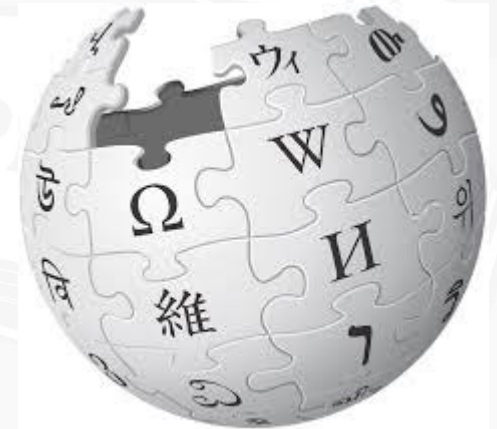


# A conversation about Wikipedia, Teaching and Learning

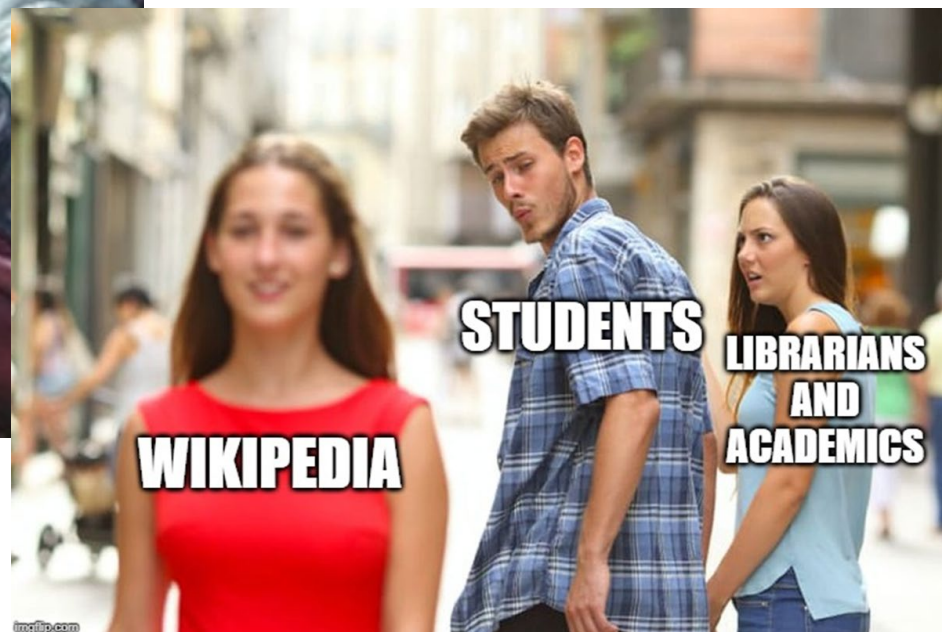
UCT Teaching and Learning  
Conference 2020

Ingrid Thomson and Susanne Noll  
UCT Libraries



**YOU USED WIKIPEDIA????**

Day, 00 June  
2014



# Outline of the conversation

- Brief introduction of the topic
- About Wikimedia Projects
- Anatomy of an article
- Africanisation and Decolonisation
- Benefits of using Wikimedia for teaching
- Possible approaches that can be used
- Examples
- Useful Wikimedia Campaigns
- Support using Wikimedia in the classroom

# What is Wikimedia?



**Wikimedia** is a global movement whose mission is to bring free educational content to the world.

## The stated goals:

- developing and maintaining **open content**;
- **wiki-based projects**;
- providing the full contents of those projects to the public **free of charge**;
- **political advocacy**.

# Wikimedia projects

## Content projects



### Wikipedia

The free encyclopedia



### Wikinews

Free-content news



### Wikivoyage

Free travel guide



### Wikiversity

Free learning resources



### Wiktionary

Free dictionary and thesaurus



### Wikiquote

Collection of quotations



### Wikisource

Free-content library



### Wikibooks

Free textbooks and manuals



### Wikimedia Commons

Free media repository



### Wikidata

Free knowledge base



### Wikispecies

Free directory of species



### Incubator

For language versions in development

## "Outreach and administration" projects



### Wikimedia Foundation

Foundation public relations



### Wikimedia Mailservices

Wikimedia Mailing Lists



### Wikimedia Outreach

Wikimedia outreach wiki



### Wikistats

Wikimedia statistics



### Wikimania

The International Conference

## "Technical and development" projects



### MediaWiki

MediaWiki software documentation



### Test Wikipedia

For testing software changes



### Wikitech

Wikimedia technical documentation



### Wikimedia Cloud Services

Hosting environment for community managed software projects, tools, and data analysis



### Phabricator

A bug tracker for MediaWiki

# The fundamental principles of Wikipedia

## Five principles

1. Wikipedia is an encyclopedia
2. Wikipedia is written from a neutral point of view
3. Wikipedia is free content that anyone can use, edit, and distribute
4. Wikipedia's editors should treat each other with respect and civility
5. Wikipedia has no firm rules



# Anatomy of an article (1)



Main Page [Talk](#)

[Read](#) [View source](#) [View history](#)

 Not logged in [Talk](#) [Contributions](#) [Create account](#) [Log in](#)

Welcome to [Wikipedia](#),

the [free encyclopedia](#) that anyone can edit.  
6,160,020 articles in English

- [Arts](#)
- [Biography](#)
- [Geography](#)
- [History](#)
- [Mathematics](#)
- [Science](#)
- [Society](#)
- [Technology](#)
- [All portals](#)

View history which allows you to view and compare past versions of the page

Create an account, which will give you access to all features of WP and help build your online profile



# Anatomy of an article (2)

Talk appears at the top of each article. This is a place for you and other contributors to plan article structure, discuss and build consensus on article content, and ask for help. It is a good practice to study the talk page to acquaint yourself with the content of that article.

Help provides assistance to learn more about how Wikipedia works

Recent changes allows you to view edits made to all Wikipedia articles in chronological order. This allows you to monitor articles for mistakes and vandalism

Wikipedia exists in over 285 languages

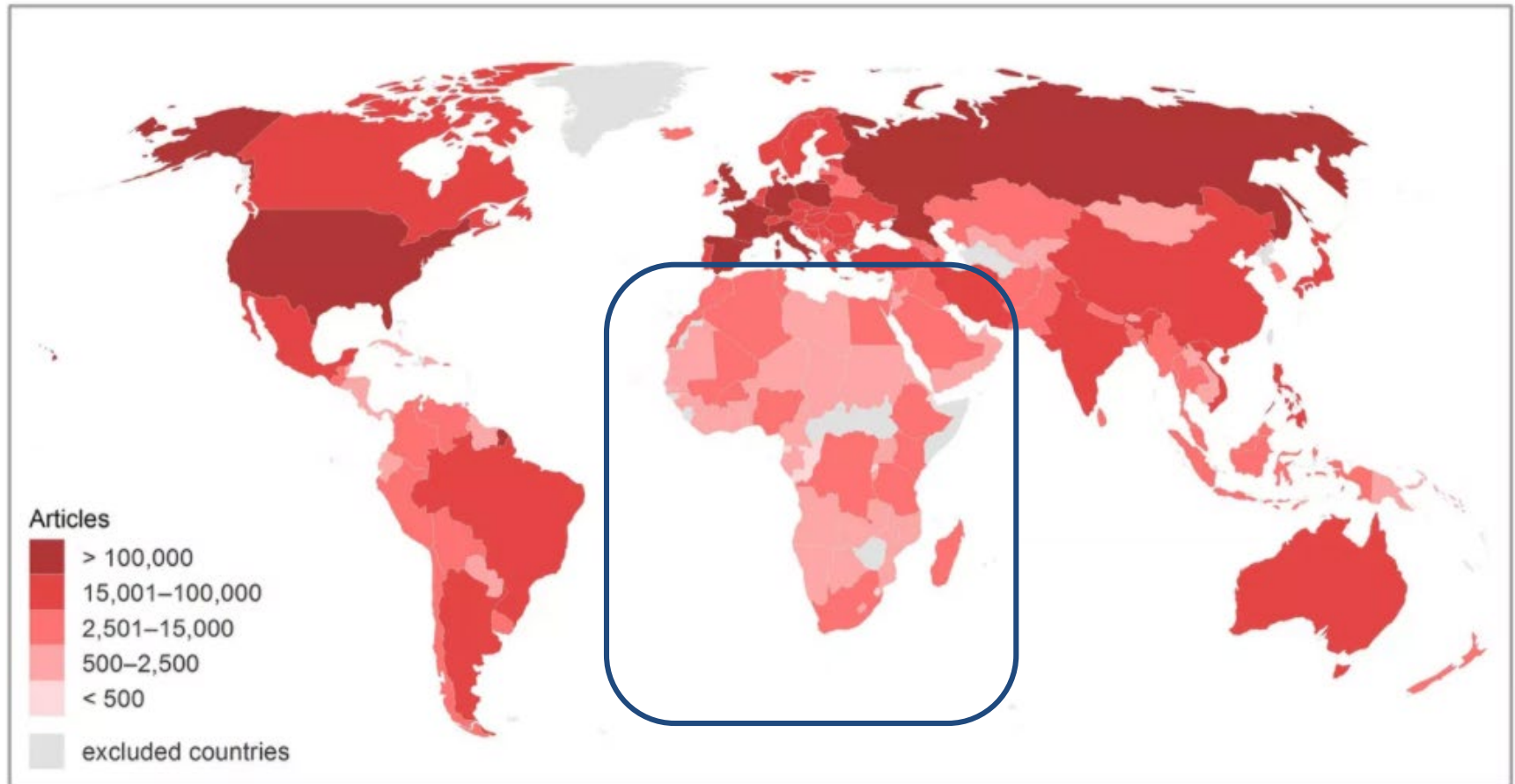
The screenshot shows the Wikipedia article for 'COVID-19 pandemic'. The page layout includes a sidebar on the left with links like 'Main page', 'Contents', 'Current events', 'Random article', 'About Wikipedia', 'Contact us', 'Donate', 'Contribute', 'Help', 'Community portal', 'Recent changes', 'Upload file', 'Tools', 'What links here', 'Related changes', 'Special pages', 'Permanent link', 'Page information', 'Cite this page', 'Wikidata item', 'Print/export', 'Download as PDF', and 'Printable version'. The main content area has a 'Talk' tab selected. The article title is 'COVID-19 pandemic', with a note 'From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia (Redirected from Covid-19 pandemic)'. A red box highlights the 'Talk' tab. Another red box highlights the lead paragraph, which summarizes the key points of the article. A third red box highlights the 'Recent changes' link in the sidebar. A fourth red box highlights the 'Upload file' link in the sidebar. 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A ninety-sixth red box highlights the 'COVID-19 pandemic' title. A ninety-seventh red box highlights the 'COVID-19 pandemic' title. A ninety-eighth red box highlights the 'COVID-19 pandemic' title. A ninety-ninth red box highlights the 'COVID-19 pandemic' title. A hundredth red box highlights the 'COVID-19 pandemic' title.

You can upload different kinds of media to an article. A Wikipedia article with accept all popular formats for images, animation, audio, and video.



## Resources

# The underrepresentation of Africa, Asia, and South America



(Graham et. al. 2014)

# On Africanisation and Colonisation

## **Acknowledge**

that there is a western bias

that there is a gender gap

that not all knowledges are represented, specifically not indigenous knowledge

## **Opportunity**

For Innovation,

reinvention etc.

Using Wikipedia as a tool for knowledge diffusion and the decolonisation of the internet





# Africanisation

.....is extremely important, considering the bias towards the Global North, and that is why we would like to get UCT and its knowledge base engaged

Zulu Wikipedia :  
4174 articles and  
is 247th  
Wikipedia

Xhosa Wikipedia:  
1059 articles  
260th Wikipedia

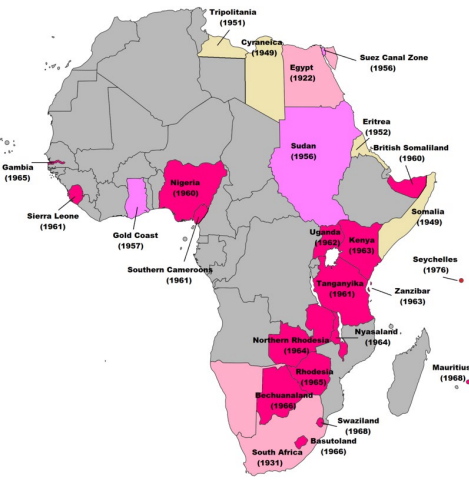
Afrikaans  
Wikipedia:  
94 000 articles  
84th Wikipedia

# Africanise Wikipedia: few more facts



- WIKIPEDIA, the free online encyclopedia edited by its readers,
  - Projects exist to increase content **emanating from Africa**.
  - Wikipedia is the **sixth-most popular website** and generates 15% of all internet traffic.
  - Data show that more than **80% of entries and edits originate in Europe and North America**.
  - Countries such as the US, Germany, the UK and France have an average of more than a million edits every quarter, and **Africa manages only a few thousand**.
  - A project called **WikiAfrica** is set to change that. It will try to Africanise Wikipedia by generating and expanding 30,000 articles
  - done by **activating communities and individuals** to contribute their stories and knowledge to Wikipedia."The majority of entries on Wiki — **even about Africa — have been written by people in Europe and America**. They write their entries based on their knowledge and the media that they consume.

# On Decolonisation and Gender Imbalance



Which are hot topics for the HE sector and many more articles and research deserve to be included in Wikipedia -

- multi-lingual, free and collateral content, free knowledge, no advertising, peer review, sourcing, footnotes and research and critical decolonised thinking skills.





**Wikipedia**

CC BY-SA 3.0 Unported, Wikimedia Foundation

# Benefits of using Wikimedia Projects in Teaching (1/2)

- Teaching students how to evaluate Wikipedia, within its editorial standards
- Learning to use Wikipedia as a starting point for research
- Show students how to use article histories and discussion pages to evaluate the articles' current status within the Wikipedia community.

## Benefits (2/2)

- Creativity and critical thinking in research and writing online is encouraged
- Gaps in Wikipedia's content can be filled.
- Allows students to participate in a strong global community and practice effective public engagement. It gives students the opportunity to “give back” to a resource they've benefitted from
- Building research skills

# Possible Approaches to using Wikipedia (and its sister projects)

- Introduce Wikipedia as a class discussion.
- Critiquing an article relevant to course content.
- Editing or Expanding an article
- Translating existing articles into South African languages
- Creating new articles related to the course

# University of Southern California



WIKIPEDIA  
The Free Encyclopedia

Main page  
Contents  
Current events  
Random article  
About Wikipedia  
Contact us  
Donate

Contribute  
Help  
Community portal  
Recent changes  
Upload file

Tools  
What links here  
Related changes  
Special pages  
Permanent link  
Page information  
Cite this page  
Wikidata item

Not logged in - Talk - Contributions - Create account - Log in

Article - Talk - Read - Edit - View history - Search Wikipedia

## Zoom Video Communications

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

*This article is about the company. For the videoconferencing software developed by this company, see Zoom (software).*

**Zoom Video Communications, Inc. (Zoom)** is an American communications technology company headquartered in San Jose, California. It provides videotelephony and online chat services through a cloud-based peer-to-peer software platform and is used for teleconferencing, telecommuting, distance education, and social relations.<sup>[2][3]</sup> Zoom's business strategy focuses on providing an easier to use product than competitors, as well as cost savings, which include minimizing computational costs at the infrastructure level and having a high degree of employee efficiency.<sup>[2][4]</sup>

Eric Yuan, a former Cisco engineer and executive, founded Zoom in 2011, and launched its software in 2013.<sup>[5]</sup> Zoom's aggressive revenue growth, and perceived ease-of-use and reliability of its software, resulted in a \$1 billion valuation in 2017, making it a "unicorn" company.<sup>[6]</sup> The company first became profitable in 2019.<sup>[7][8]</sup> and completed an initial public offering that year.<sup>[8]</sup> The company joined the NASDAQ-100 stock index on April 30, 2020.<sup>[9]</sup>

Beginning in early 2020, Zoom's software usage saw a significant global increase following the introduction of quarantine measures adopted in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>[10]</sup> Its software products have faced public and media scrutiny related to security and privacy issues.<sup>[11][12][13]</sup> A portion of Zoom's workforce is based in China, which has given rise to surveillance and censorship concerns.<sup>[14]</sup>

**Zoom Video Communications, Inc.**

**zoom**

**Type of site** Public  
**Traded as** NASDAQ: ZM ( Class A)  
NASDAQ-100 component  
**Founded** April 21, 2011; 9 years ago  
**Headquarters** San Jose, California, U.S.  
**Founder(s)** Eric Yuan  
**Key people** Eric Yuan, Chairman, President & CEO  
Kelly Steckelberg, CFO  
Betsy Koenig, President

### Options

**Dates** Latest ▾

3/1/2020 - 9/12/2020

**Date type**

Daily ▾

**Project**

en.wikipedia.org

**Platform**

All ▾

**Agent** ⓘ

User ▾

☐ Include redirects ⓘ

**Pages** Enter up to 10 pages

× Clear

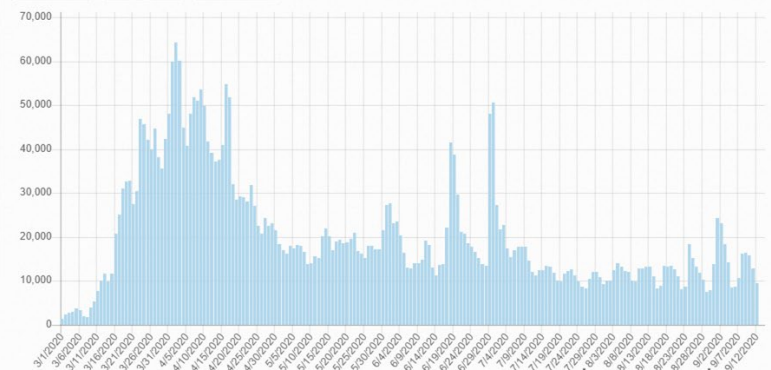
Zoom\_Video\_Communications

Chart type

Permalink

Download ▾

☐ Show values ☐ Begin at zero ☐ Logarithmic scale



### Totals

Pageviews

Pageviews: 3,994,588

Daily average: 20,381

Revisions

Edits: 692

Editors: 371

Basic information

Watchers: 152

Size: 56,777

Protection: none

Class: C ⓘ

All languages • Redirects

# Examples from Universities in Bangladesh and Turkey





# Bath Spa University



Bath Spa Digital Citizenship 2019-20

[Home](#) [Editors](#) [Articles](#) [Uploads](#) [Activity](#)

4

Articles Created

4

Articles Edited

343

Total Edits

32

Editors

9.16K

Words Added

124<sup>i</sup>

References Added

3.78K

Article Views

1<sup>i</sup>

Commons Uploads

Last statistics update: 7 months ago. [See more](#)

## Bath Spa Digital Citizenship 2019-20

Participants in a Digital Citizenship module at Bath Spa University, UK, are improving biographies and other articles related to the fashion industry.

## Details

**Facilitators:** [MartinPoulter](#), [CKuhnH](#) (C Kuhn)

# University of Edinburgh



# Wiki Campaigns that may be of interest



# Support for incorporating Wikimedia Projects into teaching

- Resources, Support and Guidance from WikiEdu - <https://wikiedu.org/teach-with-wikipedia/>
- Support and Guidance and Training from the chapter WikimediaZA
- Support and Guidance and Training from the Wikibrarians in the library
- Resources, Support and Guidance from other Wikimedians who have incorporated Wikimedia Projects into their teaching.



[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:University\\_of\\_Edinburgh](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:University_of_Edinburgh)

# Thank You

