

ENGL 600

Internship in the College Teaching of English



Northern Illinois
University

Teaching Portfolio



The teaching portfolio is an opportunity to showcase how you've grown as a teacher as well as reflect on areas that you can continue to improve. Consider this a beginning point: Your teaching portfolio is a document you can return to and update throughout your career. The teaching portfolio is the primary document used for evaluation in ENGL 600.

Goals

As you create your teaching portfolio, keep the following goals in mind. You should:

- Attempt to demonstrate your growth as a teacher through teaching artifacts and reflection.
- Consider areas of your teaching that you can continue to work on as you continue to teach.
- Provide a teaching philosophy grounded in composition theory.

What to Include

Teaching Artifacts

As you move through the semester, keep materials that you have created to aid with teaching, such as handouts, online explanations, videos, or other materials. You can include these in your teaching portfolio with an explanation of what they added to the content of your class.

Reflection

You will be asked regularly to reflect on your teaching in your journal throughout the semester. You may include these reflections in your teaching portfolio with or without commentary as needed. You may also create additional reflections on your own that you may include, such as responses to past reflections as your attitudes or approaches have changed.

Teaching Philosophy

You will create a formal, 1-2 page teaching philosophy to be included in the teaching portfolio. Your philosophy should be grounded in composition theory and should include practical examples of how your philosophy is implemented. Teaching philosophies are common in academia, and you will be asked for them regularly. Consider this philosophy a starting point that you can reshape as you move through your career.

Submission

You can create your teaching portfolio in several different ways depending on your technological know-how, your goals for the portfolio, and your preference for how public it should be. The following are suggestions for submission, but other options are available. Please bounce other ideas of off one or both of us before starting.

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| Blackboard | Choosing to create your portfolio in Blackboard is an option—but a limiting one. The portfolio will be private and hard to access for you and others in the future. It's a simple option, but you will likely have to recreate your portfolio elsewhere down the line. |
| Google Site | Google Sites (inside of Google Drive) offers you the option to build a website from scratch. You can make this public or private and adapt it in the future. |
| Other Website Builder | Many other website builders exist: Wix, Weebly, Wordpress, and even other sites that don't start with W. These often are easier to manage but offer fewer options for building your portfolio (sometimes unless you pay for them). Wordpress is probably the most flexible, but it's also perhaps the hardest to learn. |
| Other Options Entirely | You're welcome to use any other space that you think might accommodate your portfolio, and you're also welcome to do a portfolio that isn't primarily text, such as creating a video "portfolio." Please talk these options through with us before diving too far into them. |

Whichever method you chose, please link to your portfolio in the assignment in Blackboard as your method to "submit" the final version of your portfolio.

Checking Off the Boxes

The following are necessary to get a "satisfactory" grade for the portfolio. Please double check that you've marked each of these off before submitting your portfolio.

- I have included at minimum three teaching artifacts that I have created this semester.
- I have explained these artifacts and how they have helped students learn.
- I have included at least three reflections from my journal with commentary or three new reflections discussing how my practices or attitudes have changed (or a combination of these).
- In one or more of the reflections above, I identify at least two areas of teaching that I'd still like to work on and how I plan to work on them.
- I have included a new 1-2 page teaching philosophy.
- In my teaching philosophy, I have connected my classroom practices to composition theories.
- In my teaching philosophy, I have used practical examples to demonstrate my philosophy in action.

You are also welcome to include any other materials that demonstrate your growth as a teacher, future areas you're hoping to continue to work on, or ideas that inform your teaching practices.