ePortfolio

20% of course grade
Due 12/10

Assignment Description

A portfolio is a way to represent the body of your work. At the end of a course, it is a way to show your instructor, and others, what you have learned over the semester. It is your argument to me that you have met the goals of the course. It is also your chance to reflect on the course and what you have learned.

An ePortfolio is a portfolio that is displayed as a webpage. That means that this is another great way to demonstrate the ways that you can organize and display information.

Each page within your portfolio will include a brief reflection and one or more artifacts to demonstrate your learning in this area over the semester. In addition to the home page, your ePortfolio will have the following sections, based on the course goals:

- Home page: The home page of your ePortfolio will be an overall reflection on the course. You will want this to be short and easy to read. But you'll want to introduce yourself and your work as a whole.

- Library Research: This section should demonstrate the library research you have done this semester. It should include a reflection on how what you learned from your sources influenced your project throughout the semester. It should also include some examples from your work this semester. You might include a few entries from your annotated bibliography and/or a paragraph from one of your papers where you synthesize your library sources well.

- Field Research: This section will demonstrate the way that you were able to develop a research question and conduct your own original research. Your reflection here will be about the research process, including what your question was and how you went about answering it. Your artifact(s) should be a selection from the research itself. Some ideas of what you could put in: a portion of your survey, charts of your results, excerpts from a transcript of an interview, or video/audio clips from one of your interviews (with permission).

- Process: One of the goals of this course is to engage with the writing process, including peer feedback, revision, and reflection. For your reflection, you might want to comment on how your writing process has changed throughout the semester, or how your peer group influenced your writing process. For your artifact(s), you may want to annotate or use track changes to show a paper as it evolved. Or you might include excerpts from your peer

feedback alongside parts of a paper that you revised. A third option would be to make additional changes to a paper based on the final feedback you received and demonstrate that.

- Multimodal Literacy: This class has been about developing multiple literacies, not just writing traditional print papers. In this section, you will explain what literacies you have developed and present artifacts that represent this.

- Rhetorical Awareness: One of the biggest goals of this course is to adjust your writing to different settings, different audiences, and different genres. We wrote papers for different academic disciplines (humanities v. social science) and for different audiences (popular v. academic). In this section, reflect on how your writing has changed across these settings. For your artifacts, demonstrate at least two different types of writing you have done.

We will be using Wordpress.com to create our ePortfolios. I recommend that you use the option of keeping your website private except to those who you invite. This is important to protect your own work and the confidentiality of your research participants.

Design

Since we are all using the same format for our ePortfolios, some of your design choices have been made for you. However, you still have a lot of flexibility! Wordpress has over 1,500 themes that you can choose from: http://wordpress.org/extend/themes/. You'll also want to add your own visuals that are relevant and helpful for your reader. For example, you might have a pdf icon for an artifact that is a pdf. You can also choose your own banner image. When working with your design, remember what we learned about color and fonts and refer back to the "Non-designer's Design Book" as needed. The biggest thing is to be consistent. If you have one font for the body text on one page, use that same font on the other pages.

Sources

If the excerpts you use cite sources (and some should), then you should also include the reference page for that assignment with the relevant sources listed. You may also wish to create a references page to your portfolio. You will also need to attribute any sources you use for visuals in your portfolio.

Grading

Your portfolio will be graded based on the Writing Program Evaluation criteria. In particular, I will be looking at the argument you make about your own progress in the course. Your job is to show me how well you have met the course goals. The design and organization of your portfolio will be a part of the grade, but so will your overall progress in the course (as demonstrated by the portfolio).