

Due May 11, noon: ePortfolio

You do not need to send me anything. I will simply start to read and grade your ePortfolios at this time.

The Big Question: Who are you as a writer? You can answer this question by breaking it down into three parts: 1) What do you write? 2) How do you write? 3) Why do you write? To demonstrate your progress as a writer this semester, and to show off your best work to the larger world, you are going to create an ePortfolio, a website that contains your writing (the papers that you have already written) and contextualizes its significance (the images and curatorial text that you will use to enliven and explain your writing).

The Specifics:

1) Your website should be set up on the Wordpress platform. You will need to create a home page, four or more “parent” pages (think of these as sub-pages), and two or more “child” pages (think of these as sub-sub-pages). These pages should contain examples of your writing progress and your best writing. You can decide if you want to include entire papers, shorter paragraphs, specific sentences, or some combination.

2) These pages should include: live links to other websites and/or PDF documents and captioned images.

3) For extra credit, you can add one or more “interesting” web elements of your choice, such as a photo gallery or an embedded video clip.

The important thing is that you will need to decide on a logical way to organize and design the website. To get started, make an outline for your website, just like you would for a paper. For example, you might organize your tabs around your progress, looking at “Early Writing,” “Developing Writing” and “Later Writing,” or writing themes like “Writing Habits,” “Voice,” and “Audience,” or even types of material examined, such as “Film,” “Literature,” and “Architecture.”

The organization and design come together to visually express your personal style, reflecting what is important to you as a writer, be it originality, boldness, clarity, etc. Be sure that you can explain why you chose a particular type of organization and design.

Getting Started: To help get you started on this website, use the following page to sketch out an outline for your website.

1) What is important to me as a writer?

2) Now, arrange the key ideas from your answer to question 1 into a hierarchy:
What are the major themes? What are the sub-themes? What are the sub-sub-themes?

3) Sketch out these ideas as a tree or outline.

4) Is anything missing? Do you want to move anything around?

5) Does this organization feel and sound like you? How so?

Benefits of the ePortfolio:

In addition to teaching you how to construct a basic website using Wordpress, this assignment will give you the opportunity to play with audience, voice, and technique both during our course and after its conclusion. This platform allows you to control the level of privacy for your work at every stage of the project's development, and will allow you to demonstrate how you have honed your writing skills and style. Ultimately, the ePortfolio is meant to give you the chance to showcase your best writing to the class and to the wider world.