Using ePortfolio to Enhance A&P Knowledge Transfer

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Introduction

Common Terminology

- Artifact
- Archive
- Collection
- Curate
- Reflection
- Presentation

Teaching
- Traditional
- Web-based
- Case Studies
- PBL
- And many others

Learning
- Self-reflection
- Goal Orientation
- Transfer of Knowledge

Resources
- Video/Animation
- Adaptive Learning Modules
- And many others

ePortfolio
What the Experts Say

When an institution embraces the use of ePortfolio:

- Students have a “learning space” all their own which increases engagement in their learning
- The “learning space” persists between courses and over a college career allowing them to see a coherence in their learning (a transfer of knowledge)
  - This leads to integrative and reflective thinking, the core of advanced thinking
- Learning and metacognition improves through using ePortfolios

As a result of the above, ePortfolios provide:

- Authentic institutional assessment
- Assessment of prior learning
- Easily accessible content reference for students
- Tools for employability/graduate school

Note: The more the ePortfolio is valued by the instructor, the more likely the above are to occur

Adapted from the Association for Authentic, Experiential and Evidence-Based Learning (AAEEBL) site: http://www.aaeebl.org/?page=about
Benefits to Stakeholders

■ **Learners**
  - Reflective opportunities to examine learning-journey
  - Realization of how concepts inter-relate
  - Opportunities to demonstrate achievements toward learning outcomes
  - Active Participation in Learning Process – Autonomy, Thoughtfulness, Cooperative Skills, Learning Strategies, Competency in Knowledge, Skills, & Techniques can be Effectively Communicated Visually

■ **Instructors/Advisors**
  - Insight to student learning struggles
  - Insight to approaches students used in learning complex concepts
  - Insight on how to personalize academic advising

■ **Administrators**
  - Accreditation process is more visible
  - Opportunity to demonstrate student learning outcomes to governance boards & public can find authentic data in student e-Portfolios
  - Evidence of Collective Student Progress
Transfer of Knowledge

- Learning Theory strongly suggests improved outcomes will occur in academic learning when personal reflection and academic motivation are in place.
- The greatest challenge in higher education is to develop self-regulated learners (Mathias, Bruce, and Newton 2013).
- Students often struggle to recognize the inter-related connections between course work, so they have exposed awareness of facts, but they are not effectively linking existing knowledge to new information.
- Through reflection, deep learning and critical thinking strengthens the linkages between courses.
Tools to Create ePortfolios

- Weebly
- Wix
- ViaLiveText
- Google sites
ePortfolio in A&P

Purpose and Objectives

The purpose of the e-Portfolio is for students to create a collection of their work that reflects the knowledge they have gained, their growth as a student, and the role the content of this course will play in both their future courses and their chosen profession.

Students will...

- Create an academic e-portfolio through which they can connect learning across courses and time
- Express their personal and academic identities through completion of course assignments and subsequent reflection on their capabilities and progress
- Develop the foundations for their academic pathways using self-reflection and metacognition as they come to understand what they know and are able to do, and what they still need to learn
Examples

ViaLiveText Link for Presentation
Strengths/Weaknesses

**Strengths**
- Increased student engagement
- Ready reference to previous content
- Forces students to “think about their learning”

**Weaknesses**
- Additional work in an already “full” course
- Some students are technologically challenged
Lessons Learned

- Provide students with examples
- Dedicate a portion of a class for discussing the value/purpose of the ePortfolio
- Give clear instructions regarding submission of url/links
- Stagger due dates (don’t have it all due at the end of the course)
Create your own ePortfolio
(or ePortfolio Assignment)