

# Leverage the National Archives as a Wiki Scholar

Wiki Education, in collaboration with the National Archives, is offering a virtual professional development course that trains individuals with a research background in political science, women's rights, history, and related fields to successfully contribute to Wikipedia.

Participants, who will become certified Wiki Scholars upon course completion, will learn how to improve Wikipedia's coverage of the history of women's voting rights in the United States in alliance with an upcoming exhibit hosted at the National Archives Museum, *Rightfully Hers: American Women and the Vote*.

Wikipedia covers more than 5 million topics, but women are vastly underrepresented. Only 17% of biographies on Wikipedia are about women. We must improve this content gap, and Wiki Scholars will take an active role in ensuring that the world's most popular reference source is more representative, accurate, and complete.

## Professional development skills

Pulling together Wikipedia experts, access to an exhaustive archive, and detailed training, this is the only skills-development course of its kind worldwide.

Through course participation, Wiki Scholars will:

- **Engage** with & understand emerging technologies
- **Learn something new** and gain the unique, rare skill of Wikipedia editing
- **Improve student learning outcomes** by applying new skills to their pedagogy
- **Explore new ways of thinking** about knowledge dissemination in the 21st Century
- **Contribute to the public good through public scholarship**, thus delivering on a professional obligation
- **Improve public knowledge of their discipline** by expanding the audience of research in their field
- **Take an active role** in the open access knowledge movement

## Impact

As the National Archives' mission states, public access to government records strengthens democracy by allowing Americans to claim their rights of citizenship, hold their government accountable, and understand their history so they can participate more effectively in their government.

The National Archives is collaborating with Wiki Education in this professional development course to expand the avenues by which the public accesses this information. That's where Wiki Scholars come in. With their expertise, they can make a meaningful impact on public knowledge by engaging Wikipedia, a platform that hundreds of millions of people look to for information each month.

## Course details

Accepted applicants will engage in the course from October to December 2018 and are asked to commit 3 hours/week for its duration.

- **Time commitment:** Wiki Scholars will meet online for 1 hour each week, over the course of 3 months. During these collaborative sessions, Wikipedia experts will introduce Wikipedia policy and approaches to become part of its community. Wiki Scholars are asked to commit an additional 2 hours per week for self-directed research and writing.
- **Goals:** By the end of 3 months, all participants will make a significant improvement to at least two Wikipedia articles related to the National Archives Museum exhibit about women's suffrage in the United States.
- **Certification:** Participants who successfully complete the course will receive a certificate from the National Archives and Wiki Education. This exclusive and unique credential demonstrates a commitment to ongoing learning, as well as an effective approach to public scholarship.

## Pricing

The **\$1,800** cost of this opportunity covers a certificate issued by the National Archives and Wiki Education, access to hands-on support and guidance by Wikipedia experts, and technical training to successfully contribute to Wikipedia.

## Comparable experiences

This 3-month long course equips participants with skills they may take with them into their teaching strategies, personal life, and beyond, all for less than the cost of a typical academic conference or professional development workshop. And the outcomes are measurable. Just take a look at Wiki Education's metrics tools at [dashboard.wikiedu.org](https://dashboard.wikiedu.org)

## Apply now

To submit an application, visit [bit.ly/NARAwikischolars](https://bit.ly/NARAwikischolars)

## Questions?

Contact [scholars@wikiedu.org](mailto:scholars@wikiedu.org)

