

What is ePortfolio?

West Chester University's e-portfolio is a required component of general education, and it is used in other courses across campus. WCU is currently transitioning to Google Sites as the official ePortfolio platform. The ePortfolio provides an opportunity for students to:

- **Collect:** Gather artifacts from courses and activities
- **Connect:** Draw links across courses, allowing them to see their academic career holistically, rather than as boxes to check off
- **Reflect:** Think about what they have learned and why it matters
- **Create:** Forge their own professional and personal digital identity
- **Showcase:** Share who they are and all they've accomplished

Why do students need an ePortfolio?

Beginning during the 2021-22 academic year, students will begin saving artifacts (files, links, or other media) from their Gen Ed courses in their e-portfolios created in Google Sites, with the goals of:

- Assembling a collection of assignments and related activities from their college career in order to document, assess, and reflect on their work.
- Holistically reviewing their work across courses for synthesis, reflection, and metacognition in order to see the trajectory and progress of their college career at West Chester, rather than considering individual courses and assignments in isolation.
- Ultimately during their Capstone course, students will generate an integrated overview of their career-- a reflection on their major, minor, and Gen Ed courses, as well as co-curriculars.
- Using the e-portfolio platform in Google Sites to develop their personal and professional identities online in a way that can be used well beyond their years in college.

What are the ePortfolio Requirements?

- First Year Experience (FYE) introduces students to the theory and practice of using e-portfolio, including why we use it and what artifacts from their courses they should be showcasing.
- At the end of FYE, students should have created and customized their e-portfolio in Google Sites and added their
 - Four Year Plan
 - Statement of Purpose video
 - Any other artifacts required by instructors for inclusion
 - Any other artifacts students wish to include in the portfolio

- Over subsequent semesters, students in all Gen Ed courses will begin adding artifacts in their portfolios that exemplify how they have met the Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) for the courses, as indicated by their instructors.
- During students' Capstone in their majors, they will complete an approved Gen Ed Capstone Assignment that provides the opportunity for them to reflect, synthesize, and integrate what they have learned through their general education and major/minor courses, as well as their co-curriculars. They will use the artifacts gathered in their ePortfolio over the course of their WCU career to complete the assignment. Students will include this assignment as an artifact in e-portfolio.

Are There Other Ways to Use e-Portfolio

- In addition to required artifacts from Gen Ed courses, students can upload any other artifacts related to coursework, extra-curriculars, or other activities that show off their work. Possibilities include:
 - Artifacts or links to internships/jobs
 - Artifacts resulting from research projects
 - Artifacts and/or links related to extracurricular activities, such as clubs, sports, and community service.
 - Links to recorded performances
- Your resume, CV, or biographical statement
- In some fields--such as Art+Design, Education, and Communication--you may want to showcase your professional projects.
- Create additional pages that show off who you are and who you aspire to be. Google Sites is easy to customize and manipulate to make a professional, tailored website that you can share with potential employers, grad schools, or use for any other future endeavors.

Where can I get more support for using Google Sites

- [Navigating Digital Learning: Google Sites Portfolio Basics](#)
- [Google Workspace for Education at WCU](#)
- [WCU Knowledgebase: Signing in to Google Workspace](#)
- [WCU Knowledgebase: Google Workspace for Education, Navigation Overview](#)
- [Google Sites support](#)
- [Linked In Learning: Google Sites](#) (sign in with WCUPA credentials)

Resources on e-portfolio Theory and Practice

- [Ross Miller and Wende Morgaine, "The Benefits of E-portfolios for Students and Faculty in Their Own Words, *Peer Review* Winter 2009, 11, No. 1](#)