

T&L Culminating Experience for Master's in Educational Technology Electronic Portfolio

Goals

- Establish a clear, summative assessment *of* student learning, with explicit criteria for satisfactory performance.
- Provide students with an interesting and valuable assessment *for* learning, with opportunities for reflection, feedback, and discussion.

Requirements

- Submit an electronic portfolio that meets criteria detailed below.

Electronic Portfolio

For the e-portfolio you will write an essay about your professional philosophy and identify a minimum of five different artifacts that meet specified criteria pertaining to research, and content and pedagogy. Each artifact will be accompanied by reflections on the topic. In addition, a reflection will be required for a third area—professional standards. Templates will be provided, though you are encouraged to personalize portfolios as you wish.

It is your responsibility to insure that all of the submitted artifacts are accessible to reviewers. If specialized plugins are required to view an artifact, guidance should be provided to the reviewers. Also, please avoid any need for the reviewers to setup a new account simply to view one artifact. If direct engagement with the artifact is difficult, a screen cast of the artifact in operation will suffice.

For those students in the RPDP Technology Integration strand, it's fine to build upon the portfolio that was begun during your prior coursework. **Please be sure, however, to clearly label the link to access your required CIG 697 portfolio materials on your opening screen.**

The portfolio will be summative, but not comprehensive (i.e., it will not attempt to address all of the ISTE standards encountered in the program.) The suggested length for the reflections is approximately 300-600 words.

Essay

Discuss your personal professional philosophy pertaining to teaching, learning, and technology. Include in your essay an in-depth discussion of at least one learning theory addressed in the master's program and how that theory influences your pedagogy. Also, describe your efforts to implement your vision for using technology with students or other educators. Finally, reflect on what you see as your "next steps" for enhancing teaching and learning with technology.

Your essay should include a minimum of eight different references, at least five of which need to be from research or scholarly literature (journal articles or scholarly books). It

should include appropriate detail and be a minimum of 1500 words.

Please note that this essay is an original reflection of your personal beliefs and practices using technology with students or other educators. While it should touch on prior course work pertaining to learning theory and technology integration, it should be distinct from any prior papers written during the program.

Research

These artifacts and reflections should address your ability to evaluate and conduct research, and effectively communicate processes, implications and results.

1. Select an artifact that illustrates your ability to analyze research that you've read and evaluated.

Reflection: In reflecting upon the artifact that you've selected, what do you see as some key issues that educators, political leaders, and the public at large should understand about educational technology and both the promise and challenge of documenting its impact on student learning. Your reflection should include a minimum of two references to research or scholarly literature.

2. Select an artifact that illustrates your ability to conduct research and effectively communicate processes, implications and results.

Reflection: In this program students have conducted action research to explore the theory and practice of technology and educational change. Briefly describe how you conducted your study, its outcomes, and how it may have influenced your views. If you were to do a similar project in the future, what, if anything, might you do differently?

Content and Pedagogy

These artifacts and reflections should address your knowledge and understanding of content and related pedagogy in three areas: Technical Concepts and Skills, Instructional Design, and Technology Integration.

1. Technical Concepts and Skills

Select one or two artifacts that illustrate your mastery of technical concepts and skills.

Reflection: Reflect on your learning in creating the selected artifact(s). Discuss the challenges that you faced, the strategies that you used, and the outcomes that you achieved.

2. Instructional Design

Select an artifact that represents your best effort to design educational material.

Reflection: In Chapter 7 of Donald Norman's book, *The Design of Everyday Things*, seven principles for simplifying difficult tasks are discussed including: using both knowledge in the head and knowledge in the world; simplifying the structure of the tasks;

making appropriate aspects of the task visible; appropriate mappings; using the power of constraints; designing for errors; and standardization. Select one or more of these principles that is evident in the artifact you chose and discuss the effect of the principle(s) on the instructional design.

3. Technology Integration

Select one or two artifacts that illustrate your ability to plan, design, and implement learning activities that engage students (or teachers) in learning with technology. One artifact must have been implemented with its target audience.

Reflection: Reflecting on the artifact(s) that you've selected, discuss how your efforts to integrate technology align with your professional philosophy (as described in your professional philosophy essay) and have sought to provide students with enhanced learning opportunities. Include in your discussion the actual outcomes achieved when implementing one of the products with its target audience. What do you see as the key ingredients to making this all work?

Professional Standards Reflection

This reflection should focus on your knowledge and understanding of the ISTE Standards and how they were addressed in the program. If you are in the Leadership strand, refer to the *ISTE NETS for Coaches (NETS-C)*. If you are in the Integration strand, refer to the *NETS for Teachers (2008)*. Additional information about the NETS can be found at: <http://www.iste.org/standards>.

Reflection:

- a. Which two standards do you believe to be the most critical to address for your professional preparation? Did your experiences in UNLV's Educational Technology Master's program prepare you to meet the standards? Explain why or why not.

- b. In reviewing the standards, are there some areas in which you don't feel well prepared? Based on this, what suggestions might you have for improving the professional preparation for future students in the program?

Additional Evidence (optional)

Is there any additional evidence of your learning in the program that you'd like to share? Describe that work along with up to one or two additional artifacts that you might like to include.

Design & Web Authoring

Your portfolio must demonstrate proficient design and function as delineated in the evaluation rubric. While templates are provided as an optional foundation for your portfolio, those using templates should modify the template and personalize their pages. *Students in the leadership strand need to demonstrate a working knowledge of html and/or CSS and not rely solely on another's template.*

Your portfolio should include an “About this Portfolio” link that lists the program strand that you’re in and a paragraph describing the process you used to design the web site, including the tools and/or resources used and modifications made if a template was used.

In addition, reflections should be integrated into the portfolio content rather than overly relying on PDF files for each reflection. While it’s fine to link to PDF files for particular artifacts, the reflections should be integrated into your web pages.

A detailed evaluation rubric for the electronic portfolio is available with the Education Technology program information on the Department of Teaching and Learning website.

Upon completion, send the URL for your portfolio to your advisor. It will then be distributed to other faculty in the Educational Technology program.