

Transcript: ISUComm ePortfolio Sites: Showcasing WOVE

Opening Sequence for ISUComm Sites Training Series

Phil: “I see you’re committed to your ISUComm Site and doing well in English 150 & 250—that’s great! In that case, I’m going to show you how to work on successfully completing your ePortfolio assignment. But, the real work of bringing it together is your content and your professional persona. Remember, what you are seeing here is only one way to put an ePortfolio together. I encourage you to be creative and adventurous and to make your ePortfolio an expression of yourself. Treat the contents of this video as a base approach to constructing your own Site! Let’s get started!

1. “ePortfolio Assignment and Proposal”

Phil: “Since the ePortfolio is an assignment in your English 150 & 250 class, it is important to always start with the assignment sheet. Take a close look at the contents of the assignment and what is required by it. You’ll want to choose documents, presentations, videos, and any other materials you want to include carefully. Remember these materials are meant to showoff your skills as a WOVE communicator, and the progress you’ve made over the course of the semester! Additionally, you will want to have a clear plan put together via the use of the proposal worksheet which accompanies the assignment sheet. This will ensure that you don’t leave anything out and that you’ve articulated your thoughts around the needs of your ePortfolio! Lastly, if your instructor has given you any specific directions, requirements, or recommendations for your ePortfolio, you will want to make sure they are addressed and accounted for too!

2. “ePortfolio Site Design”

Phil: “Now that we know the assignment inside and out, and are prepared to begin our work on the ePortfolio, we are going to want to start-off with our Site’s overall design. Remember, site design decisions are highly individualistic, so your choices will likely be very different than those made here. However, there are a few things to keep in mind: 1. Make sure that your theme is professional and uncluttered, 2. Make sure that your typeface choices are clear and easy to read, 3. Make sure that your colors and images are easy to look at on screen and appropriate, and 4. Make sure that your Site is easy to navigate and interact with.”

Accelerated illustration of basic site design choices

“There we go. Moving on, let’s put together basic the pages needed for our ePortfolio.”

3. “ePortfolio Page Creation”

Phil: “Every ePortfolio should have as a minimum three or four pages. These pages are centered upon the major components of the ePortfolio Assignment: 1. The opening reflection –where you reflect on your accomplishments, challenges, strengths and weakness across the whole semester

and plan for your future work, 2. The Written document revision and reflection –where you show both the original and new version of an essay and write a reflection on the changes you’ve made, your reasoning for them, and how the new version better suits the requirements of the assignment, 3. The –OVE materials showcase and reflection –where you illustrate your skills in the modes of oral, visual, and electronic communication by including examples and reflecting on the reasons for your choosing the examples you provided, your work as a communicator across the various interconnected modes of communication, and your strengths and weaknesses, and 4. The last course document written during finals week and uploaded into your ePortfolio.

These pages are the stage, if you will, upon which all of your best work is displayed, and where you have the opportunity to discuss and reflect upon it to best show your developing mastery over communication.”

Accelerated illustration of laying out the 4 pages of an ePortfolio with faux content

“Excellent. So, now that we’ve designed our site and posted our pages, lets take a summative tour of our complete example ePortfolio.”

4. “ePortfolio Model Review”

Phil: “Starting on the main screen, you can see that we have a simple, organized design. The theme isn’t too distracting, the navigation tools are easy to identify, and the text is direct and easy to read. Colors and layout are professional and appropriate, and exemplify what a visitor would expect to find on an academic or professional website. It is very important that as you design your eportfolio, you keep the assignment, audience, and purpose of your Site in mind!

Looking at one of our pages, you see that the title is direct and concrete-conveying the content of the page clearly-and the body of the text is developed in the style of an essay. Also, it is important to note that media is imbedded in the document to signify the incorporation of your own WOVE materials. This integration of material allows visitors to see and interact with the illustrative media that show off the various and interconnected modes of communication. You’ll also notice that our page includes a pdf or downloadable version of the body text and (when possible) the materials provided so that visitors can work with the documents in multiple formats or even offline. This inclusion of pdfs or other exportable files make our ePortfolio pages more professional and shows visitors that we take an interest in their use of our work.

Phil: “Well, I hope you found this modeling video useful. Remember, web publishing is manageable with time and effort. Allow me to give you some advice: first- don’t wait until the last minute! This video made site building look quick and easy, it was actually a large time investment and the video made it appear easier than it actually is. Second- keep the assignment, audience, and instructor in mind to aim for success in YOUR class. Third- go beyond what you’ve seen in this video. Make your ePortfolio something that can lead to that dream job or that A! Simply recreating what you’ve seen won’t cut it. Until next time, good luck!

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