Activity Description

Wikis are simple web pages that can be edited by multiple users. In this activity, students are divided into small groups to construct their own wiki. Students work collaboratively as a team by adding text, images, multimedia, and web links to build an informational site. The purpose of building a wiki is to create an easily accessible, organized repository that is created and revised by a team of users. The wiki space allows for the tracking of revisions and member contributions. This activity may be paired with any article or wiki activity.

Timeline

Instructor Preparation (30 minutes); Student Participation (30-60 minutes)

Learning Outcome/s

- Students will be able to design a wiki using online resources and text material
- Students will be able to demonstrate collaboration skills working with team members
- Students will be able to evaluate peer designed wikis according to a rubric
- Students will be able to summarize their contributions to the team and peer-assess their fellow team members

Tools & Resources -

- Wiki space (LMS or non-LMS site), rubric, self/peer assessment

Activity Implementation

1. Divide students into groups or teams and assign a topic to each team. Teams may sign up for a topic of their choice, or be assigned a topic.
2. Provide teams with a rubric outlining the expectations for how the group members should work together, as well as what the final wiki product should look like. A video explaining the rubric, along with an example wiki, should be provided as well.
3. Direct students to the wiki spaces they are allowed to use (LMS or non-LMS wiki site). If in the LMS, create a wiki for each group. If outside of the LMS, instructors are encouraged to review privacy settings.
4. Instruct students to correctly cite all of their resources.
5. Students should be provided an opportunity to assess their individual contributions to the team as well as the contributions of their team members. Self and peer assessment should be factored into the final grade for this project.

Alternative activities:
1. The instructor creates a wiki to use as an online repository in the course and encourages students to post resources that support their understanding of course content.
2. Extend the group work by collaborating with another class, with students at another institution, or in another country. The asynchronous nature allows students to work with one another without time or location restrictions.

Ideas for Assessment & Reflection -

After reviewing the wikis, respond to teams and individuals with both general and specific feedback as appropriate. Individual team members with varying grades may require additional explanation.

Encourage students to reflect on the process of collaborating with team members asynchronously.

Additional Resources
- http://www.pbworks.com/
- https://wikispaces.com
- Google docs
- https://cft.vanderbilt.edu/guides-sub-pages/wikis/
- https://en-us.help.blackboard.com/Learn/Instructor/Interact/Wikis