

Exploring College Resources: A Wiki Assignment

Purpose: Part of your success at college depends on your ability to know and use college resources. Another part of your success at college depends on your ability to read, write, and organize information. This assignment is designed to marry those things by having you explore a college resource and then build a wiki about that place.

Assignment:

Preparation:

- Select a college resource that is of interest to you. The ones from which I'd like you to choose are as follows: Women's Programs, TRIO, Student Programs, Tutoring and Resource Center, Writing Center, Math Center, Disability Support Services, Career Center, Library, and Counseling Center.
- Gather information about this resource using the guidelines given to you by the instructor. This will require a site visit (completed during class). You might also want to access the resource's website to gather information about it.
- Work with your team members to synthesize the information you gathered and put it into categories, so you have as much accurate and detailed information as possible about your resource.
- Construct a wiki for your resource using the wiki on the Angel site for our course.

Content of Wiki:

- Your wiki should include at least three paragraphs that are about an aspect of your resource. At a minimum, this should include a paragraph that provides a description of the resource, a paragraph that tells a story of how a student used and/or benefitted from the resource, and a paragraph that argues why this resource is important to students at GRCC.
- At least three of your paragraphs should be in a different organizational structure: narrative, descriptive, argument, etc.
- Each paragraph should illustrate what you learn in class about strong paragraph structure. This means each one needs to include a clear topic sentence, support, and analysis, and paragraphs should be developed to be 5-7 sentences in length.
- Expect to draft your paragraphs individually in class and then work with your team members to synthesize and revise these paragraphs into that which ends up on the wiki. This means that you may have parts of your paragraph fused with parts of another written by a group member, depending on the strengths and weaknesses of those written by the group.

Format of Wiki:

- Organize your wiki with your audience – other new students at GRCC – in mind. Consider the appropriate use of content presentation, word choice, heading, etc.
- Edit your wiki.

Writer's Memo:

- Once you have completed the wiki, each person will reflect on the process of putting it together. The Writer's Memo will be a 1 ½-2 page reflective essay in which you individually discuss the process you took to complete the wiki, what you individually did to construct the wiki, what worked well about this process, what didn't work, and what you would like to do differently in the future given what you learned on this assignment.

Grading

- 1) Development/Support:** The paragraphs in the wiki are supported with detailed facts, examples, stories, and/or numerical data (as is appropriate to the structure of the paragraph) that are about the paragraph's topic. Each paragraph has a minimum of 5-7 sentences. There are at least three paragraphs (a minimum) in the wiki. *Note: strong wikis will exceed this by offering more than three paragraphs about the resource. (40 pts)*
- 2) Organization:** The wiki overall stays focused on the college resource. Individual paragraphs within the wiki focus on specific and concrete sub-parts of this larger resource. Each paragraph is organized in a specific style and sticks to the style it says it will illustrate. The paragraphs are cohesive: each sentence in each paragraph connects to the topic sentence. **(40 pts)**
- 3) Format/Presentation:** The overall presentation of the wiki makes it easy to navigate. (It uses white space, text, bullets, etc. in ways that make it easy to see and read.) The wiki has been edited for grammar mistakes. It has also been proof read for missing words or unclear meaning. **(10 pts)**
- 4) Writer's Memo:** The writer's memo is submitted on time, addresses each of the questions on the assignment (instructor will provide this as you get close to the end of the wiki project), and it is developed with significant, insightful, and concrete responses to each question. It is at least 1 ½-2 pages in length, typed. **(10 pts)**

Note: I will assign group grades for the wiki unless it is clear that one or more group members didn't contribute equally to the project. In this case, certain group members who didn't contribute equitably will be assigned a lower grade.