



Wikipedia: Learning, Motivation, and Bias

TE 150 - Anne Drew Hu (they/them)



Administrative Stuff

- Interview Part 3: Reflection was due last night
- The poster template was released
- Make a poster and submit it as Interview Part 4 by Wednesday
- Final presentations on Wednesday
 - Presentation itself is not graded, just the poster

How do you use Wikipedia?

What do you search for?

How do you use information?

How do you verify truth?

Do you edit?



The screenshot shows the Wikipedia homepage with the following content:

- WIKIPEDIA**
The Free Encyclopedia
- English**: 6 644 000+ articles
- Русский**: 1 909 000+ статей
- 日本語**: 1 370 000+ 記事
- Deutsch**: 2 792 000+ Artikel
- Español**: 1 854 000+ artículos
- Français**: 2 514 000+ articles
- Italiano**: 1 806 000+ voci
- 中文**: 1 347 000+ 条目 / 條目
- فارسی**: 959 000+ مقاله
- Português**: 1 101 000+ artigos

In the center is a globe made of puzzle pieces with various characters and symbols. At the bottom, there is a search bar with a dropdown menu set to 'EN' and a search icon.



How is Wikipedia relevant to TE 150?

- Social-constructivist learning theory
 - People collectively build their understanding of the world
- Motivation & interest
 - Editors add to articles they are interested in and have confidence in
- Cognitive biases
 - The worldview of editors biases their contributions to Wikipedia

Why you should contribute to Wikipedia





Why edit Wikipedia?

- Wikipedia is often our first (and sometimes last) stop for information
- Social-constructivist learning theory is reflected in its design
 - “Work together to contribute to the sum of human knowledge!”
- Your perspective can influence huge amounts of people!
- Inform yourself and fight misinformation!
- Wikipedia is the most popular nonprofit website
 - It keeps information accessible to anyone with basic internet access!



How to contribute to Wikipedia

- Start with small changes
 - Quality over quantity
- Edit articles you are passionate about
 - What knowledge are you *motivated* to share with people?
- Always cite your sources!
 - Citations add credibility and allow readers/editors to *verify* the claims

Go try it!

[Wikipedia simplified ruleset](#)

[Wikipedia editing basics](#) (short YouTube videos)

Goals

- Find article(s) that interests you and need to be expanded
 - Add a citation
 - Add content with citations
-

Wrap-Up: Bias in Wikipedia

How Wikipedia Erases Indigenous History

<https://slate.com/technology/2023/02/wikipedia-native-american-history-settler-colonialism.html>

Line 141:

[[Category:Date of birth unknown]]

[[Category:Duwamish tribe]]

[[Category:History of indigenous peoples of the Pacific Northwest]]

[[Category:History of King County, Washington]]

Line 141:

[[Category:Date of birth unknown]]

[[Category:Duwamish tribe]]

+ [[Category:Genocide perpetrators]]

[[Category:History of indigenous peoples of the Pacific Northwest]]

[[Category:History of King County, Washington]]

Revision as of 08:23, 25 January 2023

For other uses, see [Chief Seattle \(disambiguation\)](#).

"Sealth" redirects here. For the ferry, see [MV Sealth](#). For the camp, see [Camp Sealth](#).

Chief Seattle (c. 1786 – June 7, 1866) was a [Suquamish](#) and [Duwamish](#) chief.^[3] A leading figure among his people, he pursued a path of accommodation to white settlers, forming a personal relationship with "[Doc](#)" [Maynard](#). The city of [Seattle](#), in the [U.S. state](#) of [Washington](#), was named after him. A widely publicized speech arguing in favour of ecological responsibility and respect of Native Americans' land rights had been attributed to him.

The name Seattle is an Anglicization of the modern Duwamish conventional spelling **Si'ahl**, equivalent to the modern [Lushootseed](#) spelling siʔaʔ IPA: [ˈsiʔaːʔ] and also rendered as **Sealth**, **Seathl** or **See-ahth**.

According to elder [taqʷsəbluʔ](#), his name was traditionally pronounced siʔaʔ.^[4]

Chief Seattle

siʔaʔ





Consider: Bias in Wikipedia

Think about the articles you edited. How might they be biased based on the perspectives of the authors?

How can bias on Wikipedia cause harm in the real world?



What is truth?

[Wikipedia and the Meaning of Truth](#)

“The threshold for inclusion in Wikipedia is verifiability, not truth”

If it's false, but verifiable, it can go on Wikipedia

Was the user who added the genocide label following the rules?



There is hope!

The Women in Red project is addressing the gender gap in Wikipedia articles

Adding our own perspectives makes Wikipedia more diverse

Small edits add up



You can make Wikipedia better!

