## From Non-Expert to Editor:

# Students Improving Wikipedia Content for Global Communities

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# Why Wikipedia?

- 5 million English Wikipedia articles
- Over 374 million unique visitors monthly
- 292 languages





Learning objectives can be achieved with Wikipedia-based assignments

Establish foundation Writing skills Synthesize content Apply knowledge Develop literacy Collaborate





# Assignment 1: Topic selection & small edits

### Goals

Communication across the Curriculum

- Familiar with topics
- Comfortable with platform
- Evaluate existing content
- Assess references



# Assignment 1: Topic selection & small edits

### **Students gain**

- Foster comfort
- Focus on course content
- Apply prior knowledge
- Develop information literacy

"""Formica""" is a [[genus]] of [[ant]]s of the [[family (biology)Ifamily]] [[Formicidae]], commonly known as "'wood ants"', "'mound ants"', "'thatching ants"', and "'field ants"'. "Formica" is the [[type genus]] of the [[Formicidae]], and of the subfamily Formicinae.<ref name="AWFormicidae"/> The [[type species]] of genus "Formica" is the European red wood ant "[[Formica rufa]]".<ref name="AWFormica"/> Ants of the genus formica tend to be between 4 to 8mm long.<ref name=":4">{{Cite weblurl=http://www.orkin.com/ants/field-ant/Ititle=Feild Ant Factslwebsite=Orkinlaccess-date=2016-03-31}}</ref>

""Lygodium microphyllum"" (commonly known as, variously, "climbing maidenhair fern", <ref name=grin1/> "Old World climbing fern",<ref name=grin1/> "small-leaf climbing fern",<ref name=grin1/> or "snake fern";{Citation neededIdate=November 2011}}) is a climbing fern originating in tropical [[Africa]], [[South East Asia]], [[Melanesia]] and [[Australia]].<ref name=grin1/> It is an invasive weed<ref>{{cite weblurl =http://www.tncfire.org/crosscutting\_fandi.htm ltitle=Global Fire Initiative: Fire and Invasives Ipublisher=The Nature Conservancy Iaccessdate = 2008-12-12}//ref> in the [[United StatesIUS]] States of [[Florida]]<ref>{{Cite journallurl = Ititle = Effect of soil pH on growth, nutrient uptake, and mycorrhizal colonization in exotic invasive Lygodium microphyllumllast = Pushpalfirst = Sotildate = July 2015ljournal = PLANT ECOLOGYIdoi = 10.1007/s11258-015-0484-6lpmid = laccess-date = }}</ref> [[Alabama]]{{Citation neededIdate=July 2010}} where it invades open forest and wetland areas. The [[type (biology)]type specimen]] was collected in the vicinity of [[Nabua, Camarines SurlNabúa]], on the Island of [[Luzon]] in the [[Philippines]] by [[Luis Née]].<ref name=trop2>{{cite web lurl=http://www.tropicos.org/Name/26605865 ltitle=Name - "Ugena microphylla" Cav. Iwork=Tropicos Ipublisher=Missouri Botanical Garden Ilocation=Saint Louis, Missouri laccessdate=November 2, 2011}}</ref>

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# Assignment 2: Content contribution

### Goals

- Identify gaps
- Clarify science
- Determine appropriate
   placement







### Morris J. Berman oil spill

Morris J. Berman oil spill		
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Response		
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The vessel was cleaned out and taken to deep water where it was intentionally sunk under gove	emment supervision. <sup>[1]</sup> The cost of the cleanup amounted to approximately \$130 million.	
The Government of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the Government of the United States third party costs. Also involved were a number of clean up contractors, spill response managers.	s, along with several other parties, sued the owners of the vessels for recovery of clean up costs, nat , and representatives of the U.S. Coast Guard and other governmental regulatory bodies.	tural resource damages, a
Responsibility		
	sending a vessel to sea in an unseaworthy condition. Caribbean Petroleum owned the cargo that spi	
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2. A "BARGE MORRIS J. BERMAN" g. Retrieved 5 January 2010.		
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### Morris J. Berman oil spill

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	washed on shore in Puerto Rico between Punta Boca Juana and Punta Vacia Talega. Oil also affected the shores of Isia Cuberta, an Island to the east of Puerto Rico PM Most of the areas
	freenaned and impacted by the spill were sheatened lagoons, biosu-rich interctal zones, and beach dures, which are all habitats for many spocies. Several historic locations were alix threatened and impacted by the oil, some of them being pre-Columbian rules, historic wells and bridges, and Spanish era forts. The vast majority of all of these affected areas were located on the north
	shore of Puarto Rico. <sup>11</sup> An example of an oil bargo being torred by a torring cable
	Environmental effects
	The spill affected most of the environmental resources present in the shore and offshore areas near San Juan 1,100 square miles of surface waters along the north coast of Puerts Rice were projected to have feit effects from the oil. It was also projected that 105 miles of ocean shore line and 68 miles of bay shoreline were covered in oil. <sup>19</sup> Seagrances and sediments were also contaminated in the spill area. It is projected that 40,000 square meters of seagrances
	lagons near the spill area were impacted by surker of I <sup>(2)</sup> This caused most of the grasses to de. All of the affected areas were covered in varying amounts oil which resulted in large amounts of pollution, loss of habitat, and the loss of life for living organisms. <sup>[2]</sup>
	The split made many important habitat arress unusable by many species for a period of time. One example of lost habitat was the loss of interified losy and shallow waters that were used for fish as numery arress. This affected the population levels of certain species of fash in the years following the split. Another example of lost habitat was the root area lost near the grounding site of the Berman. Over 152 species were estimated to have realided in these reals.
	Some of these species include fish, shellish, sigae, and aponges. The reef was the main source of food and shelter for sil of these species. The reef also provided a natural breakwater that helped to diminish storm surge from
	hunicanes. The effectiveness of the reef as a breakwater and habitat area were greatly decreased after it was damaged by the barge <sup>[3]</sup> Large pieces of the reef were lost after the barge ran into it.
	Effects on tourism Oli was present at many basch areas sumounding the spill also. Beaches near the immediate site of the spill were closed to all visitors, either because of the presence of heavy oil or cleanup
	efforts. <sup>20</sup> While other beaches in the surrounding areas did have some oil, they were left open to visitors. People were strongly discouraged from visiting these open beaches, though, Tourists
	and residentia that continued to visit of affected beaches were not able to use the beach normally due to the presence of oil. Beach goers reported damaged awimming gear as well as headaches that were caused by the oil furnes. <sup>10</sup>
	The San Juan National Historic Site was also athected after the split. Due to its dose proprintly to the water, interes of vapors were present inside of the fort located at the site for up to three weeks following the split. National Park Service workers reported that the furnes were strong enough to induce headborks. <sup>[5]</sup>
	weeks toxiowing the spin. National indix Service wonkers reported that the runnes were strong enough to induce neadaches. <sup>110</sup> The failing industry was also affected by the spill. Both increational and commercial failing are vital parts of Puerto Ricck economy. Failing was not able to be done in oil covered waters. This Rico
	resulted in the loss of potential charter fishing trips and seabod sales. Normal fishing operations were able to eventually resume once the cleanup was complete, REM Due to the lack of appropriate data, it is impossible to determine the exact amount of tourism dollars that were lost because of the split? It is reasonable to infer though that the negative results of the split hit in these tourist areas do
	Los de las aconseguestas auto, na el publicadore il detallar para de aconseguestas autores en ac
	Effects on wildlife
	In the days following the incident 5,288 organisms, the majority of which were ediad, were estimated to have washed ashore. <sup>20</sup> Many live organisms were also found both on and offithore overed in oil. Of the 5,288 organisms 152 species were picked up after the spill by scientists and volunteers from the Caribbean Stranding Network (CSN) and various other organizations <sup>20</sup> These organisms were both lving and dead. Organisms found were sporges,
	anemones, sea worns, crustaceans, motusks, sea stars, sea urchins, fish, biols, and sea turbes. <sup>[2]</sup>
	Biological resources in the spill area
	Several different biological resources were present in the initial areas affected by the gpl], zone of these include the anardy-intertial investments communities, and operation distribution of the first and of these communities of the initial area of the poly. These affects are approximately and protocol markets areas and
	mammals include the West indian manates, several species of dolphins, humpback whates, and sperm whates I <sup>RE</sup> Even through these species of whates frequented the spill area, no whates were observed to have been affected by th ok. <sup>IRE</sup> Three species of endargened sea surfee, the green turke, the hawkebit turke, and the leatherback surfe also frequently nested in the affected areas. <sup>IRE</sup> The also also for turkes turkes was critical after the spill as the turke reasing
	season was to begin in the months following the spail <sup>[1]</sup> Seveni endangered and threatened species of bints also used areas sumounding the spail to neet and feed. These species of bints include the royal tem, sendwitch tem, common tem, losate te
	Threadment species, were affected in nome way by the spill. Most of the species affected were in the immediate landing site of the bargs. Many appoies at the sinking site of the barge were also affected. Many of these species resides areas of high ecological value, such as the shores of the Pinners State Forest ( <sup>2</sup> )
	Ansa of no resolution wave, such as the shows of the minima state more of the state of the state of the minima state of the mi
	The self violation crab, the perivivide, the common West Insian Chips, the rock boring urchin, and the brown booby were the most affected feast realientispacies after the self. The self violation of
	lightized crash was the most effected custasses effect the split [2]. This crustasses was the most effected because it was the most advocted of a custascesse in the area. The sally lightical crash is prominent in the Caribbean as well as the West coast of the United States. <sup>[4]</sup> The perivivale and the common West Indian ohtern were the most affected of the moleculas coserved after the split. <sup>[2]</sup>
	Chall sea ruchins closeved after the topic. The ruck-boring undimised has been block-boring ruchins are the most affected organism compared to all closeved after the topic. It has been block-boring undimised has the topic of all closeved after the topic as the hyper and the second block-boring undimised has the topic of all closeved after the topic as the hyper and the second block-boring undimised has the topic of all closeved after the topic as the hyper and the second block-boring undimised has the topic of all closeved after the topic as the hyper and the second has the topic of all closeved after the topic as the hyper and the second has the topic of all closeved after the topic as the hyper and the second has the topic of all closeved after the topic as the hyper and the second has the topic of the second has the second has the topic of the second has the second h
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	Legal response The break Boosy, a bird that was present at the spil also present at the spil also
	The owners of the Morris J. Berman initially assumed responsibility for the spill, but the ten million dollars that was provided from their insurance policy for ol spill cleanup was quickly spent. The
	Indexel government provided funding for the spill on Junuary 14th and it became a United States Coast Quant directed response. <sup>20</sup> The Governments of Puerto Rico, the United States, and other groups, such the owners of the two vessels for clean up costs and netural resource damages. Criminal prosecutions were bought against the owners of the two vessels
	Into Seventimens or head to do into data data, and other globals, seed the densition of the densition of a data in the data into data data into data data in the data data into data data data data data data data da
	and the United States were paid a total of \$83.5 million from Methle Cepital Corp, Water Quality Insurance Syndicate and Caribbean Petroleum Corporation. <sup>81</sup> The cargo that was spilled from the Berman was owned by the Caribbean
	Petroleum Corporation, 24
	Environmental response
	Trestment of wildlife
	After the split, as a part of the Local Split Response Plan for Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands, the CSN was sent out to document damages to biological resources and to prevent further damages to the environment and living organisms, PT The CSN collected many organisms, both live and dead, after the split in order to document the damage done to them and to treat as many of the living organisms as possible. Most of the organisms collected by this gro
	organisms 77 The CSN collected many organisms, both live and dead, after the spill in order to document the damage done to them and to treat as many of the king organisms as possible. Most of the organisms collected by this graves of of the Northabree of Puerto Res, but some were recovered from the south, east, and weet alterns of Puerto Res, but some were recovered from the south, east, and weet alterns of Puerto Res, but some were recovered from the south, east, and weet alterns of Puerto Res, but were alternative and based by the south.
	Collected living wildlife were brought to a non permanent triage facility where crabs, birds, and sea turtles were treated for oil contamination and other injuries. Of all animals collected, these were the only ones that were able to be
	treated. Animals that were not able to be treated were either too small or in too bed of a condition. Nearly 400 crabe that were brought to the facility were successfully treated and released 12 birds and two sea turbes were also
	brought to the bally where 19 were subsetuly traded and released and 11 die dia contain points during treatment. Put all affected organisms were held until they were deemed completely healthy by a veterinismin. The bally where 19 were deemed completely healthy by a veterinismin. The data is a strate of a contain a manipart of a contain or to be to a contain a point of the data of the dat
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#### References

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#### External links

Collection of News Articles regarding the spills?
 The US Coast Quant's Contingency Plan for oil spills near Puerto Ricos?

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Categories: Oil spills in the United States | 1994 Industrial disasters | Disasters in Puerto Rico | 1994 in the environment | 1894 in Puerto Rico | 1994 disasters in the United States

This version of the page has been revised. Besides normal editing, the reason for revision may have been that this version centains factual inaccuracies, vandation, or material not compatible with the Creative Common

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A fact from Morris J. Berman oil spill appeared on Wikipedia's Main Page in the Did you know? column on 20 April 2014 (check views). The text of the entry was as follows: "Did you know

• ... that the Morris J. Berman oil spill was the first to take place in U.S. waters after the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 was passed?"

2

A record of the entry may be seen at Wikipedia: Recent additions/2014/April. The nomination discussion and review may be seen at Template: Did you know nominations/Morris J. Berman oil spill.



#### federal government provided funding for the spill on January 14th and it became a United States Coast Guard directed response.

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Environmental respon Treatment of wildlife

> After the spill, as a part of the Local Spill Response Plan for Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands, the CSN was sent out to document damages to biological res erganism 2<sup>-10</sup> The CBN collected many organisms, both live and dead, after the split in older to document the damage done to them and to treat as many of the Ming organisms as possible. Most of the organisms collect were of of the Northebrew of Puerto Rice, but some were recovered from the south, east, and weet aboves of Puerto Rice, as well as many et aboves of List Caliborate, and Isla de Viegues 2<sup>10</sup>

Control shall we have been as the state of t oil. Solutions of playe oil. Sprote Green, and RioSolve were then used to clean the croanisms in tubs filed with Like-warm water. The consolutions were then

#### Cleanup of oil

Over 1,000 workers from 15 agencies and groups came together after the spill to clean up affected areas.<sup>[1]</sup> In total the workers put in over 1.5 million man hours of work.<sup>[2]</sup> The complete cleanup an

Fight days after the spill on January 19th, the bases was traved to an area 37 km Northeast of San Juan and interclineally surk under opvenment supervision to a death of 2 km in an underwater canvon, where it is still body, 2<sup>100</sup> This decision was ultraday made after it was compensioned that transporting the remaining oil off of the barge would not be leadeds.<sup>101</sup> The barge was surie at an isolated site that does not experience much ship traffic to avoid turble clamage. The cleaning of the majority of the oil was completed by April of 1994. The cost of the cleanup amounted to approximately \$130 million.<sup>10</sup>

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Unlike the cowy aboard the End/v S. the covernments of the United States and Puerto Rico were well precessed to deal with the soil. The two countries also met most of the moviements that were set forth to the OI Polution Act of 1990. For example, a spli response plan for the area had been developed and it was executed to near perfection. Millions of distans of oil clearup equipment was already stationed in Puents Rico and was deployed into action within a matter of bours after the spli.<sup>101</sup> As mentioned earlier, despite the overall access of Puents Rico's oil spli response plans there were still some areas for improvement. For example, a test metadation of the area metadatical failures with come skimmer baats, inappropriate use of oil scaking materials, and an insufficient number of properly trained personnel.<sup>(1)</sup> There were also problems with communication between agencies as well as some organizational to process. The Berman spill served as a field text of how well the plans set forth by the QI Poliution Act of 1920 worked, and polyided many examples on how future spill response efforts could be improved.<sup>(1)</sup> Served. Hough not all, of the things learned during this split effected response efforts for future splits such as the BP OI Split in the Gulf of Mexico in 2010.

#### References

ARCENTER (1) INTERPRETATION (Byperner 2006), "Coastal OI Spill Propreteness and Response The Kons J. Bornan Indoerf." Annee of Poly Research 26 (5), "73–486. ARCENTER (1) INTERPRETATION IN AUTOPOLICIES (Byperner 2006), "Assessment and enablistics of while advected ys and gain in Poly Research 26 (5), "Response to the Company of the C

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# Assignment 2: Content contribution

### **Students Gain**

- Apply course knowledge
- Learn expository writing style
- Develop paraphrasing ability
- Paraphrase concisely
- Use appropriate citations





# Assignment 3: Critique and interaction

### Goals

- Learn to give, receive feedback
- Interact with editors
- Experience publication process





### Grassland Degradation

#### Feedback [edit source]

Because you are making a new page (I'm assuming), you should try to define grassland degradation a bit more in the opening paragraph. Why do I care about it and want to keep reading? What are the specifics of grassland degradation a bit more in the opening paragraph. Why do I care about it and want to keep reading? What are the specifics of grassland degradation a bit more in the opening paragraph. Why do I care about it and want to keep reading? What are the specifics of grassland degradation i.e. is the grass dead, brown, green, sparse? Where does it mainly occur (countries) and how frequently (statistics)? Although not necessary, I think a picture of grassland degradation would add in a quite literally illustrative element to the article.

#### Clear, logical organization and structure [edit source]

The writing is clear and the organization makes sense; it flows and is concise. It is easy to read and understand. Each section has a purpose, and the whole article is structured in sections and headings that are easy to follow without being confusing or overly detailed. You might consider adding a section detailing the effect on humans--you mention a few times that humans are affected but you do not specifically state why. Elaborate on that.

#### Writing adequately developed and supported by evidence, examples (specifics) [edit source]

I think you made a good effort to use examples to support your claims, yet I felt that the Overgrazing section was noticeably lacking in examples. What type of livestock overgraze. How does overgrazing occur relative to normal grazing? Good use of examples in the Small Mammals section! I do have a problem with the Climate Change section. Perhaps it is a typo, but you state that "Studies have shown that the climate of regions affected by grassland degradation has steadily risen over the past decades." My issue lies in your use of the word climate. Climates cannot "rise". If you mean the temperature or moisture level or some aspect of climate has increased, then specify that. As it reads now, it is confusing and wrong.

#### Well written: clear, concise sentences comprehendible at a high school level [edit source]

The entire article is concise and understandable to a high school audience. My only concern is that it might be too concise. Each of the subsections under Causes should be elaborated upon e.g. Human Interference includes three causes at the end of the paragraph, but there is no elaboration in these human disturbances. Personally, I have never heard of this phenomenon, so a bit more of an explanation would be interesting and is necessary. Also, I would like to know more about the black soil. Is it still arable?

#### Factual, not persuasive writing: neutral, unbiased [edit source]

This article maintains a good sense of neutral writing and is not specific to any side. There is no persuasion used.

#### Appropriate section headings [edit source]

Good job on titling the sections: they are appropriate and flow well. However, maybe consider changing the name of the Results section to (Negative) Consequences or something similar. This would increase understanding of that section's purpose. "Results" just does not seem like a fitting title. Also, for the Disturbance Regime section, perhaps use that phrase within the writing to give an example to people as to what it is (and you could add an internal link to the Wiki page).

#### Appropriate references provided, including scientific peer-reviewed articles [edit source]

Your sources seem appropriate and diverse. They are peer-reviewed scientific articles and you use them well in the whole article. My only edit would be in the Overgrazing section, perhaps you should add in more information seeing as you cite two sources but only have three very brief and non-illustrative sentences.

#### In-line links appropriate [edit source]

I am unsure about this (ask Dr. Carmichael), but it would seem that you only need to link to the same page once e.g. you link to grasslands when you first use that word, so every subsequent time you use that word you do not need to link to it again. Other than that your links seem appropriate to the article and relevant in providing more detail on specific items.

#### No grammatical or spelling error [edit source]

I went ahead and corrected the minor grammar errors and sentence structure errors in your post. Check the history to see my edits.

Rlambert1893 (talk) 01:35, 18 March 2014 (UTC)



### Morris J. Berman oil spill

#### Writing adequately developed and supported by evidence, examples (specifics) [edit source]

Though you do include a good amount of examples, I would like you to elaborate a bit more. Why were some of the Most Affected Species "least resilient" to the oil spill and what precisely was the effect on these animals? Explain further the effects on tourism caused by the oil spill. What parts of the Oil Pollution Act exactly did the cleanup adhere to? Elaborate on the problems experienced by the cleanup crews that you briefly mention in the Cleanup subsection. After listing multiple affected species or organisms, go back and focus on one as an example. This will help to provide a real case of how the oil spill impacted one specific organism. This is more effective than a long list of examples. Also, you should expand on the Affected Environment section. What exactly about the environment was affected? Was it temporary or long-lasting(if so, how long)? Something needs to be included to further elaborate on this important part of the anthropogenic disaster.

### Pertussis

#### Revisions and edits

The sentence "For most adults and adolescents, who often do not seek medical care until several weeks into their illness, serology may be used to determine whether antibody against pertussis toxin or another component of B. pertussis is present at high levels in the blood of the person." had no citation and seemed to plagiarize this article http://www.eurodiagnostica.com/index.php?headId=4&pageId=4&langId=1&diseaseId=8#nr2-tab @ , so I cited it and changed up the wording. ChaKeSeLiAl (talk) 01:45, 1 March 2016 (UTC)

Added information on the shift of affected age group, a reason for the shift, and a citation to a scientific journal in the Vaccine section. ChaKeSeLiAI (talk) 02:37, 1 March 2016 (UTC)

Replaced inaccurate death statistic and citation in the Epidemiology section. I attempted to search for the previous numbers in the citation, but was unable to find them. ChaKeSeLiAI (talk) 02:57, 1 March 2016 (UTC)

Ref was not inaccurate. Just came to different conclusions. Doc James (talk · contribs · email) 03:14, 1 March 2016 (UTC)





# Assignment 3: Critique and interaction

### **Students Gain**

- Address critique, netiquette
- Collaborate
- Build confidence in knowledge





### Students opinions: the good

"... my contributions feel worthwhile" "I know how to find scientific sources ... and check for validity"







## Students opinions: the not-so good

"I am nervous when it comes to writing." "...it was difficult to find reliable sources"

"others ... tinker and change something being evaluated"





# Making it work in your class

- Focus on course goals
- Clear expectations & rubric
- Participate & check-in
- Proceed in steps
- Connect with Wiki Edu

Instructor Basics: How to use Wikipedia as a teaching tool

Wikimedia Foundation

Wikipedia Education Program

### From Non-Expert to Editor:

### Students Improving Wikipedia Content for Global Communities

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