Digital Portfolios

A digital portfolio is similar to a traditional portfolio in strategy and purpose. The strategy is to collect pieces of writing that you compose throughout this course. As you compose each new piece throughout this course, remember to save it for potential inclusion in your portfolio. You should select your best writing to include in your final portfolio. These pieces should demonstrate your strengths as a writer.

Another component of the writing portfolio is reflection. In your portfolio, you will have three reflective pieces: your opening reflection, your process reflection piece, and your closing reflection. At the end of the course, you will gather together all of your artifacts, or writing pieces, and submit them with your reflections for evaluation.
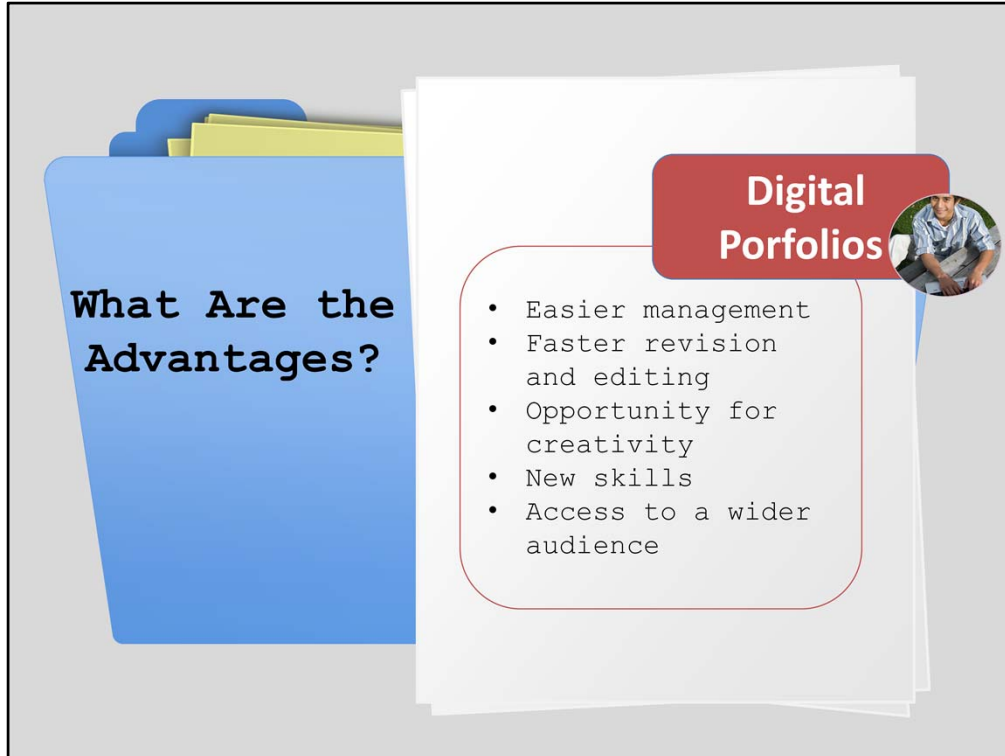
The purpose of the portfolio is to showcase your writing, indicate your growth as a writer, and demonstrate the writing process. The only inherent difference between a traditional paper portfolio and a digital portfolio is the method of publication. A digital portfolio is published digitally.

Digital portfolios have several advantages over traditional paper portfolios. For example, digital portfolios make the management of artifacts much easier because digital files are easier to maintain and organize. Additionally, digital portfolios make it easier and faster to revise and edit electronic texts. Furthermore, they allow you to use your creativity while experimenting with font, color, images, etc. In developing a digital portfolio, you can acquire new skills while exploring and working in a variety of technologies. And finally, another great advantage of digital portfolios is the possibility of reaching a wider audience if you publish your portfolio online.

Your portfolio will include a variety of pieces. These items will come from your work in this course; however, you may also choose to include pieces that you wrote in previous courses or in your personal life. This may allow you to reflect on your growth as a writer over your study of writing and literature.

# Module 1: Why Is Writing Important?
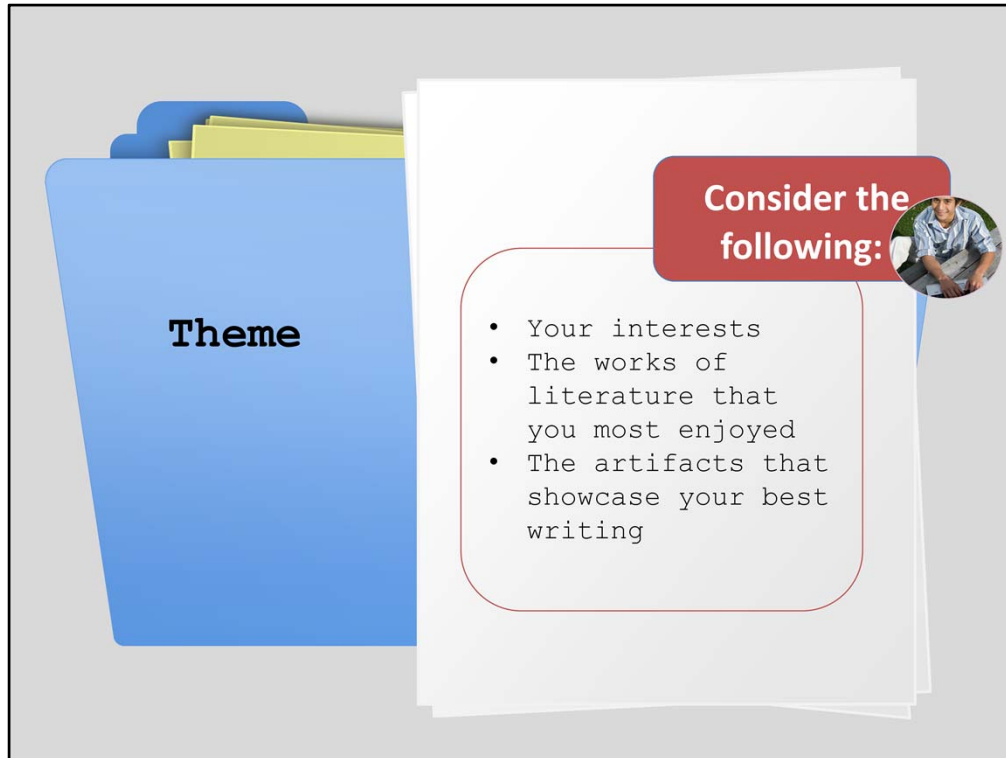## Topic 1 Content: Digital Portfolios
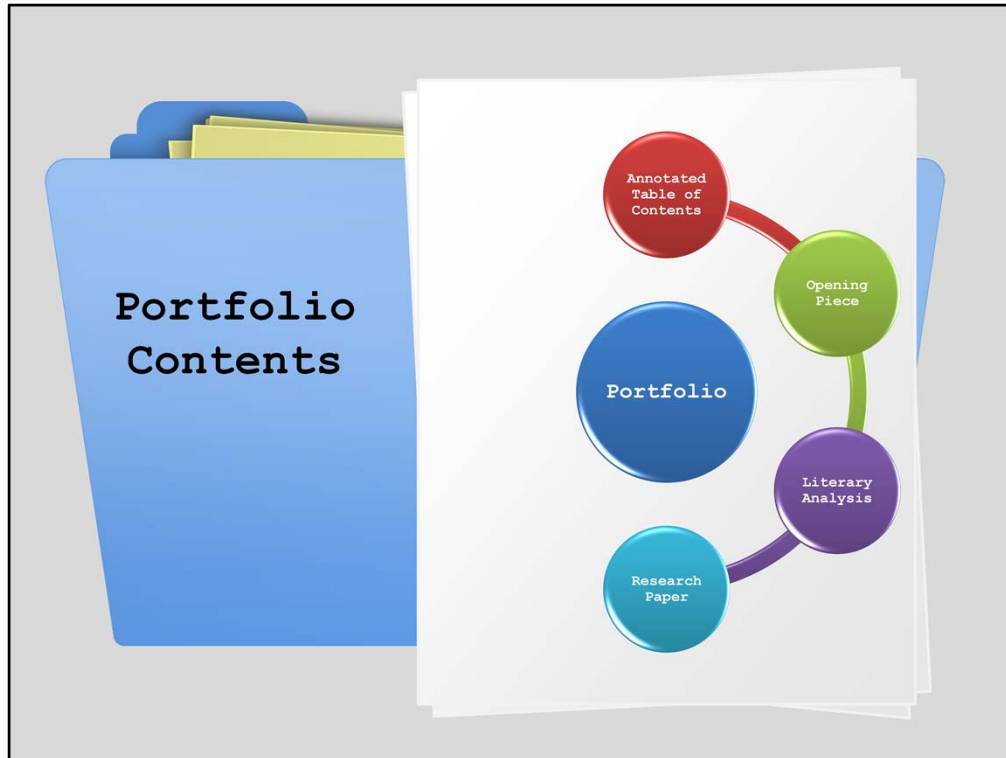


The first part of your portfolio, an annotated table of contents, will actually be the last part you compose.  The opening piece will reflect on your writing style, strengths, weaknesses, etc.  Since you will be reading and studying many works of literature, you will choose a literary analysis to include in your portfolio.  You will also include a research paper that you will complete during this course, as well as other pieces like poems and a presentation.

Additionally, you will get to choose any other piece that you have written to include in your portfolio. For this component, you should aim to select a writing piece that demonstrates and highlights your strengths. The last piece is the closing reflection in which you will reflect on the artifacts in the portfolio and what they reveal about your writing.

When you compile your artifacts at the end of the course, you will need to use a theme to organize your portfolio. When selecting your theme, consider your interests, the works of literature that you most enjoyed, and the artifacts that showcase your best writing. As you write throughout the course, think back to possible themes for your portfolio, your interests, and how your individual artifacts are tied to your interests.