

Report on:
**Hands-on training on Wikipedia
and Wikidata for application of
IUPAC terms across Wikipedia**
(#2018-038-1-400)



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IUPAC Polymer Division meeting
Paris 7 July 2019



Project information

- Project number: 2018-038-1-400
- Approved: 4 Jan 2018
- Duration: 1 year (March 2019-March2020).
- Budget: 3000 USD
- Task group members: Guido Raos, Paul D. Topham, Michael Hess, Jan Merna, Chris Fellows, Marloes Peeters.
Subsequently also Francesca Giuntini.
- Related to: IUPAC-SPT project "Synchronizing Wikipedia: Polymer Definitions and Terminology" (#015-032-2-400).
- Aims: allow IUPAC members to attend a «Wikipedia editing» course for PhD students of Politecnico di Milano (next slides).
Write or improve some polymer-related Wikipedia pages.
Experiment with the use of Wikipedia for spreading polymer science and IUPAC-generated content towards general public.



POLITECNICO
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Science, technology, society and Wikipedia

Introduction to the Ph.D. course, 1-5 July 2019

Guido Raos and Chiara Castiglioni

Motivations

Since its birth in 2001, **Wikipedia** has grown enormously in size and importance. This interdisciplinary course will introduce you to the history, the workings and general rules of Wikipedia and, most of all, involve you in the **production of new material** for it.

- Learn a new interdisciplinary skill.
- Part of your training in technical writing.
- Improve your use of Wikipedia, develop a critical attitude towards what is written in it (or the web in general).
- Learn/discuss about issues of copyright, plagiarism, etc.
- Public engagement, social responsibility: “giving back” to society some of your knowledge.
- Meet new and interesting people.

Course outline

Day 1: lectures in the morning, practical introduction to Wikipedia editing in the afternoon.

Days 2 and 3: lectures in the morning (also sister projects Wikidata and Wikimedia Commons), Wikipedia editing in the afternoon.

Day 4: Wikipedia editing.

Day 5: Wikipedia editing in the morning. Final revision and evaluation in the afternoon.

Attendance is compulsory (at least 4 days out of 5).

Sign the **attendance sheet** every morning and afternoon!

Some guidelines for the selection of articles

One article per person, in English or Italian. Additional contributions to other articles may be considered as part of your overall evaluation, but will not be reviewed in detail. Also translation into another language (e.g., your mother tongue) will contribute to the final evaluation (see next).

Topic should be roughly related to your PhD work.

Your competence should be matched to Wikipedia's «needs» (avoid conflicts with other Wikipedians): entirely new articles, or articles which have been already identified as needing improvement.

Translation of Wikipedia pages in other languages is OK as a starting point. But your critical, substantial contribution must emerge.

Articles to be written / edited should be discussed with the tutors on the first two days of the course.

Meet your teachers

Guido Raos and Chiara Castiglioni (Politecnico di Milano):

General organization, assistance and final evaluation (for scientific content, based on «reviews» from other Polimi professors).

Andy Mabbett (UK):

Most lectures, assistance in the initial part of the course (days 1-3)

Marco Chemello and Niccolò Caranti (Wikimedia Italia):

Lessons (in italiano!) about Wikipedia in Italian, assistance throughout the course, final evaluation (for adherence to Wikipedia style and rules).

Relevant Wikipedia pages and teaching material

Wikipedia pages of the course (to be updated on a day-by-day basis, with links to the articles which have been edited / written):

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:GLAM/Polimi/2019>

<https://it.wikipedia.org/wiki/Progetto:Coordinamento/Universit%C3%A0/Polimi/Dottorandi/2019>

Wikipedia Education Program:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Education_program

Some teaching material (e.g slides) will be uploaded on beep.metid.polimi.it

Participation and output



[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/6/6d/Polimi Wikipedia course - 2019-07-02 - Andy Mabbett.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/6/6d/Polimi_Wikipedia_course_-_2019-07-02_-_Andy_Mabbett.jpg)

About 45 PhD students in engineering (mostly), architecture and design.
One Wikipedia article each, plus several smaller edits, content uploads, etc.

[On-line monitoring tool](#)

A remarkable result also from the Wikipedia side: [see this tweet](#).

IUPAC-related work in Milano

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:GLAM/IUPAC_PoliMi



Left to right: Mabbett, Hess, Raos, Giuntini, Caranti, Chemello, Topham, Merna
(photo courtesy of A. Mabbett)

Future activities (by March 2020)

- Complete a few more articles (5-6).
- Identify one polymer-related article which might become (after checks and revisions) a [featured article](#) on Wikipedia's [chemistry portal](#): for example, «[Polymer](#)».
- Monitor accesses and creation of links to Wikipedia articles (a measure of «project success»).
- Article for **Chemistry International**
- Final report

Future activities (other projects)?

- Participation of other IUPAC members to next edition of the course at Polimi (June 2020).
- Creation of a Wikidata template for the properties of polymers: see the [template for chemical compounds](#) (such as [benzene](#)).

Grazie!

Thank you!

