) was an African American man who was arrested at the age of 16 for allegedly stealing a backpack. He was ...  
Arrest · Imprisonment · Release and post-prison ... · Response to Browder's ...
- Kalief Browder, 1993–2015 | The New Yorker**  
<https://www.newyorker.com/news/news-desk/kalief-browder-1993-2015> ▼  
Jun 7, 2015 - Kalief Browder spent three years on Rikers Island without being convicted of a crime. After he was released, he struggled with mental health, ...
- Kalief Browder In The New Yorker News, Opinion, and Analysis—The ...**  
<https://www.newyorker.com/topics/kalief-browder-in-the-new-yorker> ▼  
A collection of articles about Kalief Browder In The New Yorker from The New Yorker, including news, in-depth reporting, commentary, and analysis.
- Kalief Browder Documentary, Facts | Essence.com**  
[www.essence.com/news/facts-about-kalief-browder-rikers-prison-documentary-jayz](http://www.essence.com/news/facts-about-kalief-browder-rikers-prison-documentary-jayz) ▼  
Mar 2, 2017 - Here's everything you need to know about Kalief Browder, whose story is being displayed in Spike TV docu-series executive produced by Jay Z ...
- KING: Pedro Hernandez is Rikers Island's new Kalief Browder - NY ...**  
[www.nydailynews.com/.../king-pedro-hernandez-rikers-island-new-kalief-browder-articl...](http://www.nydailynews.com/.../king-pedro-hernandez-rikers-island-new-kalief-browder-articl...)

On the right side of the search results, there is a knowledge panel for "Kalief Browder". It features a main image of Kalief Browder and a grid of "More images". The panel includes the following information:

- Kalief Browder** <
- Kalief Browder was an African American man who was arrested at the age of 16 for allegedly stealing a backpack. He was imprisoned for three years on Rikers Island without trial and spent most of this time in solitary confinement. [Wikipedia](#)
- Born:** May 25, 1993, The Bronx, New York City, NY
- Died:** June 6, 2015, The Bronx, New York City, NY
- Nationality:** American
- Cause of death:** Suicide
- Parents:** Venida Browder, Everett Browder



# Student learning outcomes

Fall 2016 study, Dr. Zach McDowell

# Details of study

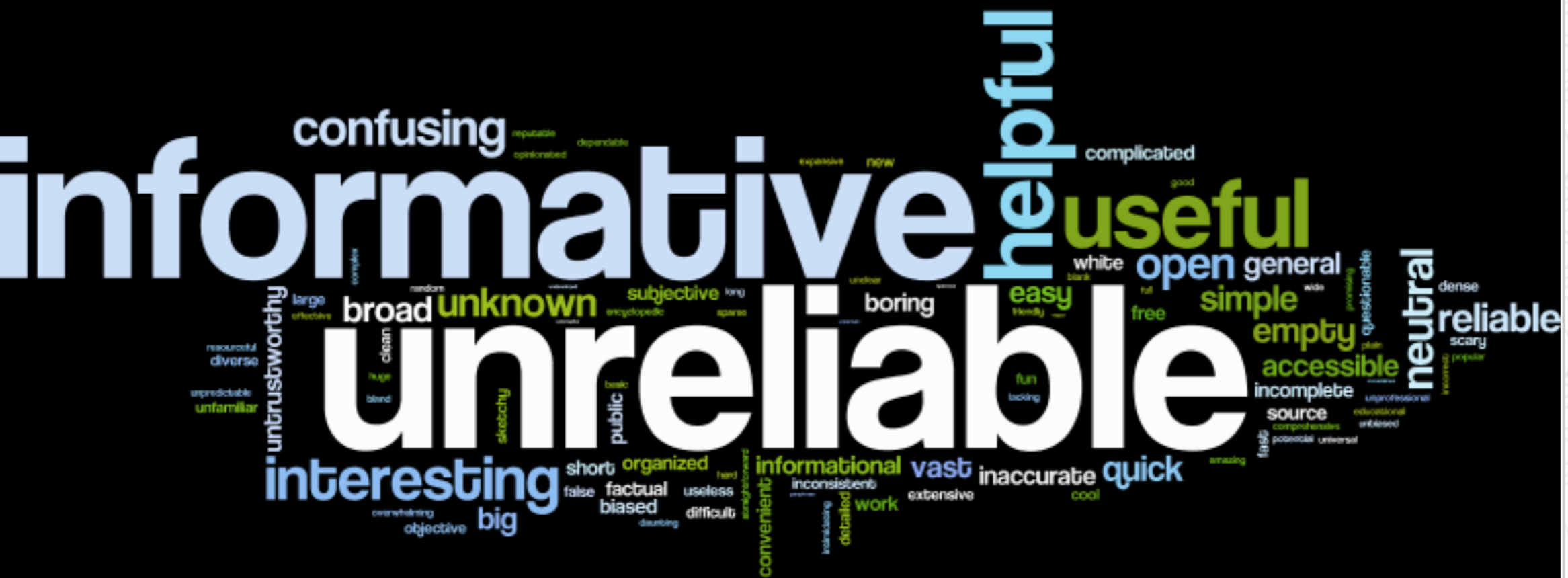
- Total 1627 Students (survey)
- Three surveys across semester
  - Pre-Assessment Survey: N=1228
  - Post-Assessment Survey: N=887
  - Post Course Attitudes Survey: N=558
- 96 Instructors (one survey)
- 13 class focus groups

# Major findings

- Students report spending more time on a Wikipedia assignment
- Students are more satisfied with their work than when compared to a traditional assignment
- Students perceive a value in transferrable skills
- Shifting perceptions of Wikipedia / knowledge production in general
- Students are motivated to contribute beyond “getting a grade”



# Before





# Learning critical skills

“I think you're a lot more ... you have much more of a questioning mentality and you're a lot more conscious of the validity of the information that you read.”

# Making a change

“It makes you want to work harder, I guess. For me, at least, because it's going to have an impact. For an essay, it's just for the grade and then you're going to throw it away. So, there's not that much motivation. I mean, it is. It's fun to write papers and put your opinion and stuff, but *with this article, it's like you're actually making a change.*”



# Interconnected information

“One thing I realized is, *a lot of the stuff that we're writing about is very interconnected...* I would try to link stuff and then it wouldn't work - there would be no page... *it's not random, the information that's missing from Wikipedia.* It's a history of the knowledge of the events that have been documented and historicized in the world, and that's what's on Wikipedia right now.”

Mitigating challenges

# Support from the Wiki Education Foundation



# Instructional design consultation

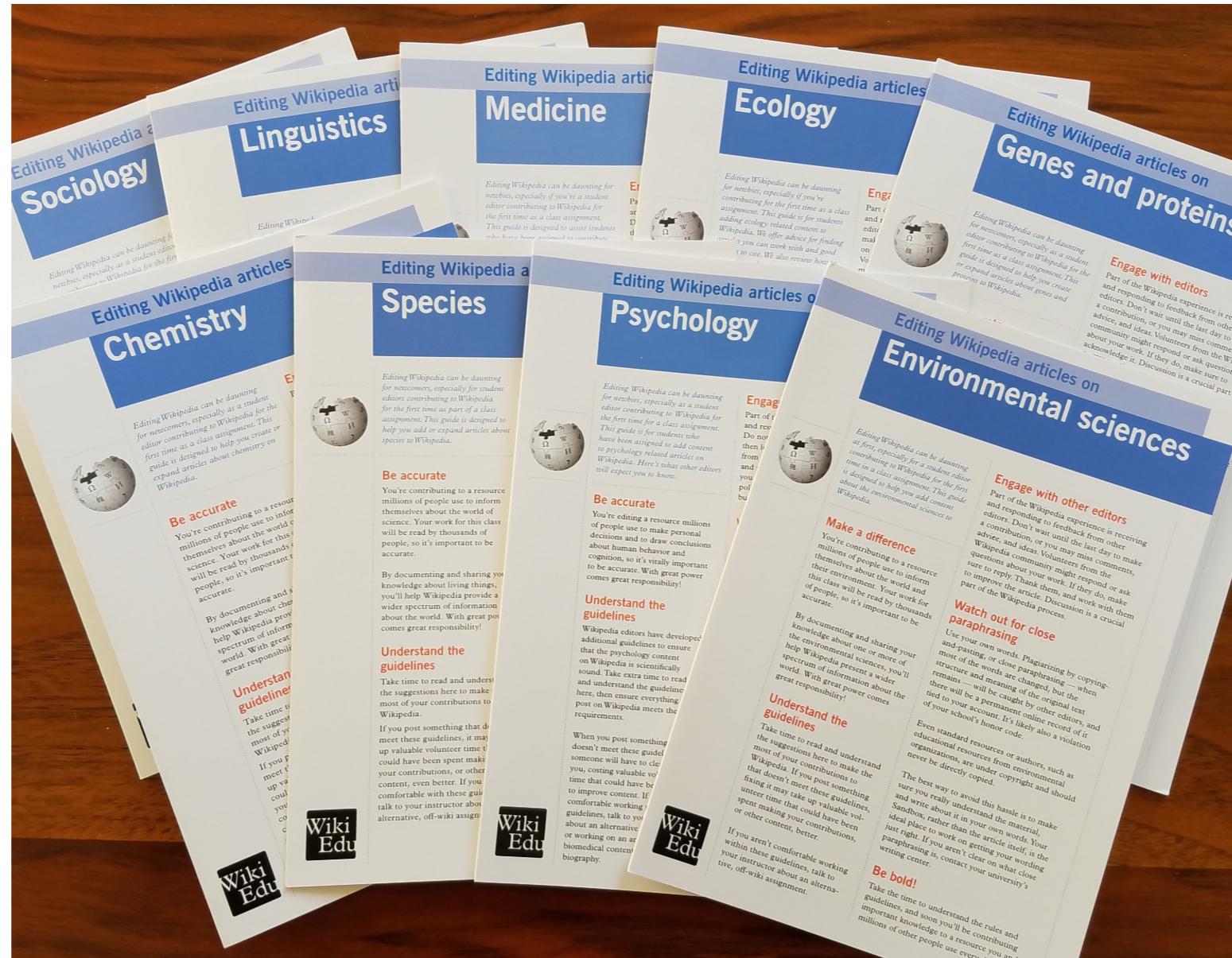
Best practices and milestones



# Tools and resources



# Step-by-step guidelines for editing Wikipedia





# Training Libraries

## Instructors



### Included Modules:

- How to teach with Wikipedia
- Designing a Wikipedia Writing and Research Assignment
- Designing a Translation Assignment
- Designing a Media Contribution Assignment
- Assigning Medical and Psychology Topics
- Finding Articles

## Students



### Included Modules:

- Wikipedia Essentials
- Editing Basics
- Evaluating Articles and Sources
- Finding Your Article
- Editing Medical Topics
- Contributing Images and Media Files
- Translating Articles
- Sandboxes and Mainspace
- Sources and Citations
- Peer Review
- Plagiarism and Copyright Violation



# Wikipedia expertise

# Wiki Education Dashboard

Learning Management System



Questions?

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