

## **e-Portfolio Understanding**

An ePortfolio (electronic portfolio) is an online record of information about an individual. The information typically consists of a collection of abilities, achievements, developmental progress, reflective insights, and representational self-expression. For ETEC/OTEC Master's students, this electronic portfolio is a program prerequisite for graduation and is helpful in facilitating future occupational opportunities. With the use of an ePortfolio (also referred to as a digital portfolio), students are able to share their academic and professional history with other individuals within the educational community. While there is no predefined model for an ePortfolio, the rubric for the ETEC/OTEC Master's final project includes the following three required sections: Personal, Work, and Research.

The personal section is a formal introduction, allowing the student an opportunity to share his or her goals and educational philosophies. This section is also an area where the student can provide the viewing audience with historical evidence in the form of a resume, professional vita, and or academic transcripts. Introspective reflection is also an important aspect of this section. Over the course of the program, students are encouraged to ruminate over their educational experience and share thoughts and opinions in the form of blog posts or journal entries. These bits of personal insight help to bring character and personality to the individual behind the portfolio.

The work section is a historical illustration of the projects completed over the course of the program. The ETEC/OTEC rubric states that a minimum of four (4) project examples must be included in order to meet required program expectations. Within this section, students are able to share work samples (in compliance with AECT Standards) that demonstrate their cognitive understanding and competencies with regard to technological tools and how to implement them within a class curriculum.

The research section is a culmination of all work compiled and developed for the final Master's project. This section is a showcase of the student's overall progress in the ETEC/OTEC program. Through the posting of a final research project, readers will have an opportunity to evaluate and gauge a student's academic progress via sample of written prose and supporting materials. The

use of correct grammar, punctuation, spelling, and compliance with APA standards are all representative of a student's academic professionalism and experience. The research project(s) also provide potential employers a glimpse of a student's quantitative and analytical abilities.