

## Abstract

We used a case based approach in introductory nutrition courses to tell a story of global malnutrition. The story begins with in-class discussion of global hunger, continues with students reporting in group wikis the etiology of malnutrition in "their" (assigned) country, and ends with Bill Gates' decision to donate \$4.8 million to the country who most effectively describes how his money will make malnutrition "go away" in their country ( 3-minute group proposal presentations). We will review the peaks, pitfalls, and where we plan to go with this case based on student feedback and instructor insights.

## Case Materials

### •Global Malnutrition: 1/6 of Humanity

According to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), more than 25,000 people die each day from malnutrition. The proportion of the population in sub-feed situations differs from one country to another. Between 2003 and 2005, it was, for example, at 63% in Burundi, 21% in Armenia and India, 9% in Ghana and China, and less than 5% in France.

### •Class Assignment:

As a group, you are to explore why hunger occurs in your assigned country and decide what malnutrition "looks like" in your country.



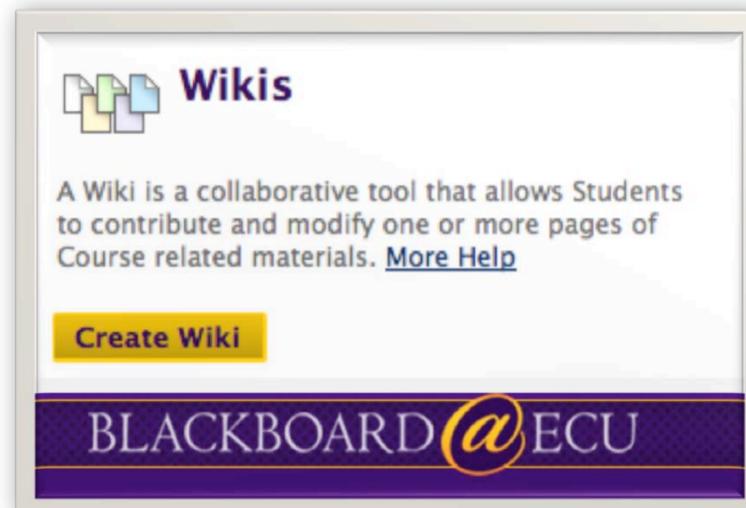
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## Using Group Wikis to Tell a Case the Peaks, the Pitfalls, and Where We Go From Here

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## Blackboard Wikis

- "Wiki" Tasks
  1. Answer concisely (less than 200 words each section) how geography (section a), health (section b), food (section c), finances/politics (section d), and any important factors (section e only if needed) contribute to malnutrition in your country. Cite references used at the end of each section.
  2. Include a summary paragraph (less than 200 words) that describes the over-riding contributors from all of the areas that you reported on (sections a to e). Cite references (if applicable).
  3. Include at least 1 picture that illustrates an important point that supports 1 of the sections above. Include a separate narrative description (less than 100 words) on how this picture contributes to the point of the section that it represents. Cite reference.
  4. Include at least 1 audio file that illustrates an important point that supports 1 of the sections above (cannot be the same section as the picture). Include a separate narrative description (less than 100 words) on how this picture contributes to the point of the section that it represents. Cite reference.



## Presentation

Bill Gates is feeling rather philanthropic and has decided to donate \$4.8 million to one (and only one!) of these countries in an effort to resolve malnutrition. You will be meeting with Mr. Gates and you have 3 minutes to convince him yours is the country this money should go to. From Mr. Gates' personal assistant, you have received a description of what he wants reviewed during this 3 minute presentation, which includes:

1. A description of what malnutrition looks like in the country.
2. What are the main reasons why this is occurring?
3. What do you propose to do with this \$4.8 million to make malnutrition go away?

Oh, and he's tired of people presenting this kind of thing as a PowerPoint presentation. He wants it straight from the horse's mouth...



*"It was exciting to see the student interaction as they worked through their assignment. It was clear that they were engaged,*

*interested and actively learning in this class. I was impressed with their proposals and ideas for using my funding to alleviate hunger in their country. I only wish I were actually Bill Gates and could really fund them."*

**-Dr. William Forsythe  
"Bill Gates"**