



Wikipedia For Schools Research and Development Intern

Internship title: Wikipedia For Schools Research and Development Intern

Organization: ASU SolarSPELL Initiative (Solar Powered Educational Learning Library)

Location: Remote and/or Tempe campus in ISTBX

Type of internship: For credit or non-paid; approximately 10 hours per week

Application deadline: November 22 — applications will continue to be accepted and reviewed every week until the position is filled.

Start date: January 13, 2025

Description:

SolarSPELL is seeking 3-4 interns to curate regionally-relevant, engaging, and educational Wikipedia articles to add to our offline digital libraries that are used around the globe. Wikipedia for Schools (WFS) is a curated selection of ~6,000 articles from the full Wikipedia article catalog that are meant to be school-friendly and support existing curriculum. The SolarSPELL initiative includes WFS as a collection of our offline, digital libraries which are localized for the community which will be using them. As such, further review of WFS is necessary to assess what new articles to include and what articles to (perhaps) weed out in order to be as relevant as possible to our in-country library users around the world. This project would require research into relevant supporting materials for curricula where SolarSPELL currently has libraries, including countries in the Pacific Islands, East Africa, and Southern Africa. Students proficient in Arabic may also work on the Arabic WFS for our Northeast Syria library.

SolarSPELL is a global educational initiative at Arizona State University that combines solar-powered technology, relevant content, and local capacity building. We work to build internet-ready skills and improve educational opportunities around the world. Our offline digital library is designed to bring educational content to resource-constrained locations that may lack electricity, internet connectivity, and/or traditional libraries. The SolarSPELL library emits an offline WiFi hotspot, to which any WiFi capable device

(smartphones, tablets, laptops) can connect and freely, and safely, surf thousands of resources that are carefully curated and continually improved to meet local information needs. More information on SolarSPELL can be found at solarspell.org.

This internship offers an exciting opportunity to contribute to improving the quality of educational information available to students and teachers around the world, whose schools may lack electricity and/or Internet access. Your contributions will be brought to the field and used by teachers and students, potentially within months of your internship!

Interns will be expected to attend a new intern orientation and participate in an end-of-semester final presentation. Ideal candidates will be detail-oriented, self-starters, and have a desire to work for a department that serves communities from all over the world.

Internship duties will include the following:

- Conduct background research on the various countries that are using our digital libraries and become familiar with the cultures and region
- Review the SolarSPELL educational library and the current Wikipedia For Schools module
- Assess and suggest new articles that should be included on our WFS library

Minimal Qualifications:

- Thrive in a team environment and work well with others
- Detail oriented and reliable; a strong and honest work ethic motivates you
- Globally minded; you have a desire to work for a department that serves communities from all over the world

How to apply: If you are interested in applying for this position, please submit a resume and cover letter to Cassie Barrett at cbarre38@asu.edu. All documents should be in PDF format and follow the naming style of [LastName_FirstName_DesiredPosition]