



Blogging and e-portfolios for instructors

Recommendations from Jeff Swain

Electronic Portfolios (e-Portfolios) are dynamic, developmental spaces representing your professional "self" on the Web. They are becoming standard practice for academics, students, and professionals and typically include examples of skills and achievements, as well as a reflective blog element. Here at Penn State we use the Blogs @ Penn State platform to create e-Portfolios because it is easy to use and allows you to update and contribute to your e-Portfolio wherever you have an internet connection.

Workshop Objectives

During the workshop we will explore why e-portfolios are becoming the norm in both the academic and corporate setting. We will look at examples of portfolios and discuss the elements that go into making an e-portfolio. Additionally we will:

- ◆ Create your portfolio space
- ◆ Write a reflective blog post
- ◆ Practice publishing to the Web
- ◆ Search and comment on the blogs of others
- ◆ Add additional material to your portfolio, including tabs and media
- ◆ Discover ways to keep a vibrant portfolio

Workshop Preparation

Prior to attending this workshop, please complete the following:

- ◆ If you have not done so, activate your personal web space by going to blogs.psu.edu, selecting the log in option and completing the activation quiz.
- ◆ Think of a name for your portfolio space.
- ◆ Think about samples you want to include, such as photos, multimedia files, articles, and other representations of your professional skills and experience. If possible, bring some along.
- ◆ Think about topics you are interested in exploring in your writing. Examples include personal and professional projects, issues relating to your career, and topics of interest in your field.

To get started on your e-Portfolio go to the Blogs @ Penn State site and log in with your PSU UserID and password.