

## Assignment

Your final assignment for English 494EI is to gather all the essays you've written for this course, along with any other materials you wish to include, and organize them in an online e-portfolio that you will share with me and your classmates. The idea of a *portfolio* of this sort is to select, collect, and reflect on your work, highlighting your skills and accomplishments and presenting them in an appealing way to others. An *e-portfolio* simply makes the collection available digitally, not only giving yourself more design options but also making the whole thing visible to as wide an audience as you wish. Examples of UMass Amherst English majors' e-portfolios can be found [here](#), along with a document, "Tips for Instructors," which includes links to other e-portfolio galleries.

I recommend that you use the WordPress platform at [blogs.umass.edu](https://blogs.umass.edu), making the home page static and providing links to your essays through some kind of menu. By using this free UMass resource, you not only have all the support available from IT but you'll also have easy ways to keep your blog private, at least for the time being, limiting viewers to just yourself, or to just you and me, or to just people in this course. For more on blogs at UMass, go to <https://www.umass.edu/it/blogs>. You can alternately use one of the portfolio templates at Google Sites through Apps at UMass (see <https://sites.google.com/new?tgif=d>) or some other platform (Wix, Weebly, etc.). We'll devote a couple of lab days to work on the e-portfolios.

The e-portfolio should include, at a minimum: 1) all five of the papers you wrote for this course, each one presented in an easy-to-read, online design; 2) some kind of home page that introduces readers to you and the portfolio; and 3) at least one other document or set of materials in a separate tab or page, from outside of this course but relevant for the public-facing portfolio of a senior college student – your résumé, work from some other course or extracurricular activity, etc. The five papers from our course should be readable on the screen itself, not simply made available in an attached file or PDF, though you are welcome to also upload such files if you wish. Feel free to add images and other "embellishments" to the online versions of your essays. When you're ready to share your e-portfolio, you should make it visible at least to me (by making me a user of your blog), but I encourage you to make it more widely available (for example, by making it visible to all members of the UMass Amherst community).

You'll present a draft of your e-portfolio to the rest of us during the last week of classes. Half of you will present one day; the other half, the next. Each of you should prepare an oral presentation of no more than five (5) minutes in which you reflect on your work for this course: what goals you had and what issues you struggled with, what project(s) you found most meaningful and why, and what vision you have for your e-portfolio: what you're most proud of so far and what still remains to be done. Be prepared to walk us through your draft e-portfolio; I'll have a laptop, projector, and screen set up for this purpose.

The final e-portfolio is due, as a link in an email to me, by 4:00 pm, Thursday, December 14, 2022.