Portfolio and Self-Assessment Assignment

The portfolio and self-assessment are in many ways the most important documents that you'll create for this class. Assembling the portfolio will help you to see your progress in spoken and written communication over the course of the semester; the self-assessment will give you the chance to evaluate that work based on your own criteria as well as the course learning outcomes.

The Self-Assessment will provide you with an opportunity to demonstrate that you've understood the theoretical concepts and rhetorical terms presented in the class and have practiced the interpretative and communicative techniques that we've been working with all semester. The portfolio should include, at a minimum, five writing samples from each section of the class. Feel free to add additional documents to the portfolio. You might want to include poems, design elements, drafts of essays, images, or something else not listed here. The Self-Assessment allows you to evaluate your work based not only on your own criteria but also on the class learning outcomes.

Course Learning Outcomes

The **topic** section satisfies the "Creative Expression" category of Pathways. Students will:

- Gather, interpret, and assess information from a variety of sources and points of view.
- Evaluate evidence and arguments critically or analytically.
- Produce well-reasoned written or oral arguments using evidence to support conclusions.
- Identify and apply fundamental concepts and methods of a discipline or interdisciplinary field exploring creative expression.
- Articulate how meaning is created in writing and how experience is interpreted and conveyed.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the skills involved in the creative

The **composition** section satisfies the English composition requirement. Students will:

- Explore and analyze in your own and others' writing a variety of genres and rhetorical situations
- Develop strategies for reading, drafting, revising, and editing
- Practice systematic application of citation conventions
- Recognize and practice key rhetorical terms and strategies when engaged in writing situations
- Develop and engage in the collaborative and social aspects of writing processes
- Understand and use print and digital technologies to address a range of audiences
- Locate research sources (including academic journal articles, magazine and newspaper articles) in the library's databases or archives and on the internet and evaluate them for credibility, accuracy, timeliness, and bias
- Compose texts that integrate your stance and language with appropriate sources

The self-assessment essay should address the class learning outcomes directly and provide examples as evidence from your work. The essay will *not* be evaluated on whether or not you have achieved any specific goal, but on how well you link your work to the class learning outcomes.

You must provide examples of your writing and revision by quoting from your own essay(s), blackboard posts, presentations or facilitations.

Referring back to the learning outcomes for the class:

- To demonstrate that you have developed "reading, drafting, collaborating, revising, and editing," you might include, copies of the notes you took while reading to demonstrate that you have developed flexible strategies for reading.
- To demonstrate that your drafting process has changed, you might want to include (and refer to in your Self-Assessment) a draft from an early and a late assignment that demonstrate changes in your drafting process. If you started using outlines during the semester, you could post and write about how outlining helped (or didn't help) with overall organization of your essays.
- To demonstrate that you have engaged in the collaborative and social aspects of writing, you might include in your portfolio a peer review that you wrote and one that you received, or describe how an in-class writing activity helped (or didn't help) with the composition of a particular paper.
- To demonstrate knowledge of the skills involved in the creative process you may include a creative discussion board post and describe the way(s) in which you came up with and wrote it.

The self-assessment is a kind of research paper. Your development as a communicator and a writer is the subject and your speech, thoughts, and writing is your evidence. As you write your self-assessment, you'll be referring to the works (from both sections) you've included in your portfolio. You don't have to refer to all of the learning outcomes for each class as there is significant overlap. But, be as thorough as possible. (1000 words)

The portfolio can be housed on a CCNY Academic Commons, WordPress, Wix, Weebly, or Scalar site. However, I will be instructing you in how to use Academic Commons so I highly recommend using that site to host your portfolio. **Be sure to make your portfolio private, accessible only by password.** If you are concerned about privacy, consider creating an email account that you can use exclusively for course work. It will be read by me, and a few other CCNY faculty and administrators. You are, of course, free to share your portfolio with anyone else, but do not make it freely available. **If you would like to opt out of creating a web-based site, please let me know and we will arrange for you to make a portfolio in Blackboard or you can create a pdf. doc as a portfolio.**

While the arrangement of the portfolio is up to you, it should be easy to navigate. As with any web site, you want to be able to find what you're looking for without any interference. This might mean scanning handwritten notes, taking screenshots of annotated Web sites, and turning your essays into .PDFs or Web texts.

Assessment Rubric

While you won't be asked to assess your own Self-Assessment, you should be aware of the criteria that I'll use when I assess it.

- Have you addressed the course learning outcomes in detail, even if your description is that you didn't feel that you progressed in that area?
- Have you provided evidence, in the form of your own writing that you have developed as a writer? Are you able to identify areas in which you have not progressed, either because you didn't spend enough time with them or you feel that you had a strong start in those areas?
- Have you edited the self-assessment for typographical and grammatical errors?
- In your portfolio design, have you maintained consistency from one page to the next with regard to color, font, and formatting?
- Is your portfolio design simple and easy to navigate?
- Are the documents you refer to easy to access or does the reader need to download in order to view them?

Work schedule and due dates:

In-class workshop 1: Goals for today: get your site up. Make some initial design choices: color, font, and/or layout. If you have time, you can start posting documents and images. This portfolio should be representative of you as an individual and a writer. At the end of the in-class workshop, you should post a link to your site in the Assignments folder on BB: "portfolio link". I know that this will be a basic framework, but it will allow me to access and monitor progress on your portfolio. **If you are having trouble with establishing the site for technical reasons, please post an explanation of what you're having trouble with in the BB assignment folder.**

In-class workshop 2: You can continue with the design, and/or work on the self-assessment essay.

Final portfolio and self-assessment essay due date: Wednesday Dec. 19th