



A Guide to Developing a Professional e-Portfolio with WordPress Made Simple

How to Develop a Professional E-Portfolio in UTB

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IU 1: The Learners, their Environment, and the Instructional Goal

Overview

An electronic portfolio is required for all students in the Educational Technology master's program and is reviewed at the 18 hour mark. Many new students to the program have a different educational background other than educational technology and need to create an e-portfolio to record their work throughout the program. This instructional unit will assist non tech and tech students on how to develop a professional electronic portfolio using a free blogging program. Students will use the web software WordPress to create their e-portfolios because it is easily manageable and more professional than a wiki.

The Learning Environment

This instructional unit is going to be delivered via the web, so it is convenient for students to access from anywhere and continue practicing. This instructional unit will be completed by the students independently. The UTB campus has a computer lab in SET B and stand alone computers in the library students may utilize. To complete this training, students will use a training guide and follow steps. The only software requirement for the instructional unit is the use of a computer or laptop and access to the Internet. The performance context of the instructional goal is the same as the learning context.

The Intended Audience

The intended audience consists of forty new graduate students to the Educational Technology master's program whose ages range from 25-60. The majority of the students are 60% female and 40% male.

All the graduate students hold at least a Bachelor's degree and have prior experience as a teacher or technologist. The students have prior experience using the Internet and are supportive of utilizing an instructional unit to accomplish their instructional goals. The graduate students have the reasonable abilities necessary, such as computer literacy and attentiveness to detail, to effectively manage the instructional unit.

Overarching Instructional Goal

Students in the Educational Technology master's program will be able to develop a professional-looking graduate e-portfolio. Graduate students will create a professional electronic portfolio to be displayed to other students, instructors, prospective employers and the world through a Blog.

Specific Goal

Using a free blogging program, students in the Educational Technology master's program will develop an electronic portfolio that is accessible to other students, instructors, prospective employers and the world.

Explanation of Specific Goal to Selected Members of Target Audience

The specific goal was presented to one of the members of the intended audience and the response was positive. This particular student is someone I consider experienced with developing Blogs. After the reassurance of the instructional unit it emphasized the importance of the training to "stand alone" on its own without intervention or additional explanation.

Summary

Since students are geared at a professional-based performance assessment an electronic portfolio will assist them in recording and organizing their projects to demonstrate their effort, progress and achievements easily accessible for anyone to view.