

Assignment 1: ePortfolio and Blog Posts (20%)

Introduction

Your ePortfolio follows a sequence that progresses towards the completion of your Final Project, a paper on a selected issue in technology enhanced learning. In each blog post you will be asked to reference several pieces of academic literature or other relevant resources such as external blogs or journalism. You will provide feedback on two other student blog posts, and offer comments that will be constructive and helpful to the authors. Blog posts are created within your ePortfolio space in the course site.

Blog post 1 is the first in a five-part blogging assignment. It starts the building of a foundation for a large part of your work in this course. In it you are asked to describe your own personal and professional context and your interest in any one of the course themes. (You may also choose your own, but this will first require discussion with your Open Learning Faculty Member to ensure your topic meets course requirements.) The purpose of this post is to start your thinking early about your topic selection for the Final Project, as well as about your own interest and application to your professional setting or area of interest. As part of this assignment, write the first draft of your research question(s) which will be further developed for use in your Final Project.

Blog post 2 will build on work done the previous week to start firming up your Final Project topic. If you want to change it, now is the time as it will be more difficult to do later on. Use this blog post as a sketch pad for your paper, i.e. a rough introduction and outline.

Blog post 3 will require you to complete an annotated bibliography related to your Final Project topic developed in your first two posts. The annotated bibliography will become part of your paper as you continue to research and write.

Blog post 4 asks you to record and publish a 4–5 minute reflection using video, audio, or other media tools to describe key elements of what you have gained from the readings in Unit 4.

Blog post 5 will occur at the end of the course, where you will provide a summary of some key points learned throughout the course and how they may have changed or strengthened your perspectives.

Instructions

- You are expected to engage with your peers by attempting to motivate contributions, acknowledging alternative viewpoints, and supporting others' contributions. When responding to others online, please strive to work towards a culture that is **collaborative, respectful, encouraging, and supportive**. When responding to your classmates, you are expected to respect others' values, perspectives, and experiences. Please review the Online Etiquette guidelines and ensure that you adhere to them at all times when communicating online in this course.
- In order for the blog posts and online activities to be beneficial and worthwhile, it is imperative that you **read the assigned material** prior to participating and that you actively contribute to all activities.
- Your contributions to your blog and the online activities should be **thoughtful, meaningful, timely, and relevant**, and should draw from the assigned readings, concepts, and perspectives introduced in the course, and relevant outside resources and personal experiences. You are expected to incorporate **APA standards** for citations, formatting, and references if required in the activity description.
- Your eportfolio, including all blog posts, are due on final day of the course, so be sure to complete your blog posts and comments by Week 11.

Grading Rubric

This assignment will be graded out of 20 marks, according to the following rubric:

Criteria	Excellent	Proficient	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Connection to Course Content (5 marks)	All contributions demonstrate deep knowledge and understanding of the course content. Contributions supported by concepts and perspectives introduced in the course, and relevant outside resources and/or personal experiences.	Most Contributions demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the course content. Contributions are supported by concepts and perspectives introduced in the course, and relevant outside resources and/or personal experiences.	Some contributions demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the course content. Contributions are somewhat supported by concepts and perspectives introduced in the course, and relevant outside resources and/or personal experiences.	Few contributions demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the course content. Contributions are not supported by concepts and perspectives introduced in the course, and relevant outside resources and/or personal experiences.
Consistency (5 marks)	All blog posts and online activities are completed comprehensively and are consistently posted within the established due dates. The requirements of the blog posts and online activities are consistently met.	Most blog posts and online activities are completed and posted within the established due dates. The requirements of the blog posts and online activities are mostly met.	Some blog posts and online activities are completed and posted within the established due dates. The requirements of the blog posts and online activities are partially met.	Few blog posts and online activities are completed and posted within the established due dates. The requirements of the blog posts and online activities are inconsistency met.

Criteria	Excellent	Proficient	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Collaboration (5 marks)	Provides meaningful feedback and comments on peers' contributions and consistently encourages classmates to share ideas.	Provides feedback and comments on peers' contributions and encourages classmates to share ideas.	Provides some feedback and comments on peers' contributions but does little to encourage classmates to share ideas.	Provides little to no feedback or comments on peers' contributions and does not encourage classmates to share ideas.
Communication (5 marks)	All contributions are clear and on topic, and formatted in a style appropriate for the particular kind of online activity. Written responses are free of grammatical, spelling, or punctuation errors.	Most contributions are clear and on topic, and formatted in a style appropriate for the particular kind of online activity. Written responses are mostly free of grammatical, spelling, or punctuation errors.	Some contributions are clear and on topic, and formatted in a style appropriate for the particular kind of online activity. Written responses contain some grammatical, spelling, or punctuation errors.	Few contributions are clear and on topic, and formatted in a style appropriate for the particular kind of online activity. Written responses contain several grammatical, spelling, or punctuation errors.