PORTFOLIO ASSESSMENT

A portfolio is a space (in this case, digital) in which the student records "evidence of their learning" throughout a course or subject, using different resources. This evidence can be shared with their teachers so that they   can monitor and assess this evidence and therefore, the achievements of each student.

Alternatively, the portfolios can also be shared with the rest of the classmates, which allows, on the one hand, to offer different points of view on the learning process of each student, as well as the exchange of impressions, meeting points or debates. Finally, portfolios can be made public, transcending the purely academic field and becoming a window into the world of work.

How to implement it

Helen Barrett (2023) defines a series of steps to follow to develop a portfolio:

► **Purpose**. Establish a consensual starting point between the teacher and the student, in which the objectives and procedures to be followed are defined. Students can be asked questions such as: what do you want to show? What is the point of making this portfolio for you?

An important point at this stage is to define the "digital support" in which the portfolio will be developed, which can range from Google sites or blog-like applications to tools for web design such as WordPress or more sophisticated such as PebblePad. The idea is that each student has a "space" in which they can record the evidence of their learning in multiple formats.

- ▶ **Collection of evidence and classification.** Students must be free to choose the resources with which to support this evidence: photographs, illustrations, videos, audios, texts… In some cases, it is important that this collection of evidence is chronological.
- ▶ **Reflection on the activity**. At this point, a first reflection is made on the evidence provided and the learning process. This **reflection is about the activity or action in the present tense** and that answers the question: What am I learning now?
- ▶ **Co-exposure, interaction, dialogue, and feedback.** This stage opens a period of shared reflection, in which the exchange of ideas with both the teacher and the rest of the classmates comes into play and where feedback is one of the most important aspects.
- ▶ **Reflection on achievements.** In this stage we reflect on the achievements achieved in which the question to be answered would be: What does this selected work show about my learning outcomes?
- ▶ **Selection, evaluation, and reflection (in the future).** At this stage, the final portfolio is presented in which the achievements are documented, a retrospective reflection is made, and new future goals are proposed. At this stage, both self-evaluation and evaluation are carried out, based on rubrics.
- ▶ **Presentation/Publication**. Decision of what and at what time to make it public, and under what conditions.

Additional aspects to consider are:

- ▶ Give clear indications about the work to be done and the evaluation criteria to be used.
- ▶ Set a number of specific items and purposes, as well as a set time to get the job done.
- ▶ Accompany and facilitate the processes of reflection, feedback and self-evaluation.

Examples

- ▶ Student ePortfolio examples (Salt Lake Community College, 2023).
- ▶ ePortfolios for Reflection. 7 best practices (University of Denver, 2018)

How to assess and evaluate it

One of the resources that is almost dispensable to assess and evaluate a portfolio are the **rubrics**, preferably shared and agreed with the students previously.

The main advantages offered by rubrics are:

- ▶ decrease in the margin of error motivated by subjective factors.
- ▶ the student knows the evaluation criteria from the beginning, which allows him to regulate his learning.
- ▶ facilitates on-line feedback between students and teachers.
  (Balart & Cortés, 2015)

Checklists as well as **tutorials** are also recommended in order to help and guide the student in their learning process.

Tools

In Moodle

- ► The Activity Completion Tool
- ► Course Completion Tool
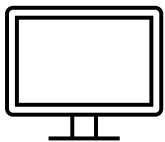- ► Checklist Tool
- ► Moodle Reports Tool

Outside Moodle

- ► PebblePad
- ► Google sites
- ► Brightspace
- ► Filiotek
- ► Mahara
- ► myEdu

Best practice

Featured student e-portfolios (Portland State University, 2023)

Resources

- ► ePortfolios with GoogleApps (Barret, 2023)

- ► Is the future of ePortfolios in your pocket? (Barret, 2023)