



# ePortfolios for programs

## Why Implement ePortfolios in Your Program?

*ePortfolios allow your students to digitally represent their ideas, thoughts, processes, and work to others.*

*ePortfolios are at their most powerful when students include a critical mass of materials, if those materials are produced over time, and if they reflect on those materials in writing.*

*ePortfolios contribute to students' career preparation and representation of themselves to potential employers and graduate schools.*

*ePortfolios allow students to represent knowledge, skills and abilities multimodally (through video, images, audio, code).*

*ePortfolios capture co-curricular learning.*

# Models of Implementation

*There are many ways to incorporate ePortfolios into your program. Think about what level of integration will work best for your program.*

## Undergraduate Program Options

- Capstone only<sup>1</sup>
- 1 key course<sup>2</sup> + Capstone
- 1 key course + 1 co-curricular experience<sup>3</sup> + Capstone
- 2-3 key courses + Capstone

## Graduate & Certificate Program Options

- ePortfolio as alternative to a traditional thesis
- ePortfolio to showcase independent study, research project, or creative project

### *sample ePortfolio course sequence*

- *introduction to the major/program*
- *research methods*
- *junior year experiential course*
- *capstone*

<sup>1</sup> have students submit/archive work from classes in the major/program—even classes that do not have an ePortfolio assignment—in preparation for Capstone.

<sup>2</sup> e.g., introductory to major/program courses, research methods courses, internship courses, writing in the major courses, sophomore seminars, junior-year experiential learning courses, etc.

<sup>3</sup> e.g., study abroad, work in mentoring or peer tutoring positions, student leadership, etc.

# ePortfolio Adoption Questions to Consider

## Baseline questions to consider...

- What would be the ideal result of using ePortfolios in your program?
- What can ePortfolios accomplish for your majors?
- Are portfolios or ePortfolios commonly used in your field of study/profession?
- Do you want to use ePortfolios as part of your program assessment or your annual reporting?
- What kind of content might your students be putting in their ePortfolios?

## Implementation questions to consider...

- Who in your program would be required to complete an ePortfolio?
- Which model of implementation makes the most sense for your program?
- What should students put in their ePortfolios? How might they be encouraged to include work from courses and related experiences that do not assign a full-blown ePortfolio?
- What platform(s) is best for your program?
- How might assessment become more productive with ePortfolios?

# DePaul ePortfolio Support

*There are a number of ways for you and your students to get help using ePortfolios.*

## For Faculty

Faculty Instructional Technology Services (FITS) can assist with integrating ePortfolios in courses and can ensure that all of the technical pieces—course set-up, instructions, etc.—are in place, no matter what platform you use.

Faculty may email [DigicationHelp@depaul.edu](mailto:DigicationHelp@depaul.edu) any time with questions or requests for support.

Faculty may schedule an in-class workshop on ePortfolios and how to use DePaul's ePortfolio tool, Digication, from the University Center for Writing-based Learning (UCWbL).

## For Students

Students may schedule one-on-one appointments at the University Center for Writing-based Learning (UCWbL) for help with creating, adding content to, and designing their ePortfolios, no matter what platform they use.

The UCWbL also maintains the Digication GetHelp site, which provides how-to guides for building a Digication ePortfolio.



*See [bit.ly/dpu-eportfolio-profiles](http://bit.ly/dpu-eportfolio-profiles) for profiles of DePaul instructors and administrators who are already using ePortfolios.*

*Contact [fits@depaul.edu](mailto:fits@depaul.edu) to find out more about implementing ePortfolios in your program!*